

Rio Verde Horsemen's Association Board of Directors' Meeting

May 20, 2024

Attendees: Jenny Powers, Carmela Lizzo, Mike Miola, Terry Stecyk, (via Zoom) Kip Micuda
Absent: Kim Nordquist, Lori Bridwell, Zondra Poteste
Guests: None

The meeting was called to order at 6:50 p.m.

President's Announcement

Carmela informed the Board that Linda Vinson had resigned from her position on the RVHA Board of Directors due to health concerns and lack of time to devote to the role. The Board thanks Linda for her service and wishes her well. The Board members may recommend someone to fill the open position and were asked to give some thought to anyone they feel might be a good candidate for consideration.

Reports:

Minutes - Jenny

Minutes from the April meeting were distributed via email. No edits were requested. Motion to accept as submitted was made and seconded. Minutes accepted. Jenny will send the files to Frank to post.

Treasurer's Report – Zondra

The Treasurer's Report was distributed via email. Carmela noted that numbers are down from this time last year. The reports were accepted as submitted.

Area Awareness – TBD

Wildcat Fire Update: the FAST Alert system did not reach everyone who has signed up for the service. Gul will be updating the system and then RVHA will offer the program again. The Board authorized payment to Gul for moderate expenses to update the system. Testing will be done to determine effectiveness in reaching all who have signed up.

Commercial Development 174th St & Rio Verde Drive

The current plan may be revised to develop in phases instead of all at once. There is no development timeline, and the project is currently in the pre-engineering phase. No further movement has occurred.

Water Issue Status

During the EPCOR May meeting the issue of confusion regarding the payment of the hook-up fee was raised. This may be a reason for delays in signing up for the 150 accounts available for properties without residences by the deadline outlined in the program. Only 85 applications have been received to date.

Social Media – Terry

No report.

Membership

There are currently 445 RVHA members. Jenny will process complimentary memberships for a list of individuals recommended by Board members. Terry and Carmela will assist with providing information to create membership profiles. Jenny will work with Zondra for assistance in creating profiles, if necessary. Complimentary memberships will be reevaluated annually unless noted as "Lifetime."

Jenny reported that the print vendor reprinted membership cards due to printer error and the order is complete. Jenny will work on fulfillment of memberships as time permits. This season is slower than the renewals received during the winter and will ease the workload.

Welcome Committee – Bonnie

Bonnie mailed 16 cards in January and 19 in February. Since her last report, 12 homes were sold.

Roadside Clean-up

The next event is being considered for June and will be announced if scheduled.

Advertising – Lori

No report.

Social Events – Carmela

Pancake Breakfast/Rural Metro promo Sunday, April 27, Rural Metro Station

The event was a success with 13 vendors and good attendance. Refer to the Annual Meeting of Membership minutes for a recap of the event. Rural Metro is supporting FireWise, which is a national program that has extensive requirements for approval. The requirements and need to have property reviewed and inspected may be a deterrent to participation due to privacy issues and concerns about insurance ramifications, and while not necessarily valid, the concern exists.

Old Business

Trilogy

Mike will schedule the session in the fall when residents return to the community.

RVHA Newsletter

Kim has agreed to assume responsibility for publishing the *Round-up* newsletter. She will re-evaluate the schedule and review the articles already submitted. Terry will ask Soleil about submitting an article explaining animal cruelty issues and legal definitions. Carmela will obtain the evacuation preparation information regarding horse owners and trailer preparation originally published by Arizona Foothills 911. Awaiting Mike and Kip's contributions to the newsletter.

Southwest Equine Clinic Permit

The grading was done in advance of the SUP with the agriculture exemption. The agriculture exemption was revoked due to a County error and will be reinstated. The SUP application has been submitted and at the meeting there were several speakers in favor of the project, and no opposition presented.

New Business

Meet the Candidates Forum

The Board discussed hosting a meeting of candidates for the County Board of Supervisors with no endorsements. The meeting would provide an opportunity for candidates to discuss their election platforms and answer questions from the community. Carmela will check with Zondra regarding organizing a forum relative to our status as a 501C7 organization. It is thought this designation allows for more flexibility in the political field. Kip will research as well. Kip, Mike, and Carmela will work on arrangements and invite guests. The Board considered a motion to budget for the forum and approved expenses up to \$1,500. Further discussion will occur via email as the organizers get involved with the project.

Community Shredding Service

It was suggested that the Board arrange for a shredding service to come to our community to allow residents to bring documents to be disposed of. Mike will put together a proposal and Carmela will contact a personal document shredding service for more information.

Saguaro Blossom Pet Grooming

The business is in the process of applying for an SUP for pet boarding, daycare, education, and training. RVHA will disseminate information as a neutral party in keeping with our goal of informing our membership about news and issues concerning our community. The membership may then make a choice about whether to support the project.

Meeting with Rural Metro

Carmela reported that Mike Mooney and other disaster experts met to discuss evacuation plans for the north side of Rio Verde Drive between 136th Street and 144th Street following the Wildcat Fire. Of special concern is determining open spaces where people can shelter in place and to solicit voluntary locations for shelter in place designation. More information is needed before advancing this effort. RVHA will assist in coordinating evacuation efforts in case of fire as needed.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, June 20. Kip will bring refreshments for the June meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Submitted by: Jenny Powers