



Staff Report

March 2019

Finance and Administration

- *Board Financial Reports.* Revisions were made to the financial reports for 2019 to make them more clear and easier to understand. Please feel free to give Dee Nortman additional suggestions or feedback.
- *Annual Audit for FY 2018.* Auditors from Butler Hansen were in the Ranch offices March 18-22 for field work. A draft of the audited financial statements should be available for review by the end of April. Everything has gone well so far and the auditor was very complimentary of the Community Council's organization and preparation.
- *Reserve/Capital Investment Accounts.* The new investment accounts are nearly through the due diligence process with Bank of Arizona. The accounts should be open and funds moved by 4/01/19, in order to have three full quarters of increased earnings for 2019.
- *DC Ranch Collection Policy.* The assessment collection policy was reviewed by legal counsel and updated in March. The link to view the policy was published for community residents in the March edition of Ranch Roundup.

Events and Programs

- *Arizona Story Tellers Project at DC Ranch:* Just over 200 attendees enjoyed a night of live storytelling about finding home, leaving home and the meaning of home. DC Ranch partnered with The Arizona Republic and azcentral.com to bring this nationwide series of curated events to The Homestead.
- *Program and Events Open House:* Thirty-four residents attended the annual event designed to share information on the programs currently offered and seek input for future programming. This year, Partners were invited to have a table and resident-led club representatives were present to provide information.
- *Eggstravaganza:* A family favorite event, don't miss this spring tradition complete with a traditional egg hunt, Toy Story themed games, music and a brunch-style buffet on Saturday, April 20 from 9 a.m. to noon.
- *Upcoming Events:* A calendar of upcoming events for April is attached.
- *Programs and Events:* Throughout February, over 580 people participated in a variety of events including TGIF, Starlight Concert, Passport to Art, Grapenuts, Game Night: Trivia, Fourth Friday's social hour, Off the Ranch, Evening of Jazz, Speaker's Series, DC Ranch Women's Club, DC Ranch Men's Club and Food Truck Night.

Community Engagement

- *Merchant Mixer:* Twenty-six attended the semi-annual Merchant Mixer on Feb. 12 at the All-American Modern Sports Grill. The gatherings are intended to show appreciation for the DC Ranch business partners and share upcoming, seasonal information.
- *New Resident 'Round the Ranch Sunset Tour:* Thirty-three new residents attended the Sunset Tour on March 15 that departed from Lush Burger, stopped at the Village and concluded with a champagne toast in Upper Canyon. Trevor Barger was the tour guide.
- *Volunteer Appreciation Celebration:* You are personally invited to attend the eighth annual event to celebrate your contributions to the community on April 6. As part of the celebration, a select group of individuals will be honored for Volunteer of the Year recognition in five categories. The celebration will conclude by building bicycles in small groups. Bikes will be donated to the foundation and distributed to children battling pediatric cancer. Please RSVP by Friday, March 29.
- *Conversations in the Park.* Ron Belmont, Jenna Kohl, and Jona Davis joined Ranch Association representatives at two Conversations in the Park, in Desert Haciendas (Jan. 29) and Camelot/Rosewood (Mar. 14). These events are positive opportunities to interact with residents in their neighborhoods – to provide updates on current events, hear concerns and ideas, and answer questions. These are coordinated by Ranch Association and will be held throughout the year in various neighborhoods.
- *Resident Group.* The DC Ranch Resident group met in early February to learn about and discuss communication, and in early March to discuss the DC Ranch Gives program. The next meeting will be in April with a focus on Public Affairs.

Communications

- *Project Updates:* Residents were mailed the new Spring Program Guide listing all programming for March, April and May. We have received many positive comments on the Guide. Also, the 2018 Annual Report was mailed and the Resident Survey (completed every 3 years) will be launched late March/early April.
- *Survey gift cards:* Ten businesses in the DC Ranch area provided eleven \$50 gifts cards that will be used as an incentive for the resident survey (randomly drawn). The names of the businesses will be listed in survey promotional materials that will be sent to all residents. Staff secured these gift cards for a cost savings of \$550.
- *Brand Management Decision Filter:* This decision filter was developed as part of the Brand Management Initiative and designed to be used by board members and staff so that decisions are made with consistent quality, attention and care of the DC Ranch Brand. The decision filter was reviewed with the Community Council team in February and is included in the March Board packet. It will also be included in all future new employee on-boarding.

Facilities and Recreation

- *Path and Trail Update.* Installation of the wayfinding system will begin in early April; 73 Identification Marker post locations have been selected; 115 Identification Markers, 73 Emergency Markers, 3 kiosks and 3 map pedestals are in fabrication. The Communications team is creating content for the back of the trail map that will include hiking safety and DC Ranch Community information. A Path and Trail Forum is scheduled for Earth Day, April 22 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Desert Camp Community Center. With the exception of the Desert

Camp driveway trail bypass, the Phase I Safety Improvements have been completed. The Desert Camp trail bypass has been put on hold in response to City of Scottsdale transportation recommendations.

- *Reata Wash Erosion Mitigation Review.* Community Council is contracting with Copper State Engineering, Inc (CSE) to conduct an engineering review of erosion and flooding issues on a portion of our Path and Trail system that crosses the Reata Wash near the Copper Ridge School. Council will receive a summary letter with recommendations for modifications and/or improvements at completion of project.
- *Wildflower Walk.* This March 23 event is sold out with a waiting list. 50 residents will enjoy a casual one-mile walk around Country Club Village led by DC Ranch Landscape Manager, Ken Krause. Ken will share his extensive knowledge of the blooming landscape.
- *DC Ranch Hiking Group.* Back by popular demand, the DC Ranch Hiking Group (formerly 20 for 20 Hiking Program) resumes guided hikes Saturday, April 27. Four hikes are planned to highlight the Path and Trail system that connects the Country Club, Desert Camp, Silverleaf and Desert Parks Villages. The first hike highlights the Silverleaf Village paths and trails and a portion of the McDowell Sonoran Preserve Desert Parks trail.
- *Spring Tennis Social.* 16 residents participated in the Spring Tennis Social facilitated by teaching professionals from the DC Ranch Village Tennis Center. The program was full with a waitlist.
- *New Canasta Club.* Resident Dee Parish created an official Canasta club that meets Fridays at Desert Camp from 1 to 4 p.m.
- *Beginner Mahjong Class.* Card and games instruction classes have been scheduled as a result of resident requests and program survey comments. 11 residents participated in the month-long class offered in February. A beginner Canasta class is scheduled in the fall.
- *Reserve Projects.* Staff oversaw completion of the first quarter reserve projects including replacement of the Maxicom water controllers with ETWater Controllers at Market Street park and both community centers. Ranch-wide, total water savings is 16,500,000 gallons. Community Council has a savings of over 1,000,000 gallons since January 1, 2019.
- *Capital Project Update.* Beth Overton will provide an update on Capital projects at the meeting.

Public Affairs Update

- *Two New Engagement Plans.* Chris Irish drafted DC Ranch Engagement Plans for the Scottsdale Bond and State Trust Land. They have been shared with the RA BOD. Copies are in your packet for discussion and vote at the meeting. Once the plans are adopted, website pages will be set up on DC Ranch.com.
- *Scottsdale Bond.* While City Council has not yet voted, all seem to be in favor of holding a bond election in November. To date, the three items we discussed (TP Bridge, Reata Wash flood structure and dog park) are still in the package that is being proposed. In addition, there was some confusion over project #53-Build parking lots in the vicinity of Bell Road to support special events. These are lighted soccer field parks that will be used on occasion for large event parking (Phoenix Open, Barret Jackson, etc.). One of these parks is at 94th and Bell, just south of DC Ranch Corporate Center and Desert Parks Vista Apartments. As soon as Chris has more information on this, we will include it in all bond information we provide to residents.

- *94th Street Sidewalk*. Scottsdale City Council approved CIP funds for 2019/2020. Chris is working with Councilwoman Whitehead to see if the 94th Street sidewalk can be installed with some of these funds.
- *Sky Harbor NextGen*. While the FAA said in January that they would reschedule community meetings for April, no dates have been set. Staff is drafting verbiage that can go out to residents to help prepare them to attend the meetings. Nothing will be sent until the dates are announced.

Other Updates

- *All Ranch Meeting*. Staff from Council, Ranch Association, and the Covenant met in early February to launch the new team values that were created by all employees (below) and discuss DCR2020.
 - DC Ranch Organizational Values Statement: **We Do Community Right** through teamwork, professionalism, innovation, passion and fun.
 - Teamwork: Connect, collaborate and create
 - Professionalism: Act with integrity and strive for excellence
 - Innovation: Blaze new trails while honoring our legacy
 - Passion: Put our hearts into all we do
 - Fun: Seek moments of joy
- *Joint Board Orientation*. The joint board orientation is scheduled for April 24 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Desert Camp Community Center.