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NEW PLANNING COMMISSIONERS BEGIN JAN. 18

Three new planning commissioners were appointed by the Twentynine Palms City Council at its regular meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 11. Longtime local residents Christina Benton, Greg Mendoza, and Steve Whitten will take their seats on the Twentynine Palms Planning Commission when it meets again in regular session on Tuesday, Jan. 18, in Council Chambers at City Hall, 6136 Adobe Road.

Benton, Mendoza, and Whitten were among nine qualified applicants seeking a position on the commission. They will replace retiring commissioners Chuck Caplinger and Rebecca Rinkes, who completed 12 years and 8 years on the commission respectively, and Dan Mintz Sr., who was elected to the City Council in November. All of the applicants were interviewed and three selected for recommendation to the City Council by a subcommittee consisting of Councilmembers Jay Corbin, a planner and former Community Development Director, and Dan Mintz, former Chair of the Planning Commission.

The new commissioners will join Carey Alderson and Bill Easter on Jan. 18 and, as their first order of business, will assist in the selection of a chair and vice-chair for 2011.

The public is invited to attend the Planning Commission meeting, which begins at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 18, at City Hall. In addition, beginning at 5 p.m., a one-hour art reception will be held prior to the Planning Commission meeting at City Hall to celebrate the Art in Public Places exhibit of paintings and photography by local artists Lyn Sells and Zander Hardin. Refreshments will be served.

For more information, call City Hall at (760)367-6799.

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