



**Upcoming Meetings and Events:**

*Townhall Meeting* – George Marsh, High Desert Board President, will host the next Townhall Meeting on Thursday, February 16 at 4 pm via Zoom. A registration link will be emailed to everyone who receives this bulletin, and others who would like to attend should contact HOAMCO at 505-314-5862 or [highdesertmanager@hoamco.com](mailto:highdesertmanager@hoamco.com) to request the registration link.

*Board Meeting* – The High Desert Board will meet on Tuesday, February 21 at 5 pm via Zoom. **Please note the later start time.** If you would like to attend, please contact HOAMCO at 505-314-5862 or [highdesertmanager@hoamco.com](mailto:highdesertmanager@hoamco.com).

**General Announcements:**

*The Voting Member January Quarterly Meeting was held on 1/26/2023 from 6:30 To 8:30 pm. If you would like to hear the meeting please ask HOAMCO for a recording. Recordings are available from Jan 27 to Feb 4<sup>th</sup>.*

*Nomination Committee: 4 Board of Directors Positions Open*

High Desert is one of the nicest places to live in Albuquerque and, indeed, the most wonderful place many of us have ever lived. But perhaps it could be even better. If you have skills and experience that would make this wonderful community even better, if you see something that you would like to fix, if you think we could forge a more perfect union, and if you want to know your neighbors and neighborhood better, now is your chance! Submit your name for one of the open positions for a two-year term on our Board of Directors.

Procedure: If this vision ignites your desire to know and improve your community, please submit your Statement of Interest (SOI) by April 6, 2023. If you have any questions, please call Ray Berg at 505-366-8104 or email [rsberg01@comccast.net](mailto:rsberg01@comccast.net). Please, contact Ray when you submit your SOI so that we may know to expect it in his email. The SOI template can be accessed and completed online on the High Desert website at [www.highdesertliving.net](http://www.highdesertliving.net) as follows: [highdesertliving.net](http://highdesertliving.net) -> documents and forms. Complete the relevant fields on the SOI and submit the form electronically by clicking “Send.”

Once you submit an SOI, the Nominating Committee will reach out to schedule an informational meeting with you during the week of April 10, and a Meet and Greet with the Voting Members on April 22, where you will have an opportunity to present your case for being a board member. The process will conclude with the election by the Voting Members on April 27 of the Annual Meeting. *High Desert Nominating Committee: Ray Berg- Chair, Harry Jones-Mentor, Bomi Parakh, Mark Soo Hoo, and Millie Yamada*

*New High Desert Security Patrol* – The VetSec security patrol transition from Allied occurred on February 1st. In preparation, VetSec worked directly with Allied to train onsite, with the current guards, to best understand the patrol patterns and predominant issues and concerns for High Desert. All equipment is being turned over from Allied to VetSec for a seamless transition, including the security phone which will continue to have the same contact number (505-485-5658). VetSec will be working with modern technology to document (with photos) all incidents in the community, providing management with daily reports so that the community can stay ahead of emergent issues.

*By-Laws Updated* – The Voting Members approved an update to the High Desert By-Laws to make them compliant with the 2019 New Mexico HOA Act. High Desert was already required to

follow the HOA Act but the changes ensure the By-Laws reflect state law. The biggest changes are opening Board Meetings and Annual Meetings to all High Desert owners (in addition to Voting Members), adding notification requirements for policy discussions, and specifically listing association records that owners can review. Read the February Apache Plume for more details.

*Keep Wildlife Wild* – Feeding wildlife puts you and others at risk. In the High Desert, we enjoy the wildlife that shares our community, but feeding them can have some unintended and dangerous consequences. Find out more in this [article](#) from NM Wildlife Magazine.

*Reduce Potential Fuels Now* – February is a great time to reduce potential fuels from wildfires around your home. The snakes are asleep, and the Spring Winds (prime wildfire season) have not yet started. See [tips](#) at the National Fire Protection Association.

*Bring in the Goats!* – Speaking of fuel reduction, Melody Eyster in the Highlands shares this about goats: “We enjoy using the natural process with the grazing and try to do this twice a year. In addition to being a fun and novel event, it really is good to clear out a lot of fuel. Their hooves also churn the fallen seeds down into the ground. Hopefully, we will see more native plants as a result. We had a good snowfall right after their visit this month, so we should have some nice growth in the spring from those seeds.” Contact Judy Pierson at [judy@judypierson.com](mailto:judy@judypierson.com) for more information about Goatscaping and other fire preparedness measures.

*Apache Plume Arriving Soon* – Be on the lookout for the Winter Apache Plume, which will be arriving in your mailbox in the next week. This newsletter is both informative and interesting, so don't miss it.

*Keep Current About APD* – The Foothills Command of the Albuquerque Police Department emails a monthly newsletter with useful information and tips. Sign up [here](#) (under “Newsletters”).

*Check Out Our High Desert Website* – Please remember that the High Desert website is the primary means of communication within our association. If you're looking for information about the High Desert, you're likely to find it at [highdesertliving.net](http://highdesertliving.net). If you think something should be added to the website, please let us know at [hdwebcom21@gmail.com](mailto:hdwebcom21@gmail.com).

### **Monthly Village Spotlight:**

*The Aerie* - The Aerie is one of the earliest villages in the High Desert. It was envisioned by developers as a starter-home development, but it has been warmly embraced by "empty nesters" as well. The 74 single-family lots are mostly freestanding patio homes (though there are a few joined townhomes), all finished in the Territorial style. Two locked pedestrian gates allow residents to stroll onto Spain at the east- and westernmost points of the Aerie, but vehicle traffic enters through a single point on Cortaderia Place. The developers of the Aerie creatively zoned the village to allow a pleasant patio space for the residents of every house in the Aerie, and most of these yards have terraces and Xeric Garden features to become "outdoor rooms" that bring family living areas outside where families can enjoy our wonderful New Mexico weather.

*This bulletin was prepared by the High Desert Communications Committee. Please email any suggestions to [communicationscommittee@hoamco.com](mailto: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](mailto:highdesertmanager@hoamco.com). Also, you can provide or update your email address through HOAMCO's [Caliber Portal](#).*