

Town of Queen Creek

22358 S Ellsworth Road

Queen Creek AZ 85242

May 28, 2008

1. The meeting was Called to Order - at 8:28 am by Lisa Coletto-Cohen, Chair

Committee members present: Lisa Coletto-Cohen, Gordon Mortensen, Absent: Council Member Toni Valenzuela. Also attending: Assistant Town Manager Patrick Flynn, Budget Administrator Barbara Sena, Molly Jacobs, Program Director, Queen Creek Performing Arts Center, John Larson, Executive Director, Queen Creek Chamber of Commerce, Dennis Marcello and Rob McClaine representing the Boys and Girls Club, and Carol Lapinsky representing the Child Crisis Center.

2. Items for Discussion and possible action:

- a. Discussion and review of non-profit agency budget requests

- i. Queen Creek Performing Arts Center – Molly Jacobs, Program Director, presented the request for continued funded of \$125,000.

Council Member Coletto-Cohen asked the impact of the Performing Arts Foundation. Ms. Jacobs responded that formerly all programming fees go through the QCUSD and that had been an issue; now all those fees and operating expenditures would go through the Foundation. Ms Jacobs stated that the Foundation is about a year away from receiving its 501 c 3 status from the IRS. Ms Jacobs also stated that future Memorandums of Understanding would be between the Town of Queen Creek, the Queen Creek Unified School District, and the Performing Arts Foundation. Ms Jacobs explained that the Foundation Board would consist of one member from the Town, one member from the school district, and 6 at-large members.

Council Member Coletto-Cohen asked who decided the events schedule. Ms. Jacobs replied that she does in conjunction with the advisory board that would become the foundation board.

Assistant Town Manager Flynn verified that the bank balance was \$25,206; Ms Jacobs replied that this was correct. Assistant Town Manager Flynn asked if the total budget for FY 2009 was \$609,775; Ms. Jacobs replied that this was correct.

- ii. Queen Creek Chamber of Commerce – John Larson, Executive Director, presented that request for funding of \$70,000. Amount included in tentative budget \$43,000

Council Member Coletto-Cohen asked how the policy toward self-sufficiency and a decrease in funding dollars will impact services. Mr. Larson stated that the Chamber was planning to add money making events, redoing the golf tournament (it will be in the fall). Council Member Coletto-Cohen asked if the Chamber was agreeable to providing the same level of service with fewer dollars. Mr. Larson said yes, as best as they could. Council Member Coletto-Cohen asked if the Chamber felt it needed to be released from the perception of being an arm of the Town. Council Member Mortensen asked if the Chamber felt muzzled. Mr. Larson replied that yes the perception of the Chamber as an arm of the Town did need to be changed; the Chamber needed to be able to have candidate forums, etc and be able to talk about the impact of policy decisions, rate increases, tax increases. Council Member Coletto-Cohen stated that the role of the Chamber should be larger than it is now.

Council Member Mortensen asked that Mr. Larson provide Council with a full budget numbers including revenue sources; that the contract needs to be brought to the full Council for discussion and possible action regarding more freedom.

Council Member Coletto-Cohen asked the amount budgeted in the tentative FY 2009 budget. Assistant Town Manager Flynn replied \$43,000. Council Member Coletto-Cohen stated that the Chamber should revisit its membership dues and base them on number of employees and that amount proposed to fund in FY 2009 would be \$43,000. Assistant Town Manager Flynn stated that funding would drop to \$ 22,000 in FY 2010 and after that, the Town would no longer fund the Chamber.

- iii. Boys and Girls Club – Dennis Marcello and Rob McClaine presented a request for continued funding of \$ 62,500

Council Member Coletto-Cohen asked how the club was doing in their building search. Mr. Marcello replied that they were mid-stream in a capital campaign in Apache Junction for a 2,300 square foot house; he also stated that he had met with Parks and Recreation Director Debbie Gomez regarding a partnership between the Town at the Founders Park site and the club within one year; the club would like to be in a town facility or build on town-owned land.

Council Member Coletto-Cohen asked the median income and demographics of the kids served. Mr. McClaine replied there was a small percentage of low income children, about 20% came from families with income of \$35,000 or less and the remainder came from families with an average income of \$50,000.

Council Member Coletto-Cohen asked if there were charges for the programs and were they based on sliding fees. Mr. McClaine said yes, fees were charged to pay for transportation from the club to school and back to the club. Mr. Marcello stated that the fees were based on the school lunch breakdown.

Council Member Mortensen asked the number of kids served. Mr. McClaine replied around 250; that the daily average was 115 kids and that he sees about 85 kids 3 times a week.

Council Member Mortensen asked if the club had other revenue sources other than Town funding. Mr. Marcello stated the club received funds from the Lund Foundation (\$25,000/year), Union Bank (\$10,000/year), M & I Bank, TRW (educational program), SRP (Holiday Parade), United Way, Boys and Girls Club of America (grants), and state funding partnership from the state of Arizona.

Assistant Town Manager Flynn said the budget was \$306,000 for FY 2009, of which \$162,000 was staffing costs for the Queen Creek office and a small administrative fee – what does the difference pay for? Council Member Mortensen stated that the \$306,000 budget serving 115 kids equals a cost of \$ 2,600 per child. Mr. Marcello stated that the cost per child would less than that if the club had a larger facility. Mr. McClaine stated that he would send Budget Committee members a line item budget.

- iv. Child Crisis Center – Carol Lapinsky presented requests for \$7,500 and \$5,000 to fund the family resource center and child abuse prevention program. Current funding is \$4,000.

Council Member Coletto-Cohen asked in a situation where Queen Creek has to cut areas, what is the priority? Ms. Lapinsky replied that is was the family resource center; the DES contract only covers one half of the costs that are needed.

Council Member Mortensen stated that the Town could not fund the \$12,000; however the Town can do \$4,000. Council Member Coletto-Cohen would like to know the number of kids taken out of crisis situations.

- v. East Valley Partnership Superstition Vistas – did not give a presentation. Assistant Town Manager Flynn stated that the organization would be sending a letter in which they state that the \$20,000 of proposed funding would be acceptable; however they do want the additional \$20,000 requested if the economy improves. The letter must go to the full Council for discussion and possible action.
3. Announcements – none
 4. Motion made to adjourn at 10:20 am by Council Member Coletto-Cohen, second Council Member Mortensen. Vote 2-0