



Executive Director's Monthly Update

March 2018

Explanation. Moving forward, this report will be converted to a staff report to reflect that it covers projects worked on by all staff. Additionally, if acceptable to the Board, the Executive Director would like to eventually convert this report into a document that can be shared with the public along with the agenda. Board feedback on what you would like to see in this report and what information that you do and do not find valuable is welcome.

Special Projects

- *Facilities Discussion.* Public Affairs Director Chris Irish, Facilities and Recreation Director Brad Bishop and I met with representatives of the City of Scottsdale to explore options (and the process) for developing the vacant lot adjacent to the Desert Camp Community Center. We also discussed the development agreement between DMB and the City which is set to expire in 2019.
- *Strategic Plan/DCR2020.* Jona will provide an update on this project at the meeting.
- *Trail Project.* Brad Bishop and Senior Facilities Manager Beth Overton met with representatives from Okanogan Trail Construction, the firm that has been selected to undertake the trail project. They have extensive experience in performing similar projects in the valley. This project will be kicking off this spring, and will conclude in late 2018/early 2019.
- *Interactive Display.* The new display board is being installed in the main conference room at the Ranch Offices to allow for more interactive presentations; this will be available for use at the April work session.

Events and Programs

- *Programming Open House.* Jona Davis and Jenna Kohl will provide an update on the Open House at the meeting.
- *Board Orientation.* The joint Board Orientation with the Ranch Association will be held at Silverleaf on April 23, and will cover best practices, overview of the governing structure, legal responsibilities of being a Board member, description of current projects and initiatives, and a financial overview, and may include a social component.
- *Upcoming Events.* A comprehensive list of upcoming events is attached. Staff is gearing up for Eggstravaganza, which will take place on March 31 at Desert Camp.

Community Centers

- *Community Center Deeds.* The warranty deeds transferring ownership from the Ranch Association back to the Council for both Desert Camp and Homestead have been executed and recorded.

- *Key Fob Access.* The conversion to the new fob system at the Community Centers is well underway; residents have until April 5 to obtain a new fob. After that date, they will need to go to the front desk at Desert Camp to complete the paperwork and obtain a new fob in order to get access to the facilities. This helps with management of the key fobs and security of the centers.
- *Pickleball Court Resurface.* The resurfacing of the second pickleball court will take place the first week of April.

Transition Report

- *Welcome.* Staff, the Board, the Ranch Association, the Covenant Commission, the community partners, and the stakeholders that I've met have all been extremely welcoming. I am energized by the passion and dedication that everyone has for DC Ranch, and I am grateful for the opportunity to serve the community and the organization.
- *Resident Engagement.* After meeting with several residents, I would like to gain Board support to form a resident advisory group as a means of connecting with residents, sharing information, and gathering feedback.
- *Staff and Partner Engagement.* My first three weeks have involved reading documents, touring the community and Council facilities, meeting with the team, connecting with community partners, attending meetings, and participating in events. I have had the opportunity to attend several meetings (the Ranch Association Board meeting, the RA staff meeting), meet individually with all Council staff, and spend time with Jan Barratta and Darren Shaw. Chris Irish has spent considerable time with me, orienting me to DC Ranch, giving tours, and introducing me to people. I've had staff meetings and have been able to meet with Council employees one-on-one. Tom Wright will be giving me and other staff members tours of the community, particularly the trail and path system, on Monday mornings over the next few weeks. I've attended the programming open house and the Habitat for Humanity build event and gala, and plan to attend the Sunset Tour and 20th anniversary hike on March 23, to name a few. I am meeting with other community stakeholders, such as Whitestone REIT representatives. My goal is to take every opportunity to get to know and listen and understand staff and residents, to establish trust, and get a true understanding of priorities, issues, and ideas.

Submitted by Jenna Kohl, March 2018.

Synopsis of Agenda Items

- *Decibel Blue Presentation.* Senior Communications Manager Jeremy Stevens will give an outline of the public relations/branding initiative, and will introduce Decibel Blue, the company hired to carry out its goals. They will give a report on their deliverables and progress made to date. They will leave time for Q&A.
- *Habitat at the Ranch Recap.* Senior Event and Programs Manager Gabi Enriquez will update the Board on the outcome of the partnership with Habitat for Humanity, a report on the success of the project, and future partnership plans.
- *Election of New Board Directors.* The Board will consider a motion to elect Natalie Ingram and Jim Patterson to the DC Ranch Community Council Board for three year terms beginning April 1, 2018. Their background forms are attached for reference.
- *Selection of Officers.* The Board will discuss and vote on officer positions for the April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019 term, to include President, Vice-President, and Secretary/Treasurer.
- *Open House/Program Evaluation Report.* Community Engagement Director Jona Davis and Executive Director Jenna Kohl will present a report on the Programming Open House, feedback received, and next steps which will include an electronic survey targeted for distribution in late April.
- *Strategic Plan Update.* Jona Davis will update the Board on the progress of the Strategic Plan implementation, which includes formation of teams to finalize strategies and identify related tactics for each of the Strategic Initiatives and Standing Principles identified in DCR2020.
- *Public Affairs Approach.* Jenna Kohl will review the approach to monitoring and reporting on community interest issues that is being compiled by Public Affairs Director Chris Irish.