



High Desert Bulletin

June 2023

Upcoming Meetings and Events:

Board Meeting – The High Desert Board will meet on Tuesday, June 20 at 5 pm via Zoom. If you would like to attend, please contact HOAMCO at 505-314-5862 or highdesertmanager@hoamco.com.

General Announcements:

Board Officers Elected – Shortly after the annual election, the High Desert Board met to elect their officers. The results are: George Marsh is President, Bill Pederson is Vice President, Steve Hartig is Treasurer, and Bob Howell is Secretary.

New Voting Member Chair – Harrison Jones was elected to be a Board Director at the Annual Meeting, so he can no longer serve as the Voting Member Chair. Mark Soo Hoo, the Voting Member Vice Chair has agreed to serve as interim Voting Member Chair until the October Voting Member meeting.

Documents Review Committee – At the June Board meeting, the High Desert Board will be discussing a proposal to form a Documents Review Committee. The committee would advise the Board on and facilitate changes to High Desert governing documents and policies. The proposed charter for the committee is posted on the [High Desert website](#).

Housing Forward ABQ at City Council Meeting – The Albuquerque City Council is meeting on June 5th at 5pm to consider zoning changes that would allow additional dwelling units in residential areas throughout Albuquerque. Those additional dwelling units would be prohibited by the High Desert covenants, but our High Desert HOA would have to enforce any violations through litigation, rather than relying on city zoning enforcement. The High Desert Board encourages all High Desert residents to read the proposed ordinance and share any concerns either at the council meeting or with their city councilor, Trudy Jones. Here are links to the [proposed ordinance](#), the [meeting schedules/location](#) for the council meeting, and for [contacting Trudy Jones](#).

Report any Leaks you Spot – If you see any irrigation leaks in the High Desert common areas, please call HOAMCO at 505-314-5862 so they can get the leak repaired and minimize waste and damage. If you spot very large leaks, floods, or line breaks after office hours, please call the High Desert emergency phone at 505-221-0189 and they will notify the landscape company of the issue immediately.

Your community needs a strong voice! – And it begins with becoming a Voting Member (VM). [Voting Member and Alternate Voting Member](#) elections will begin soon, and High Desert needs you to help maintain our standards of living with a modest investment of your time. With proposed legislation at both the city and state levels, High Desert living could change drastically without a strong community voice. The primary responsibilities of Voting and Alternate Voting Members are the election of the High Desert Board, become informed about issues affecting High Desert, and to vote on significant issues such as changes to the bylaws, tax issues and the Board's budget. VMs and their Alternates promote two-way communications with their village residents and refer their concerns to the appropriate committee, HD Board Members, or the community manager. VMs do not resolve specific issues but facilitate communications between their village residents and those who can act. The first step to becoming 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.

New Construction Committee (NCC) Needs Volunteers – The NCC reviews plans for new construction or major modifications in High Desert to ensure compliance with our High Desert standards. The committee needs more volunteers to help with these reviews. If you are interested, please submit a Statement of Interest.

Landscape Committee is looking for Volunteers – The Landscape Committee is looking for volunteers to help in the maintenance and development of our common areas, streetscapes, parks, and arroyos. Weed and debris removal are efforts in which you can help, as well as maintenance of the demonstration garden adjoining the city park. Also, the committee is continuing to work on dead tree removal and working with the city's Tree Project in choosing appropriate trees for High Desert. Finally, the committee is working on an educational program for homeowners to better understand the rules of the Albuquerque Metropolitan Flood Control Authority (AMAFCA) and how we can assist in good arroyo management. Monthly Landscape Committee meetings will begin in July. Anyone interested in volunteering or in becoming a member of the Landscape Committee should contact Camille Singaraju, Landscape Committee Chair, at bsingaraju@msn.com or 505-821-6887.

Watch Your Speed – High Desert homeowners have reported seeing more speeding on our streets recently. They see many cars going 40 to 45 mph, which is well above our speed limits of 25 to 30 mph. High Desert has many people who walk with and without animals, as well as cyclists. Please drive at or below the speed limit for their safety, as well as the safety of wildlife that is common in High Desert. Remember that many of our High Desert streets were designed to be narrow to minimize their environmental impact. That makes it even more dangerous to speed around the curvy areas of the streets. Thanks to everyone who is already respecting their neighbors by driving cautiously!

Switch to e-statements – If you have already signed up for e-statements for High Desert association billing, you know the advantages. It takes away the clutter of paper and saves the Association money on postage. If you are still receiving paper statements and are ready to switch, find information on the High Desert website or contact the High Desert office at 505-314-5862 for assistance.

Support for National Night Out – This year, National Night Out is Tuesday, August 1. The Board is providing \$100 to each village that chooses to participate. If your village wants to participate, get details by contacting the High Desert office at 505-314-5862 or highdesertmanager@hoamco.com.

Apache Plume is Online – The May issue of the Apache Plume was packed with great information about High Desert. What if you already recycled it and now wish you had it back so you could look up something? Fortunately, old issues of the Apache Plume are available electronically on our High Desert website so it is simple to look at back issues.

What's in it for Me? – By now you've surely gotten the message - High Desert runs on volunteers. Our community needs you, but volunteering doesn't just help the community. It's good for you personally, too. See articles like this to learn about some of the benefits.

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, you can provide or update your email address through HOAMCO's Caliber Portal.