

Arizona State Citizen Corps Council
Meeting Minutes
February 17, 2011
APPROVED

A regular meeting of the Arizona State Citizen Corps Council (AZSCCC) was convened on Thursday, February 17, 2011 at the Avondale Police Department at 11485 West Civic Center Drive, Avondale, Arizona 85323. Notice had been duly given. Present and absent were the following members of the AZSCCC:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Cheryl Bowen Kennedy, Arizona Department of Homeland Security on behalf of Gilbert Orrantia, Director
Keith Lansbery
Gary White
Debbie Ray
Cher Williams (telephonically)
Cynthia Dowdall (telephonically)
TD Kennard (telephonically)
Teresa Ehnert (telephonically)
Vickie Owen (telephonically)

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Steve Rutherford
Karen Hauca

AZDOHS PRESENT:

Cheryl Bowen Kennedy, Arizona Citizen Corps
Andrew A. Escoto, Project Specialist

GUESTS PRESENT:

Mike Riechling, Tempe Fire
Sue Pistoia, Avondale Fire
Paul Schickel, Daisy Mountain Fire
Keith Tanner, Sun City West Fire
Jobi Robson, AZ Central Region CCC
Cynthia Anderson, AZ Central Region CCC
Don Peyton, Phoenix Fire

Appeared telephonically:

Jeff Guthrie, Pima County Emergency Management
Sheri Gibbons, Gilbert Emergency Management
Antonio Hernandez, AZ Department of Health Services
Debbie Roepke, Coyote Crisis Collaborative

CALL TO ORDER

Keith Lansbery, Interim Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at approximately 10:03 A.M. A quorum was present.

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WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Interim Vice Chair Keith Lansbery welcomed everyone to the meeting. Council members and guests introduced themselves.

REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES

Keith Lansbery, Interim Vice Chair, called for a motion to comment on or approve the November 4, 2010 meeting minutes. Gary White moved to approve the meeting minutes as read. Motion was seconded by Cher Williams.

STRATEGIC PLAN REPORTS¹

- **Goal 1 – Support County and Citizen Corps Councils:** Cheryl Bowen Kennedy indicated that the council may want to revisit some of the principles of the liaison program. Cynthia Dowdall suggested re-evaluating who is responsible for what and who the liaisons are.

Interim Chair Keith Lansbery named all the individuals that are responsible for the 5 different homeland security regions. He stated that council needs to be proactive. Members, who can, should get out to the appropriate meetings and/or make contact with those programs in their areas.

Cynthia does not think the liaison program is working, and the council should scrap it to use the Fire Corps advocate model. She explained the advocate program used by the Fire Corps and suggested having other people becoming advocates because she believes other people can partner with the council to increase mutual understanding and awareness.

An overview of the intent of the Council's liaison program was shared with the members present. Identified points of contact from the local programs representing a region were an intended result of the liaison program and may serve a similar role as described by Cynthia for the Fire Corps advocates.

Cynthia suggested having state advocates from Arizona to partner with the council to bring more continuity with the programs to share more information about what everyone is doing. Although liaisons are trying to do that, the advocates can bring valuable information to the council and guide the State Citizen Corps Council to represent all Citizen Corps entities much better.

Although the AZSCCC liaison program includes partner programs advocates, Cynthia proposes the advocates not serve on the council but serve at the local level.

Keith added that the AZSCCC liaison program was designed to do that; to work with partner program advocates to make sure that all 5 regions were being represented. The program has not advanced based upon the amount of time that current liaisons/advocates have been able to contribute to the program.

¹ The council began with Goal #5 first then continued with Goal #. After returning to Goal #1, the council proceeded with the order of the agenda.

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Further discussion ensued resulting in the establishment of a workgroup to review the liaison program and report back to the Council. Comments from Mike Reichling, Tempe Citizen Corps, indicated that the liaison program was working well within Maricopa County, specifically Tempe.

Cher Williams added that from Pima County hasn't been able to get the liaison at meetings due to schedules. The program could work well if they get the right fit but she agrees with Cynthia about the advocate program.

Keith made a motion to form a workgroup to review the liaison program and present at the next meeting. Cynthia added that the name be substituted from advocate to liaison.

Jeff Guthrie shared with the Council that they recently had a retirement out of the office whose responsibility was keeping up with the Citizen Corps program. He is willing to serve as that connection for Pima County.

Keith Lansbery, Cher Williams, Theresa Ehnert and Antonio Fernandez will participate on a workgroup to review the liaison program. Cynthia Dowdall will serve as the workgroup lead.

Liaison updates:

Cher Williams - North Region.

She reported that emails had been sent to all contacts listed on the national website. She has yet to receive responses.

Karen Hauca – South Region

Karen was not present.

Steve Rutherford – East Region

Steve was not present.

Debbie Ray - West Region.

Debbie informed the council that she had sent emails twice but did not hear back from anyone. Additionally, she informed the council on an upcoming VIPS meeting in Prescott Valley in April of this year. VIPS meetings have already been scheduled for most of 2011.

Keith asked council members if they mention the State Citizen Corps Council at any of the local council meetings they have attended. A majority of individuals indicated that they did.

Cynthia Anderson (member of the public) suggested there be a clearing house so that events are not duplicated or fall on the same day.

Cheryl will check into posting a web calendar for Citizen Corps events or meetings that take place within the state.

Vickie asked the council about the possibility of using Facebook and posting information on a Facebook "wall" instead of going through the state website.

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There are state standards and policies to set up some social media on a state agency website. Cheryl will obtain additional information and report back to the Council regarding a social media option on the AZDOHS/CCP website.

Re-registration of CERT programs and councils is currently underway. Information was provided to the members. The re-registration process was briefly explained. Deadline to complete re-registration is March 31, 2011. It is important that the council encourage councils and programs re-register to provide program support at the national level and to Congress.

2010 Theme Recognition Award: Mike Riechling (Tempe) requested the State Citizen Corps Council present the award at the city council meeting. Gary White moved to have the award presented at the Tempe City Council meeting. Debbie Ray seconded the motion as well as TD Kennard.

A motion was made by Cynthia and seconded by Gary White to have Keith Lansbery make the presentation on behalf of the AZSCCC.

2011 Theme

The floor was open for suggestions for the Council's 2011 theme. Theme suggestions were emailed to members prior to the meeting. Keith Lansbery suggested that the Theme Recognition Award for 2011 support the national theme – Youth Preparedness. One concept suggested was “Preparedness begins with you.”

“Youth Preparedness Today for a Community Resiliency Tomorrow” was also proposed. There are numerous resources available to support youth theme activities.

All theme suggestions were read to the members. Mike Riechling commented that a youth theme is a really great idea and that fire prevention education with adults begins with educating the kids.

The Interim Chair stressed the importance of the 2011 theme. The 2011 Recognition Award would be awarded to the Citizen Corps Council that best represents that theme. Keith moved to take a vote on the theme presented by Cheryl. Gary White moved to adopt the theme “Youth Preparedness Today for Community Resiliency Tomorrow.” Debbie Ray seconded the motion.

- **Goal 2 – Strengthen Regional and National Relations**

National Achievement Awards:

Looking ahead, Cheryl informed the Council of the potential opportunity of applying for a National Achievement Award. The assumption was made that the opportunity will be available again this year as it has been for the past two years. The meeting was opened to discussion about what project the AZSCCC could submit and/or whether consideration should be given to completing a project prior to the award opportunity. No projects were offered. A motion was made by Debbie Ray and seconded by Gary White to not apply for an award this year; but place the item on the next agenda to discuss a 2012 project.

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Arizona State Citizen Corps State Conference: Keith requested each region liaison report to the Council what feedback they had received from the local councils regarding a potential statewide conference.

Keith stated the Central region would enjoy and participate in a statewide conference. He suggested that additional information be sent to the local councils to inform that all partner programs and their members would be invited.

Cher Williams stated she had not received any feedback from the North region councils regarding interest in a statewide conference.

It was suggested that the liaisons and advocates send out statewide conference survey emails again with the clarification that the conference would be open to all members of local Citizen Corps councils as well as the partner program members.

Cher Williams will lead a workgroup to determine the best way to solicit statewide conference feedback. All of the designated liaisons and partner programs advocates will participate on the workgroup.

Historically, the AZSCCC has conducted a meeting at the same time the Arizona Emergency Services Association (AESA) holds its annual meeting. Cheryl discussed with AESA the possibility of combining or adjoining the two conferences. Whether that is a viable option depends, in part, on the selected date of the annual AESA conference.

If the AESA annual conference is moved to September, there may be an opportunity to have a Statewide Citizen Corps conference follow the AESA conference. AESA generally holds their conference on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Citizen Corps members generally preferred a Friday and Saturday.

Goal 3 – Marketing

Speakers Bureau: Keith explained the Speakers Bureau concept. Due to the difficulties with the implementation of the liaison program, the bureau might be a road show of members attending meetings to get the word out around the state. Keith is proposing that the idea of a Speaker's Bureau be tabled until a later time.

Cher suggested that the Speaker's bureau focus on a single topic to have a Teen CERT Speaker's bureau that helps others areas that are starting similar Cert programs.

Concern was expressed about focusing on one particular partner program rather than Citizen Corps as a whole. Further discussion will be held at a future meeting. Keith asked for a motion to table the topic at this time. Debbie Ray moved to table the Speaker's Bureau topic, and Cheryl seconded the motion.

Citizen Corps brochure: Debbie Ray and Vickie Owen should have something for the council to see by the next meeting.

- **Goal 4 – Partner Programs:** Keith requested reports from the AZSCCC partner program advocates.

CERT - In regards to CERT, Gary White did not have any updates.

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VIPS - Debbie had provided updates during the liaison reports. (See Goal 1)

Fire Corps - Cynthia indicated that the Fire Corps started their new fire training academy and modules are available online.

Medical Reserve Corps - Antonio Hernandez, State MRC Coordinator, updated the Council on several programs regarding SharePoint website as a resource for MRC leaders, updating volunteer plans, and the new MRC (U of A). They are exploring Geo chat - a free open source technology. Also, they are working on an April exercise. The Arizona Department of Health Services has a health service portal that provides MRC planning resources.

Neighborhood Watch – Vickie Owen reported that Kim Yonda-Lead and Sherrie Gibbons are putting together the annual symposium (2-day training) in Gilbert. USAon Watch is collaborating with Gilbert on the symposium. A USAonWatch newsletter will go out shortly as well as a new social networking site for the USA Watch group. Additionally, she is working with state and county attorneys on a training program.

- **Goal 5 – *Maintaining a progressive Citizen Corps Council*** - Amanda Aguirre, Jeff Clark, Tim Siemsen, and John Zimmerman are no longer serving on the State Citizen Corps Council. The floor was opened for discussion how the council may solicit individuals to fill the positions.

Cheryl updated the council on the efforts with the Governor's Office of Boards and Commissions to have current vacancies listed on the website and available for application. When all of the vacant positions have been posted or permission otherwise given, she will send out an email announcement.

Theresa Ehnert inquired whether previous applicants could be considered for appointment. She knew that Christina Jackson had applied for the MRC vacancy previously. Antonio Hernandez is interested in applying to serve in that capacity.

Due to the current vacant positions on the Council, Interim Chair Keith Lansbery challenged the members to seek out ways to improve their efforts and participation on Council goals and objectives. Cynthia mentioned that it is difficult to encourage participation in CCP because it is met with resistance due to lack of education about the programs. Cynthia suggested that the state council do more educational outreach. Discussion ensued about the outreach and is reflected under Goal 1.

Interim Chair Lansbery asked if any members were interested in serving as the interim vice chair. The duties of the vice chair were shared with the members.

Gary White and Cher Williams were interested in serving as vice chair. By a unanimous vote, Gary White was elected for recommendation and service as the Interim Vice Chair. It was also noted that this appointment is made by the Governor and that there would be a recommendation made to the Governor's Office of Boards and Commission for approval.

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Related to Goal 5, the updated Citizen Corps Annex to the State Emergency Response and Recovery Plan was sent to ADEM and will be incorporated in the latest version as soon as it is published.

Keith asked the council to develop a working group to develop new action items for 2011.

At this point the council moved back to Goal 1.

2011 Coyote Crisis Exercise

Cheryl did not have any updates on the Coyote Crisis exercise. There has not been a volunteer meeting recently.

Teresa gave an update on behalf of the Coyote Crisis, in regards to an ongoing confusion on what the exercise is about. Teresa asked Debra Roepke, Coyote Crisis Collaborative, to provide further updates to the Council. Debbie explained what the Coyote Crisis was and the history behind it. She further explained that the “campaign” is no longer a terminology they are using because it is getting confused with the statewide exercise. The collaborative role in the upcoming November 2011 exercise will be minimal to help coordinate volunteers for the hospitals. There has not been an opportunity to meet with the volunteers. On July 19th at the Arizona Biltmore, there will be a community workshop. There will be breakouts by community in the Central region. It is an excellent opportunity for groups to participate. Sue Pistoia, on behalf of Warren Sprecher, pledged Fire Corps support for this event.

RESOURCE TYPING MATRIX

Keith Lansbery introduced the efforts made to date regarding the Resource Typing Matrix. Tim Siemsen had previously led the workgroup that was discussing this topic. The Interim Chair requested an update from Cynthia regarding the progress of the proposed Fire Corps requirements that had been previously proposed.

Cynthia indicated they are working with Pima EM. She stated that it is important that if Fire Corps responds; they need to have the appropriate training. The Fire Corps individuals need to have Level 1 Response Training.

There was some confusion whether the proposed Fire Corps requirements had been approved by the Council. Cheryl updated the council members on the last action taken on this topic for the proposed Fire Corps additions to the Resource Typing Matrix. Final approval by AZSCCC had not occurred. Fire Corps was going to do some additional work on the matrix and come back with an updated proposal for the Council's review and approval. (AZSCCC 4/1/2010 minutes)

In addition, there was some confusion about the workgroup that was reviewing the Resource Typing Matrix. Cher Williams indicated that the workgroup was meeting to discuss clarification on the training topics listed in the Resource Typing Matrix. Keith proposed tabling the topic and designating someone to assume Tim Siemsen's lead role on this workgroup. Gary White agreed to take the lead.

Citizen Corps – Local Level Financial Viability

This topic was tabled.

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NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH (NPM)

Keith opened the floor for secondary ideas if the statewide conference doesn't materialize. No ideas were presented. Keith asked the council to bring ideas to the next meeting.

2011 MEETING DATES

The proposed 2011 AZSCCC meeting dates were revisited. Discussion ensued about having meetings bi-monthly. Debbie moved and Cheryl seconded a motion to conduct bi-monthly meetings. This change resulted in the addition of a meeting in October and deletion of the November meeting. Locations (with conferencing capabilities) for the upcoming meetings were discussed. The Chair offered the APS building at 400 N. 5th Street in downtown Phoenix. Parking can be validated.

AZDOHS UPDATES/COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The new 2010-2013 State Homeland Security Strategy is in final review and will be available soon. Grant Information Seminars will be conducted for the 2011 Homeland Security Grant Program on 2/28/11 – Phx, 3/2/11 – Tucson, and 3/4/11 – Flagstaff.

Council announcements - CERT Train the Trainer classes are scheduled for March 25-27, 2011 in Navajo County and April 5-7, 2011 in Scottsdale.

Certificates of Appreciation will be sent to Tim Siemsen and John Zimmerman for their service on the Council.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Don Peyton inquired why CERT is the only program required to re-certify and other programs aren't.

The re-registration process was mandated from the national offices. The other program websites are managed by different entities. The CERT program is generally funded using the Homeland Security Grant Program. There are other funding streams that directly support the other partner programs.

Mr. Peyton expressed interest in serving on the Resource Typing Matrix workgroup. He also recommended the council leave the Resource Typing Matrix as is.

Cher Williams reiterated that they did not provide changes to the Matrix but hoped to provide clarification to the line items. Gary White said that they were looking mostly at Fire Corps and the generic terms.

Jeff Guthrie informed the Council that a new mental health program is being developed in Pima County in collaboration with Cynthia and the program implemented at Northwest Fire.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:48 P.M. Motion was made to adjourn by Debbie Ray and was seconded by Gary White.