

Four Hills Village Association (FHVA)

Minutes of the FHVA Board Meeting of June 20, 2023

Hybrid meeting – held at Singing Arrow Community Center & via Zoom
6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order

President Andrew Lipman opened this hybrid meeting at 6:32 p.m.

In Attendance:

Officers: Andrew Lipman, Herb Wright, Linda Martinez, Jennifer Lopez

Directors: James DeMay, Brigid Conklin, Troy Hill, *Howard Kimberly, Julia Vertrees, Jerry Gallegos, *Paul Yarrington,

Member-at-Large:

Absent, Lisa “Rusty” Goetz and William Jones, both excused

* Denotes attendance via Zoom

2. Approval of Agenda: Andrew asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Herb made a motion to approve the agenda. Julia made the second and the motion carried.

3. Introduction of Guests:

Hally Bert, East Gateway Community Planning Area Assessment (via Zoom). The Comprehensive City-Wide Plan is updated every 10 years. We are in the midst of the update and the city wants to make sure that the needs of each neighborhood are reflected in the plan.

Dr. Donald Daly. Dr. Daly is a Four Hills Village resident and wanted to observe our meeting.

4. Approval of the FHVA Board Meeting Minutes of the May 16, 2023 Monthly

Meeting: Julia made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2023 FHVA Board Meeting. Herb seconded the motion. The minutes of this meeting were approved unanimously. They may now be posted on the Association’s website at www.fhva.org.

5. Reports, as needed from Officers and Board Members

5.A. President, Andrew Lipman

5.A.1. Ongoing Projects. We are still working on getting the marquee sign repaired and for the city to set and approve an emergency evacuation plan for our neighborhood.

5.A.2. August meeting. Andrew will be out of town in August and for permission to cancel the August meeting. Herb made a motion to cancel the August 2023 meeting. Julia made the second and the motion passed.

5.B. Vice President, Herb Wright

5.B.1. Bylaws Using the template provided by the city, Herb has completed updating the FHVA Bylaws, as required by the new Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO). The Office of Neighborhood Coordination (ONC) has approved them as written. During our special meeting on June 27, 2023, we will discuss them at length, and hopefully also approve them as a Board.

5.C. Treasurer, Linda Martinez

The checking account has a balance of \$10,205.79. Revenue received January 1 to June 17, 2023, was \$1142.04 for membership dues, \$2200.00 for advertising, and a \$700 contribution from Disney because they were filming in our neighborhood, for a total of \$4042.04

Bills paid this period were \$4485.90, to include \$2245.88 for the Annual General Meeting, \$167.85 for the prizes for the Annual Holiday Light Contest, \$16.47 for supplies,

\$1037.24 for the Chronicle, \$187.43 for Weebly Renewal, \$803 for insurance, and \$28.02 for Mail Chimp.

The FHVA's current money market account balance is \$23,328.15. Interest accrued through May 31, 2023 was a grand total of \$0.97. Linda is still looking for a way to increase our rate of return on the Money Market account. Herb said 15 month CDs are currently paying 5%.

5.D. Secretary, Jennifer Lopez

5.D.1. Good Neighbor Article. The original honoree for the upcoming Chronicle decided at the last minute that she did not want to be highlighted, but instead gave Jennifer the name of another person. That person agreed and will be highlighted in the upcoming edition. Our neighborhood is full of very humble people and the hardest part of this job is to get folks to agree to share their own stories.

5.E. Membership Director, Julia Vertrees

5.E.1. Membership Total. The membership total is approximately 276 with 56 double-member families. Since the last report, we have gained 3 new members, a single member and a 2-vote family. These were online registrations.

5.E.2. Mail Chimp. We sent no new email blasts via MailChimp since the last report.

5.E.3. Facebook. As reported last month, Julia now has owner access to our Facebook account. After some time working to understand both the linking of MailChimp to FB and looking at the traffic we get on FB, I decided that the time I was spending didn't provide good return on our investment. Therefore, knowing that the Board spent a lot of time discussing the social media presence of FHVA on various platforms, I have decided that I will hand-post rather than link MailChimp to FB when we have relevant email blasts and also update the site to clearly direct any visitors to our FHVA website for information.

5.F. Education and Youth Affairs, Jerry Gallegos

5.F.1. Reaching Out. Jerry and his wife, Merrell, made a concerted effort to visit every yard sale that was held on May 20 in FHV so that he could visit with as many people as possible about joining FHVA, and also to take an unofficial poll of how many children are in the neighborhood and to ask parents their concerns regarding their children's education.

5.F.2. Local Charter School. Jerry visited the closest charter school to FHV, ACES, to ascertain what they can offer to our children.

5.F.3 Four Hills Village Summer Camps. Jerry will visit with the Four Hills Country Club management to learn the requirements of their Summer Camps. Do the parents need to be Club members?

5.G. Webmaster, Howard Kimberly Rusty Goetz, Member at Large.

In the last 30 days there have been 101 unique visits to the website and 206 page views. A few weeks ago Howard updated the website in order to create a separate place for pertinent articles such as the ones Rusty and Ann write about the geology and history of FHV.

5.H. Parks and Open Space, Paul Yarrington.

5.H.1 Trail Signage. The sign at the trail head is very weathered and Paul is still working with Jim Sattler to get it replaced.

5.H.2. Trash Bins at the FHV Park. The bins need to be replaced and Paul has learned that the City Parks office is the department to deal with in obtaining new bins.

5.I Government Affairs, William Jones. (absent, but submitted a report.)

5.I.1. IDO Updates. The IDO update is exacting changes in the codes and requirements to make more available living units. These proposed changes will result in major changes to city policies. The approval process is a 3-step process and there will be no further action until the next legislative session.

5.J. Real Estate and Public Relations, James DeMay

5.J1. Active Listings: 4 in Four Hills Village at \$181.88 per sq. ft.

5.J.2. Pending Sales: 5 in Four Hills Village at an average of \$177.69 per sq. ft.

5.J.3. Closed: 4 in Four Hills Village at an average of \$199.65/sf

5.K. Publications, Brigid Conklin.

The Chronicle is off to the printer!

5.L. Security, Troy Hill

5.L.1. CASA Update. At the monthly FHCPD meeting, Lieutenant Garcia of the APD Policy Office presented information on the status of the Court Approved Settlement Agreement (CASA) and answered questions related to its current status. APD continues to make forward progress in all nine sections of the CASA and at the current rate of progress will most likely be out of Independent Monitoring (IM) and into complete self monitoring within two years. Removal of IM will save the city approximately 1.2 million dollars per year.

5.L.2 Calls for Service Stats. Commander Garret of the Foothills Command shared the following monthly stats for the entire command. These numbers are for calls for service and does not take into account that some of these calls may have been unjustified.

Commercial Robbery: 9

Robbery to an Individual: 3

Auto Theft: 74

Commercial Burglary: 25

Residential Burglary: 25

Auto Burglary: 25

5.L.3. Openings on FHCPD. There are currently 3 openings on the FHCPD. If you are interested in applying to be on the Council or serving on one of the working groups, let Troy know.

5.M. Member-At-Large, Rusty Goetz

5.M.1. Parking Spaces at Four Hills Park. Last Tuesday I sent an email to Aaron Nieto, The Mayor's assistant who toured our neighborhood with us a couple of months ago. I reminded him about our discussion about shifting the parking spaces in Four Hills City Park to create legal parking for non-handicapped folks and moving the park sign out to Stagecoach Rd. I have not heard anything back yet, but I will keep pursuing it.

5.M.2. Gate Keys and Emergency Evacuation Plan. I too received the letter from Deputy Chief Malek confirming an official emergency exit route and that the gates now have "Open Space locks", for which, officers from several agencies, including police and fire departments, carry master keys. I tried several times to get a discussion going on getting a set of keys from the Fire Department but I think that is just not going to happen. The Open Space locks are their answer. As the letter was also addressed to Councilor Grout and her assistant, I made the following response to try and get street signage to mark the exit and reconsideration of the Via Posada gate as the major emergency exit route:

We, the Four Hills Village Association, should add the location the Rio Arriba Ave emergency gate to the neighborhood map included in the Four Hills Village Membership Directory. However, this directory is only distributed to paid members of the Association. I would like to suggest that the city install "Alternate Emergency Exit" signs facing both directions on Wagon Train Dr at the intersection of Rio Arriba Ave and Wagon Train Dr. I know from being part of a couple of mass hurricane evacuations in Houston, these signs can be immensely helpful in a panic. I also would like to respectfully suggest keeping in

mind possibly developing the Via Posada exit route as more direct emergency exit route in the future. We recently learned that the City of Albuquerque Open Space Division has plans to develop the Open Space land along the south side of Via Posada into a large play area. This development will include building a large slide down the hillside and a parking area. This development will probably also require opening the currently locked western gate and paving some of the existing gravel road between Four Hills Village and the Volterra Village/Juan Tabo Hills neighborhood. Also, for future consideration, Via Posada has an existing three way stop sign arrangement where Via Posada joins Wagon Train Dr. This could help manage a large flow of traffic. There are currently no stop signs on Wagon Train Dr where Rio Arriba Ave intersects it.

Again, I have not received a response from Councilor Grout's office but I will keep pursuing the emergency exit signage issue. After speaking with Jim Sattler, Assistant Open Space Superintendent (see note below) I learned that it is the City Parks Division that is building the giant slide and playground.

5.M.3. Open Space Parking. On Friday, last week, Paul Yarrington and I met with Jim Sattler at the Elena Gallego Open Space trail head to catch up on some proposed Open Space plans. We learned that the proposed 10-space parking area at the Manzano/Four Hills Open Space entrance on Stagecoach Rd is still in the design stage. Jim said that they will hold some community meetings to gain input before the plans are completed. The proposed gate and foot trail to the Open Space land north of Four Hills Park is further out in the planning timeline. Jim also relayed that the Open Space Division is hoping to soon close on another small parcel of land connecting the Four Hills Open Space with the Rt 66 Open Space. The current plans are for the main entrance to the combined Rt 66, Little Beaver and Manzano/Four Hills Open Space areas will be along old Rt 66. I think this will be a more comfortable arrangement for those of us living in FHV.

6. Committee Reports

6.A. Recognition of Four Hills Village Neighbors (Jennifer Lopez)

Jennifer reported earlier in the meeting.

7. Unfinished Business

7.A Multicultural Arts Festival (Summerfest)

This event was a success, as 500 folks attended! Andrew believes it will now be an annual event.

7.B. Gate Keys for Emergency.

Rusty shared her report via email. She is still working on a compromise with the city.

7.C. IDO Update proposal—FHV Bylaws revision

Andrew reminded us that we will have a special FHVA Board meeting on June 27th at 6:30pm at the Singing Arrow Community Center to specifically discuss the revising of the Bylaws.

8. New Business

8.A. FHV Evacuation Plan

After the 66 Fire and the prescribed burn in our neighborhood, talks of an evacuation plan for FHV have begun. The City of Albuquerque Emergency Management Office and AFR are coordinating with Open Space to create a plan.

8.B. Next Meeting: Day, Time, & Location

The next Four Hills Village Association Board Meeting will, as usual, be held on the third Tuesday of the month, on July 18, 2023, at 6:30-8:00 p.m. It will be held in the Singing Arrow Community Center, 13200 Wenonah Avenue SE, but as a hybrid meeting with the option of using Zoom for those who prefer not to attend in person. Any FHVA Member may attend the meeting, in person or by contacting the FHVA President Andrew Lipman for the Zoom link. It will be publicized at the appropriate time via the FHVA website (www.fhva.org), FHVA Newsletter, the FHVA Facebook page, and on FHV Nextdoor.

9. Adjournment

Herb made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Julia seconded it; the motion passed unanimously. President Andrew Lipman adjourned the meeting at 7:29 p.m.