



High Desert Bulletin

June 2022

Announcements:

Time to Remove Some Trees? - With the high winds and fire dangers this time of year, homeowners are advised to assess their trees in terms of safety. The Fire Preparedness Committee provided these suggestions from fire and tree experts:

- Proximity to home – No trees or large bushes should be within 6, preferably 10, feet from the home to create a safe Defensible Zone in case of fire. This danger includes trees or bushes whose branches encroach into that space and especially if branches extend over the roof or touch the building.
- Height – Many trees exceed the High Desert height and are grandfathered in at this time. Height is an issue if the tree or its branches would create damage in a high wind or fire situation. Falling trees or large branches pose a danger to homes and walkways or streets.
- Condition – Some indications of unhealthy trees that may need pruning or removal are:
 - Tree is dead or beyond saving.
 - Trunk is cracked, hollow, has large, dead branches, has many sprouts coming from base or trunk, has root damage, or has fungus or rot or obvious signs of infestation.

There are several reputable, licensed, bonded and insured tree contractors that serve High Desert. Tree service or removal might not be the best time to get your local gardener to assess your situation and mitigate it.

Financial Reports on Website – High Desert budgets and financial documents are now available on our High Desert [website](#). If you have any questions about these documents, please contact our treasurer, Steve Hartig at stevehartig@yahoo.com.

Financial Townhall Recording on Website – Our past and current treasurers, Ray Berg and Steve Hartig, hosted a townhall on May 12 to discuss the budget and financial information for High Desert. A recording of that townhall is now available on our High Desert [website](#).

Voting Members Elections are Coming. Your Community Needs You!! - Voting Members (VM) and their Alternates are absolutely essential to the functioning of our High Desert community. The primary responsibilities of Voting and Alternate Voting Members are the election of the High Desert Board and to vote on significant issues such as changes to the bylaws, tax issues and the Board's budget. In the absence of a village's Voting Member, the Alternate can assume those responsibilities. VMs and their Alternates promote two-way communications with their village residents. Aside from referring their village residents' concerns to the appropriate committee, HD Board Members, or the community manager it is not the VMs responsibility to resolve specific issues, but only to facilitate communications between the resident and those who can act. The first step to become a VM is to submit a [Statement of Interest](#). Elections will be held in August. Support your community and volunteer to be a Voting Member. More details to follow.

Tom Murdock Park Dedication – Please join us for the dedication of the Tom Murdock Park at the northeast corner of Spain and Imperata on Wednesday June 15 at 2 pm. If you can't make it to the dedication, please drop by the park sometime and let the monument remind you of the enormous impact Tom made on our High Desert community.

Stucco Wall Repairs – Are you curious about the stucco wall repairs in High Desert? The status as well as pictures of completed segments are posted on our contractor's [website](#).

Upcoming Meetings and Events:

Tom Murdock Park Dedication – Wednesday June 15 at 2 pm at Tom Murdock Park (formerly Kiva Park) at the northeast corner of Spain and Imperata.

High Desert (HOAMCO) Office Closed – Monday July 4.

Townhall Meeting – Friday July 15 at 4pm via Zoom. HOAMCO will email the registration link in July.

Board Meeting – Tuesday July 19 at 2pm via Zoom.

Voting Member Quarterly Information Meeting – Thursday July 28 at 6:30pm via Zoom. HOAMCO will email the registration link to Voting Members and Alternates before the meeting. The meeting is open to all homeowners who request to attend.

Monthly Website Highlight:

You may not be aware of the rich history of ownership of our High Desert property, going back to the Spanish land grant days. Take a few minutes to read the fascinating history that Peter Strascina has provided on our [website](#).

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.