



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
REGULAR MEETING
DC Ranch Community Council, Inc.
Desert Camp Community Center
Thursday, September 29, 2017

Attending:

Pat Simpson, President
Ron Belmont, Vice President
Mark Eberle, Treasurer
Bud Kern
Marc Blonstein
Jill Edwards Resnick

Staff Attending:

Chris Irish, Executive Director
Jona Davis, Community Engagement Director
Brad Bishop, Facilities & Recreation Director
Sylvia Miles, Financial Operations Director
Erin May Valdez, Executive Assistant/HR Administrator

I. Call to order

Pat Simpson called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. and welcomed all guests and staff in attendance.

II. Approval of May Minutes

***Motion: To approve the minutes from the May 25, 2017 Board Meeting
Motioned by Bud Kern; Seconded by Mark Eberle; Motion passed unanimously***

III. President's Report

Pat announced that Melinda Gulick is no longer with DMB and no longer serves on either the Community Council's board or the Covenant Commission. The Council is awaiting notification from the Declarant regarding both the removal and reappointment of this board member.

The Governance Committee had an update from Chris on Sky Harbor flight patterns and the recent legal action won by the city of Phoenix. Chris will continue to monitor the situation. Chris and PDG have an upcoming meeting with Jim Thompson, Scottsdale City Manager and they will discuss various topics to include the Scottsdale airport.

Pat announced her decision to step down as Council board president effective immediately following the board meeting. She is planning to put her house on the market in October. Pat will remain on the board as a director until she moves. Chris and the directors thanked Pat for her work and dedication to the board.

***Motion: To appoint vice president Ron Belmont as board president and Marc Blonstein as vice president
Motioned by Mark Eberle; Seconded by Jill Edwards Resnick; Motion passed unanimously***

IV. Financial Reports

Sylvia reviewed the August financials. Benefit fees were \$9,000 under budget in August. We've had savings in all areas of expenses, and the Council has a positive budget variance of \$268,000 for the year. The cash balance amount sits at 4.93 months.

The Council's intern, Sierra Delaney, presented a benefit fee forecast with Sylvia. They gave a conservative \$1.5 million forecast through the end of the year; the budget is \$1.469 million. If the benefit fee forecast comes to fruition, Sylvia projects a \$214,000 positive variance for the end of year.

V. Public Affairs Update

Chris stated that residents had been notified that Great Hearts purchased land outside of DC Ranch, near Scottsdale Prep, and will not be building a field in the park site or corporate center. Ron thanked Chris for her work on this project over the past year.

On September 18, the Desert EDGE consultants hired by the city of Scottsdale presented their project to DC Ranch residents. The Council is responsible to speak on behalf of the community at large. The areas DC Ranch is reviewing are view shed, traffic, noise, lights, safety and security. Questions associated with these areas have been suggested by both the Council and Ranch Association boards and submitted to the consultants. When their response is received a joint board discussion will take place. From there, Council will decide if a statement or position on behalf of DC Ranch will be made. It was asked that Chris will reach out to neighboring communities to see what they are doing.

VI. Executive Director's Report

The new guidelines for community center key fobs will be rolled out this fall. Fobs will now expire every two years; residents will go to Desert Camp to get them renewed and sign a usage agreement. A three month grace period will be in effect during the roll-out.

EventBrite, the company that hosts DC Ranch event and program registrations, is increasing their registration service fee. This will amount to approximately \$16,000 in 2018. Staff is looking at options, and leaning towards the addition of a service fee that is covered by the registrant at the time they register.

When the Declarant turned DC Ranch over to the residents, the community centers were deeded to the Council. For property tax purposes, the Council later deeded the centers to the Ranch Association while they worked on 501c4 status. Now that the Council is a 501c4 organization, Chris is starting the process to have the centers deeded back. She has taken the first step; Council's attorney is currently doing a review.

The Community Garden is moving toward a more "communal garden" experience. Plots will still be available to lease, but the format of a more open, social experience without the responsibility of having a personal plot will be highlighted.

The website has experienced a 16% increase in traffic since its new format rollout in April. Areas with the highest usage are the community center page, gate access section, and real estate page. Staff will put together information on site traffic from residents vs. non-residents.

The new recycle bins have been placed throughout the community centers; response has been positive.

A resident voiced a concern regarding overhead lights being constantly lit along Thompson Peak Parkway sidewalks. Chris will talk to maintenance and to see if this is a DC Ranch responsibility and if so get it fixed.

IX. New Business

None reported.

X. Adjourn Meeting

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

Motioned by Bud Kern; Seconded by Mark Eberle; Motion passed unanimously.

Pat Simpson passed the Community Council board president gavel to Ron Belmont.