

Four Hills Village Association (FHVA)

Minutes of the FHVA Board Meeting of February 12, 2024

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

1. Call to Order.

President Brook Jilek opened this hybrid meeting at 6:30 p.m. It is being held on the 2nd Monday versus the 3rd Monday, as next Monday is a federal holiday and the SACC will be closed.

In Attendance.

Officers: Brook Jilek, Tim Gallegos, and Jennifer Lopez

Directors: Julia Vertrees, Carmil Surritt, Steve McCampbell

Member-at-Large: None

Immediate Past President: Andrew Lipman (absent as he is recovering from surgery.)

Absent: Linda Martinez (attending a previously scheduled meeting), James DeMay (attempted but unable to connect to Zoom), Paul Yarrington, Jerry Gallegos, Andrew Lipman—all 3 excused. *Denotes attendance via Zoom.

2. Approval of Agenda.

Brook asked for a motion to approve the agenda with the deletion of 4.b.i). Carmil made a motion to approve the agenda with the deletion and Steve made the second. The motion carried.

3. Approval of the FHVA Board Meeting Minutes of the January 16, 2024 Monthly Meeting.

Carmil made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2024 FHVA Board Meeting. Linda 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.

4. Reports, as needed from Officers and Board Members

4.A. Vice President, Tim Gallegos.

4.A.1. Repair of FHVA Sign.

Tim asks if we can expedite the repair of the vandalized sign as it looks horrible and is not a good representation of our neighborhood. Jennifer said that the repair is rolling through the city bureaucracy. He said he will contact Renee Grout's office to check on the status of the repair. He also wondered about the placement of plexiglass versus glass.

4.A.2. Membership.

Tim believes increasing FHVA membership should be our top priority. We need to heavily publicize the benefits of membership.

4.A.3. Publication Deadline.

Tim says we need to have a hard deadline for The Chronicle and get it published so that current and potential members will know we are still in business and are here to serve our neighborhood.

4.B. Treasurer, Linda Martinez (absent, but sent a report)

4.B.1. Discussion of 2024 FHVA Budget. As Linda evaluates our 2024 expenses, she needs FHVA Board members who work with specific companies to provide her with projected costs from those companies. She also states that we need to re-evaluate who we use for printing and to increase our advertising receipts. She will be communicating with Julia to confirm membership numbers and receipts from 2024 membership.

4.B.2. Account Balances. On January 1, 2024, our checking account had \$6,860.56 and our savings account had \$8,455.51 with a total account balance of \$15,316.07. Our income from membership was \$2,091.2 and \$17.70 earned from interest on the Money Market Account, and no income earned from advertising with a total income of \$22,108.98. Our expenses included \$164.85 for the prizes for the Annual Holiday Light Contest and the monthly subscription cost of \$13.99 for Mail Chimp for a total expense of \$178.84. From January 1, 2024-January 31, 2024 our income, less expenses, was \$1,930.14. Our current checking account balance is \$8,773.00 and our savings account balance is 8,473.21.

4.B.3. Money Market Account. We purchased three \$5,000.00 certificates of deposit. They will mature in August 2024 with 5% interest.

4.C. Secretary, Jennifer Lopez

5.C.1. Retention of Documents. Jennifer asked President Brook Jilek if he wished her to retain all documents-hard copies as well as digital copies. Brook responded that he does not want to keep every document on a public website. Some access should be a benefit of membership and privacy concerns may also be an issue. He said we will make this question of which documents to retain an agenda item at next month's meeting.

4.D. Membership Director, Julia Vertrees

4.D.1. Membership. As of February 9, 2024 we have 276 members which includes 206 Contributing Members and 70 Members of Record. After an in-depth analysis of her records, Julia shared that in 2023 we had 274 members.

4.D.2. Scanning of Archives. Julia is still working on analyzing which stored documents from past years' work need to be saved and will scan such documents for future reference.

4.D.3. MailChimp. Any member who has provided an email address now has an individual email listing within the MailChimp contact list. Member names are "tagged" as to what membership category they belong to which allows for emails to be directed to specific members based on the type of membership they hold. Julia will also be creating a "tag" for members wishing to receive The Chronicle via email. She will also start archiving all 2023 members who have not re-joined. Archiving allows for reinstating their MailChimp Record if they re-join. She recommends not sending The Chronicle as an attachment to an email as it fills up email boxes. Rather she suggests The Chronicle be placed in a secure folder on the FHVA website and an email to the link is sent to members.

4.E Government Affairs, Carmil Surritt.

4.E.1. East Gateway Coalition. Carmil attended the Coalition meeting held on February 1. Mayor Tim Keller also attended and share the following: 7 of 9 crime areas have had a decrease in criminal activity for the first time since he has been in office; the city's capacity to handle the homeless has tripled; ABQ Community Safety handled 40,000 calls in 2023 which resulted in 1 hour faster APD response times; the goal is for the Gateway Center to handle 1,000 people per day; a film academy is being built at the Railyards; the Rail Trail will be the pedestrian walkway from Downtown to Old Town; the No Camping ordinance has a clause that if the camper gathers their belongings and leaves their site for 15 minutes they are allowed to return to the same site and stay for another 3 hours; employees of Planning Commission will now police neighborhoods for code enforcement instead of having neighbors report each other; over 80% of violent crime is drug related and the rest is due to mental illness and domestic violence

4.E.2. Meeting with Renee Grout. She participated in the Point and Count Census for the Homeless and the data will generate funding from HUD. A recent court injunction disallows the homeless camping in one spot for an unlimited amount of time. The city has 960 beds and the city has 1,400. If the homeless refuses a bed they are required to

move to a new location. They may not camp near schools, parks, community centers, or on streets, alleys, or sidewalks or private property.

4.E.3. February 5, 2024 City Council Meeting. KAFB and Sandia Labs were given awards for their financial and community support within Albuquerque. The City Council chastised and questioned the APD Police Chief, IT personnel, and the Department Supervisor for officers missing court dates that caused cases to be dismissed. They blamed the complexity of their system for their inability to track cancellations and reschedules of court dates. Councilman Garcia made a motion to remove the Chief for lack of leadership and failure to execute the duties of his office. No one seconded the motion and they agreed to wait until the FBI investigations were complete. \$5.9 million dollars was requested for the homeless center outside of city limits that used to be an old jail near the shooting range. Jan DeMay was invited to sit on the committee that is studying impact fees.

4.E.4. Future City Council Meetings. The first 2 hours of this City Council meeting was spent in Executive Session and no attendees were able to listen or contribute. In the future, I will join the City Council meetings via Zoom so that I can be more flexible within my own schedule.

4.F. Education & Youth Affairs Director, Jerry Gallegos

Absent.

4.G. Webmaster, Howard Kimberly

4.G.1 Status of Office. Howard has agreed to continue maintaining the fhva.org website indefinitely (including on a long-term basis). He states that if FHVA just wants additional board members, they could simply appoint folks as member-at-large. He does not believe it would be wise to recruit someone who is not a good fit to the Webmaster position. In Howard's opinion, filling that position is not an urgent matter.

4.H. Open Space Director, Paul Yarrington.

Absent.

4.I. Public Relations & Real Estate, James DeMay. (unable to connect via Zoom , but emailed a report.)

4.I.1. Active Listings: 10 in FHV with an average 2930sf at avg \$191.13per sq. ft.

4.I.2. Pending Sales: 2 in FHV at an average 2464sf at an avg of \$193.04per sq ft

4.I.3. Closed: 2 in FHV at an average 2828sf at an avg of \$200.75/sf

4.J. Publications, Vacant

4.J.1. Introduction of Jimmie Wolf, candidate for Publications Director.

FHV resident, Jimmie Wolf, has volunteered to be our Publications Director. After visiting with her and consulting with some other Board members, Brook agrees that she is more than suitable for this position. He asked for a motion to approve his appointment of Jimmie Wolf as Director of Publications. Jennifer made the motion, Julia seconded it, and the motion carried unanimously. Please use the email pubsfhva@gmail.com to send your articles for the next edition of The Chronicle to Jimmie by the end of February.

4.K. Security Director, Steve McCampbell

5.K.1. APD Responses. From Jan 1-Feb 11 2024 the following number of incidents were reported within FHV: 3 assaults, 2 family disputes, 3 motor vehicle thefts, 1 report of shots fired, 6 suspicious person or vehicle, 1 traffic accident, and 1 report of kid abduction or hostage.

4.L. Immediate Past President, Andrew Lipman.

absent

5. New Business

5.A. President's Report

5.A.1. Need for Webmaster. We all need to work to recruit a webmaster, as continuing to use Howard is not a long-term solution.

5.A.2. Facebook. Julia is currently managing the FHVA FB page, but admits she is not comfortable doing so. Tim Gallegos states that he will take over that responsibility. Julia will send him the credentials.

5.A.3. Hiring of a Security Company for FHV. Brook began communicating with 2 local security companies, VetSec and International Protective Services (IPS), to inquire as to their charges and services. He will continue to obtain details from them regarding costs for patrolling our neighborhood, costs per hour and services available and we will continue this discussion at the next meeting.

5.A.4. Discussion on Membership Drive and Membership Goals. We all agreed that FHVA needs to show residents the value of their FHVA membership. Benefits include the annual membership directory and receipt of the quarterly newsletter. Carmil suggested we survey the all residents to ascertain what their priorities for FHV are. Jennifer shared that a survey had been done already and she will forward those results to him, Brook, and Tim. Brook wants to increase membership to 600 people.

5.A.5. Discussion on Ways to Reduce Operating Costs. We often operate at a deficit, thus it is imperative that we reduce our operating costs. We need to assess the true value of continuing with Survey Monkey and MailChimp. We also need to look at options at our website and the use of Zoom. Can we get a paper company to donate the paper for The Chronicle in exchange for ads in newsletter? Shall we sell ads in the annual directory. Looking for ways to reduce costs will certainly be an ongoing discussion.

6. Announcements

6.A. Next meeting.

The next monthly Four Hills Village Association Board Meeting will be held on Monday, March 18, 2024, 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 Brook Jilek 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.

7. Adjournment

Tim Gallegos made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Steve McCampbell seconded it and the motion passed unanimously. President Brook Jilek adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.