



High Desert Bulletin

March 2022

Board Meeting Briefs:

There was no Board Meeting in February.

Announcements:

The Nominating Committee's High Desert Scavenger Hunt Continues!! Win a Prize!!!

Rules: Find the answer to the question at the bottom of this box in the High Desert [By-laws](#); submit your answer to Camille Singaraju. The first correct response to the question wins a \$15 Starbucks gift card. (No Current Board members please.) The correct answer and winner will be announced in the next High Desert Bulletin.

February's Winner is Sandy Jacoby in Overlook. Congratulations!!! February's question was **Why do PNM or city utility workers go into the common areas?** The answer is in Bylaw 13.6 n "permitting utility suppliers to use portions of the Common Area reasonably necessary to the ongoing development or operation of the Properties."

By joining the Board, you can help improve the functioning of contracted providers to improve the operation and development of High Desert's properties. For more information about submitting a [Statement of Interest](#) (SOI), contact Camille Singaraju, bsingaraju@msn.com.

March Question: How does the Board enter into necessary agreements such as a contract to repair common areas?

High Desert Office Reopens for In-Person Visits: Covid cases in New Mexico have been falling, so the High Desert office has reopened for in-person visits. That said, please consider the health of our High Desert office staff and conduct as much business as possible remotely. The High Desert office staff can be reached by emailing highdesertmanager@hoamco.com or by calling 505-314-5862. The High Desert office is now open for walk-ins Monday through Friday from 10 am to 3 pm. Appointments are encouraged.

NMSU Wildfire Webinars: New Mexico State University is hosting a FREE webinar series every Thursday in March to help New Mexico residents prepare for fire season. The one-hour sessions will begin at noon. Learn more and [register here](#).

Walk to Trailhead instead of driving: With warmer beautiful weather upon us the parking lot at Michial Emery Trailhead fills up and some hikers park their vehicles on High Desert Drive in "No Parking" areas intended for Cyclists and Emergency Vehicles. We would encourage our residents to walk to the trailhead to reduce the overflow parking situation. This issue continues to be a safety concern during Holidays and weekends, so it is important to be respectful of those residents who live nearby and deal with this situation frequently.

The “Poop Fairy” Retired: It’s been noticed that some pet owners are not bagging their dog’s waste. I have heard from a reliable source that the “Poop Fairy” has retired, so let’s pull together in the meantime and bag yours, plus one. If we do this consistently, we will tidy up our beautiful common areas we all enjoy.

Fire Preparedness: What three Fire Preparedness actions might you take as we enter the season of potential high winds?

Limb up your trees – Trimming trees up at least 2 feet or up to 4 if lower plants are nearby. To be safe, remove plants below your trees to prevent Ladder Fuel Fires. Trees or their branches within 10 feet of your home should be considered for removal.

Clean-up the undergrowth – Cutting out dead, highly flammable vegetation actually helps beneficial sunlight get to the roots to stimulate growth in the Spring; be aggressive as lovely healthy growth will come back.

Create Defensible Space around your home – Six feet from your walls is called the Ignition Zone because if anything catches fire in this area risk of fire and smoke damage to your home is high. Firefighters call that space defensible because if it is clear of vegetation, trees, furniture, fire pits, etc. then they can move in quickly to defend your home. Help them out!!

If you take any actions, consider contacting Judy Pierson at judy@judypierson.com so the Fire Preparedness Committee can admire your work. Also, the Committee has gathered some excellent publications with guidelines for fire preparedness and Judy will personally deliver them to anyone who contacts her at judy@judypierson.com.

Upcoming Meetings and Events:

Townhall Meeting – Friday March 11 at 3pm by Zoom. To register, send an email to highdesertmanager@hoamco.com.

Board Meeting – Tuesday March 15 at 2pm by Zoom.

Monthly Highlight:

Whether you are new to High Desert or have lived here for decades, it is worth exploring the “New to High Desert” page on our website. It is packed with interesting information about High Desert that you might never have known or have long since forgotten. [Check it out!](#)

This bulletin was prepared by the High Desert Communications Committee. Please email any suggestions to communicationscommittee@hoamco.com.

If you know anyone who is not receiving the High Desert Bulletin, please ask them to contact the High Desert office at 505-314-5862 or highdesertmanager@hoamco.com. Also, contact the High Desert office if you would like the bulletin sent to a different email address.