



# AIRE TIME



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FEBRUARY 2022

## DESERT AIRE ACTIVITIES

### **OPEN BOARD MEETING**

Tuesday, February 1, 2022

10:00 a.m. - Auditorium

Please come to hear the Board Candidate's Speeches!

### **QUILTER'S EVENT**

Thursday, February 10 through

Saturday, February 12, 2022

1:00 p.m. - Thursday, February 10

Silent Auction on the Patio with items displayed. You may bid on items through Saturday, February 12.

No food this year, because of COVID, but there may be more surprises!

### **PATIO PARTY FOR VALENTINE'S DAY**

Monday, February 14, 2022

This event is still being planned, so watch for more information, either on the bulletin board or e-blast.



### **JACK & JILL GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Sunday, February 20, 2022

8:30 a.m. - Palm Royale Country Club

Sign up sheets will be on the Golf Bulletin Board. See Bulletin Board for further details.

### **SPORTS DAY**

Saturday, February 26, 2022

9:00 a.m. everywhere in the park

Sign up sheets are on the Bulletin Board for volunteers. Come and have a lot of fun!

## DESERT AIRE NEWS

### **MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

By Barry Rutz, President Desert Aire Board

The Season is indeed marching on a it appears "winter" is over. Welcome to all the new owners and renters.

Your Board has been busy drafting Amendment 3 to our bylaws which, when approved by 66 2/3 majority vote by the Owners, will see the elimination of elections should the number of people running is equal to the numbers of directors leaving the Board. We are in the 28 day comment phase of the process after which we will present the Bylaw for a vote. It will be coming out with the 2022 election package where we are voting for the 3 positions opening on the Board. Please make sure you return BOTH ballots.

Our B&G crew are buttoning up the pipeline they installed under our road saving us thousands of dollars. Great job guys.

Spectrum finally got back to us and the rollout should start February 23, 2022. More details will be sent out as they become available.

The Board will be hosting a round table of Hot Topics on February 28th. The four topics below will be open for discuss and input with 20 minute discussions. Committee representatives and Board members will facilitate the discussions. We ask all interested parties to join in the discussions.

1. Wifi. - Cost vs number of HO users
2. Sports Activities and patio area (usage improvements)
3. Street lighting/walkway and patio lighting
4. Possible Architectural changes (carports, waterway screening, etc)

Generally, a thanks to everyone for keeping our Park one of the best in the Valley

### **MESSAGE FROM CAROLYN**

By Carolyn Quintana, Community Association Manager

I was hoping we would have an easier season this year regarding COVID but that didn't happen unfortunately. I want to thank all of you who have been wearing your masks while in the common area rooms. We all want to keep safe! Currently the mask mandate will be in effect until 2/15/22.

It has been great seeing all our homeowners who haven't been able to come to Desert Aire for two years. All in their places with bright shining faces!! Welcome Back!!

I will be sending out the Annual Election Packages next week. When you receive your package please mark your ballots and return them to the Desert Aire Office so that we can be sure we have a quorum to conduct the meeting.

### **MINUTES DESERT AIRE JANUARY 11, 2022 OPEN BOARD MEETING - By Cheryl Boyer, Director DA Board**

#### **Highlights of the Open Board Meetings**

#### **INTRODUCTIONS – President Barry Rutz**

Introduced the Board. Those present are Barb Eggiman, Cheryl Boyer, Dave Haines, Ken Bailey and Carolyn Quintana, office manager. June Cavendish is absent. Steve Harvey has not arrived at the park yet.

#### **COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT - Barry Rutz**

Stated that California has extended the mandatory indoor public spaces mask mandate until February 15, 2022. Covid positive persons may end their isolation in 5 days if symptoms are not present or with a negative test at day 5. If unable to test or choosing not to test and no symptoms are present or are resolving isolation can end after 10 days. With a positive test at

day 5 guidelines request you quarantine until day 10. Wear a well-fitting mask around others for a total of 10 days.

Shared that the activities committee is still looking for Chairman of the Chair Committee and a Chairman for Entertainment Coordination. Entertainers have already been lined up for 2023.

The next board meeting will be Tuesday, February 1, 2022, when candidates for the next Board will present their campaign statements.

Hot Topics session has been postponed until February 28, 2022.

Homeowners when you see problems outside or inside in common area grounds, contact Carolyn Quintana in the office. She notifies the grounds crew to correct the problem. Please do not flag down the workers.

Yard cleanup of individual lots needs to be completed by November 15<sup>th</sup> of each year but lots also needs to be maintained throughout the season until the first of April.

Speed limit for all vehicles, golf carts, electric bicycles is 15 MPH. Please adhere to this rule to keep everyone in the park safe and prevent accidents.

The Board has been tasked with reviewing a specific Bylaw regarding filling a new Board member slot when there are only equal numbers of candidates to open Board positions. This negates the necessity of a vote. The new Board candidates will be verified via acclimation. Written Notification of this potential Bylaw change will be put in owners' mailboxes within the week. A 28-day discussion period will be held before the process proceeds. This change will require a 66 2/3 owner yes vote to become effective. Note that this change does not preclude the Election Committee from pursuing as many qualified candidates as possible for each election.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT** – June Cavendish-Absent. Cheryl Boyer requested to take minutes. Cheryl moved to accept the minutes from the December 7, 2021, general meeting. Ken Bailey seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** – Barb Eggiman

**Introductions:** First I would like to thank the Finance Committee – Marilyn Kopernick, Bob Langin, Steve Such, Hope Hilliard and Anne King for the time they spend each month working on the finances here at DA. Every month, the details of income and expenses are reviewed.

**Financial report for the period: ending November 30, 2021:**

**Operating Fund** – Operating YTD expenses have exceeded the budget by \$24K

**Major Variances**

**Payroll & Benefits -- Favorable by \$3K.**

1. Administrative – no issues.
2. Utilities –Electricity was \$4K over budget due to rate increases effecting cost each month. Gas was \$5K over budget. Water was slightly over budget.
3. Landscaping – \$10K over budget. Mostly due to unexpected grass seed prices and overall cost to do business especially irrigation parts and services.

Note: Both 2020 & 2021 Financial statements reflect the impact the Covid Pandemic has had on the overall operations of the park. The 2022 Budget is expected to have taken these variations into consideration to produce a more accurate month to month budget report.

Barbara moved that the Board accept the November 2021 financial report received from DRM, as corrected by the finance committee and approved by the Financial Review

Subcommittee. Seconded by Cheryl. Motion passed.

**MANAGEMENT REPORT** – Carolyn Quintana-No report

**COMMITTEE REPORTS** –

**Activities** – No additional report other than Barry's request for volunteers to replace open Chair positions.

**Buildings & Grounds** – Dave Haines

The water problem at the car wash and shop is being resolved. A permanent solution is in the works and he asks that homeowners avoid the boulevard by the carwash due to construction.

Work is nearly completed on repair of natural gas service to B Laundry and pool.

**Submitted the following Expense Requests:**

Grounds Crew Golf Cart - \$4,148.38

Repair of 2ndGrounds Crew Golf Cart - \$793.45

Cleaning Small B Pond By clubhouse - \$800

Pump Rental during irrigation Repair - \$936.85  
Moved to accept payment of ER's for payment. Seconded by Barb. Motion was passed.

**Architectural** – Danny Spino

Committee has currently approved 38 work orders for this season.

Reiterated that November homeowner's yard cleanup needs to be maintained until end of season in April.

**Landscape & Design** – Cheryl Boyer

Entrance to Lot Fore has been significantly enhanced. The "in-house" crew agreed to tackle the maintenance of this area. L&D gave them a plan, utilizing some materials we had and adding new plantings. Kudos to the "in house" crew for all their efforts.

Committee is discussing ways to improve the raised garden around the patio. The wall facing the parking area, by the entrance to the patio/pool area will be painted the same color as the community building. Some of the Memorial Wall plaques need to be replaced. Claire Peters is looking at options. Thank you to Carole Hiltman & Barb Sloan for overseeing the flowers in the Memorial Garden. Thank you, Carolyn, for hanging the pictures of our "in house crew" in the mailroom.

**Emergency Preparedness** – Cheryl Boyer - No report. Mark Wilson not expected to return to Desert Aire until late February.

**Security** – Barry Rutz - No report.

**Marketing & Communications** – No report.

**Nominating Committee** – Ken Bailey

Ken thanked the committee for their work in securing candidates for the upcoming Board election

**Real Estate** – Ken Bailey

There have been several sales. Mark Monaco is not available to report.

**OLD BUSINESS** - The Hot Topics Session has been moved to February 28, 2022

**NEW BUSINESS** – Proposal is in process to replace and upgrade the phone and entry card system for the front gate.

**New Owner Introductions** – New owners at the meeting were requested to come to the podium to introduce themselves and say where they are from. Six of them came forward to speak.

### **HOMEOWNERS OPEN FORUM**

Grant Hilliard - #5 – All Water Volleyball will be in A pool on their set days so there will be 4 hours of excitement at that pool. He thanks nearby neighbors for their understanding and

consideration. May change in future.

Jerry Page – #323 – Announced there will be a Pool Tournament in February and all are invited to attend. Please signup. Concerned Desert Aire is losing its character and uniqueness. We are a volunteer park and wants new owners to consider becoming a volunteer. It's the best way to meet new people. "Keep Desert Aire Volunteerism" going.

Elaine King – # 256 Shuffleboard is at 7pm every Monday. Wednesday ladies golf has move to Woodhaven Golf Course. More tee times with eight 10 a.m. starts.

Annette Cosens - # 161 – Requesting 4-8 outdoor Heaters for the patio. Also, more mats around the hot tub. Slippery. Wondering when the fountain in the Memorial Garden will be functional. Dave Haines responded getting water there again will be on the summer to do list. She's asking about Activities Committee and who is in charge with Teddy Wilson gone. Would like more outdoor activities and donuts, again. Suggests auto motion light switches in bathrooms to save on electricity.

Roberta Christner – #286 – Requesting Board look into turning the water fountain back on next to the main pool.

Margaret Sasse – #319 – Having trouble with Spectrum intermittently going off and wondering if other owners have and the same issues.

Calvin Cosens – #161 – Reminder that Delivery Drivers are going too fast in park. Either put up slow signs or don't allow them in the park. Requesting homeowners to put down the umbrellas around then main pool when they leave as many have tipped over in the wind.

Rene Randall – #87 – Bocce Ball on Friday's at 3pm was started. There is still Bocce Ball run by Dan Spino at 1pm on Saturdays. Attend one or both. Jack & Jill is this Sunday.

Laura Overen -- #154 – Jack & Jill Tournament in January, February and March on a par 3 course. Box lunches on the patio afterward. Five slots open for January but need to get money to Laura by tomorrow evening.

John Randall – #87 – Wondering if in negotiating new contract with Spectrum if inclusion of WIFI was considered. Barry responded that a survey was sent out last year and it was determined that most homeowners do not use WIFI. It would cost an additional \$24 per household. Spectrum says less than half of the owners subscribe to WIFI.

Bob McKitrick – #41 – Please be aware that the Spectrum cable box in your unit has no rental fee. It is included in your monthly homeowner's Desert Aire assessment so don't pay extra.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS – None**

**ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 am

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE**

By Teddy Wilson, Chair

Happy New Year!

The Activities Committee and the Board are working closely together to ensure that we are following the COVID-19 mandates for the State of California. Wearing a mask for all Indoor Group Activities IS currently required through 1-15-2022.

At this time, we are unsure if we will be able to do any large group activities. We are in a "wait and see mode" which is dependent on the current status of COVID-19. Please check the bulletin boards for any updates.

#### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

##### **Entertainment Coordinator**

We are looking for someone to volunteer for the Entertainment Coordinator. This position is a member of the Activities Committee. Jim Campbell will be stepping down for the 2022-2023 Season. If you have any questions about this position or would like to volunteer, I am sure that Jim would be able to fill you in on what is needed for this volunteer position. He is in Lot 254.

#### **Event Set-up – Chairs**

We are looking for someone to volunteer for coordinating set-up in the auditorium for our events. If you are interested in stepping up for this position and would like more information, Dan Malcom, Lot 25 would be able to answer any questions.

#### **ARCHITECT COMMITTEE**

By Elaine Babcock, Secretary

The committee extends a welcome to all new lot owners. Thank you for the turnout at the informational meeting on January 11, 2022. There were a lot of questions answered and we hope it was helpful to all. As work orders continue to come in, a reminder the committee meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month. Please be as detailed as possible on your form and don't forget to sign the back side! It is great to walk through the park and see all the wonderful improvements made to lots.

We continue to remind all owners that lots need to be maintained until April 1. The warmer weather means new growth on bushes to prune and keeping those pesky weeds under control. Check your irrigation systems as well. With the California drought situation, it is important that water is not running onto the street. The committee appreciates all that you do to keep the park looking its best.

**BUILDING & GROUNDS COMMITTEE**

Bill Wilson, B & G Member

January has proved to be a very busy month for the B & G Crew. We completed two large projects that have significantly impacted all residents of Desert Aire. The gas leak that developed at the "B" side Pool and Laundry was not only significant, but dangerous. The underground piping ruptured which supplied gas to the pool heater and hot water heaters for the restrooms and laundry. It then leaked a significant amount gas into the ground which needed to be removed prior to commencing work to replace the piping. Once the ground was declared safe, the B & G Crew removed concrete and exposed the pipe so that it could be repaired. Once repaired, our guys covered the pipe and repaired the cement.

As this goes to press, the B & G crew is putting the finishing touches on the project to reestablish water service to the shop and car wash stations. It has been a long running saga and we are most grateful for everyone's patience and understanding. We had extended negotiations with the Indio Water Authority about creating access to their water main in the boulevard. When their requirements proved too burdensome and expensive, we switched to Plan B. Plan B was to hire a company to bore a route from the shop water system to the "B" side water main which was located at the rear of Lot 214. That allowed us to tap into our potable water system. The boring company was successful and the water lines have been hooked up so that the shop and car washing stations now have water service. Actually, plan B gave us a better solution to the problem and saved DA about \$7,000 on the project plus we don't have the forever added cost of a monthly bill plus fees and taxes. Forgive us for feeling a bit giddy about this because we had several local folks tell us it couldn't be done.

In the coming weeks, we will be working to

reposition the water main control valves at the Lot 214 site to a more surface position from the nearly five feet depth that they currently exist.

B & G folks have been working on the golf course to get bare spots reseeded and to kill weeds. Next, we will work on the sprinkler system to ensure complete coverage of the grass.

The failure of the pump that increases the water pressure of the canal water, which makes it possible for the sprinkler systems to operate, really degraded the system to water the common areas. Long term delivery of the necessary repair parts compounded the problem. We purchased a smaller pump to get some ability to deliver water. The pump has now been repaired and the sprinkler systems are fully operational.

Responsibility for the maintenance and organization of the wood shop has now passed to Brent Warne, Lot 36. You will notice his impact already with new equipment and repairs and adjustment of the existing equipment. He has some definite ideas about organization of the equipment. His mantra is safety, so everything he has done and is planning for the future is directed to safety and proper use of equipment. Talk to Brent if have thoughts concerning the wood shop. Please support Brent's efforts by cleaning up after using the equipment or informing him if a piece of equipment is not working properly.

Reminders for all of us to save on time and efficiency:

**DON'T**

1. Don't remove tools from the Maintenance Shop for personal use – they often don't return
2. Don't dispose of major appliances (water heaters, refrigerators, ranges, etc) at Lot 4 – when you purchase, make sure that the

vendor will pick up the old one.

3. Please don't feed the wildlife – particularly the ducks. It is cute to have them dine with you. However, they don't discriminate where they leave their after dinner calling cards, creating surprises for other folks on their patios and decks and our maintenance people while working in the common areas.

## DO

1. Do Flatten all cardboard when recycling – includes small packing boxes, cereal boxes, mail packaging
2. Do flatten chairs and other furniture you are recycling. If it is too good for that, then donate it to one of the resale charities – most of them will even pick it up
3. Do adjust your sprinklers and other watering methods so that you don't have water running into the street – if it is running into the street, you probably are watering too much. We have to pay for all water that goes through the meter, even it goes to the street.

## LANDSCAPE & DESIGN COMMITTEE

By Nancy Clarke, Chair

Mother Nature recently dealt us some extremely cool weather & fortunately the frost did not destroy the flowers, throughout our Park.

The entrance to Lot Fore has been significantly enhanced. The “in-house” crew agreed to tackle the maintenance of this area, which was long overdue, and far too long ignored. This will now make it easier to maintain, in the long run. L&D gave them a plan, utilizing some materials we had & added some new plantings. We will continue to look at ways & means to improve the overall look and maintenance of this pitch 'n putt area.

L&D will focus on one project this season, that being the patio area. Our committee is

discussing ways to enhance & improve the raised garden around the patio. Many plants are beyond their “due date”. The overall surface of this garden needs to be changed. Improved lighting will also be discussed, as will shade options. Improved irrigation & an overall “updated look” is in need. Working with the long-range planning committee is our focus, this year and project planning will evolve from this. The patio area is and will be used more & more, amidst our restrictions for socializing, with the ever-looming virus that forces us to meet outdoors.

In this climate there is an appropriate time for planting certain trees, shrubs & flowers. Likewise there is an appropriate technique & time of year for pruning trees & bushes. The winter months are not ideal for planting. Hence, Kirkpatrick scheduled extensive replacement of plants the end of January. They are the professionals, they follow a routine accordingly. In maintaining our desert scaped gardens, their experienced crew member follows a rotating monthly schedule. If you have any questions regarding irrigation, flowers, plants or trees, in the desertscaped areas, would you kindly send an email to Carolyn, in our office. If an issue is cause for concern, it will be dealt with immediately. If there is a problem, we need to put this in the hands of the professionals. We sincerely thank you for your respect in following this procedure.

The wall facing the parking area, by the entrance to the patio/pool area will be painted the same color as the community building. We want to monitor how the elements will treat this paint. Future enhancements of this wall are on hold.

Should you wish to clip a rose from the Park's gardens, there is a proper way of trimming. The correct way to cut a Rose is to go down from the bloom to the first out-facing five leaf branch and cut at an angle, just above that branch. Kirkpatrick Landscaping maintains our Rose gardens and would appreciate it if you would

follow this procedure, when clipping a rose for personal reasons. Thank you

### **REALTOR**

By Mark Monaco, DA Realtor

Hello Everyone,

Well, as I write this article, it's hard to believe that January is almost gone. College football is over, professional football is winding down, but we still have lots of Hockey and the Winter Olympics to look forward to.

The renters and owners arriving January 1<sup>st</sup> have been treated to some outstanding weather. I have received emails and calls from folks that were not able to secure a park model this season letting me know how bad the weather conditions are where they call home. I only wish we had accommodations for everyone that wanted to stay in our beautiful park this season. Rental units are just hard to come by these days. All of the rental units I oversee are now booked for the 2023 season.

Sales in the park continue to be strong. For the month of January there have been five Park Models sold. Currently there are 2 RV lots for sale and 7 Park Models for sale. I have buyers looking for just the right park model at the right price. These numbers do not include For Sale by Owners.

It is great to see the many people that purchased properties in 2019 and 2020 in the park finally able to enjoy their properties. Covid prevented many of them from being able to enjoy the park and some have yet to experience all the activities Desert Aire has to offer due to the social distance limitations we continue to experience. Hopefully next season everything will be as it once was, but for now we are Blessed to be here and enjoy the wonderful weather and the many friendships we have in the park.

To all of our friends that were not able to be in Desert Aire this season for one reason or

another, we are thinking about you and hope to see you next season.

### **QUILTER'S CORNER**

By Roberta Christner, Quilter

The quilters have been blessed by several individuals for donations to purchase fabric and batting. We quilters want to say a huge "Thank You" to each of you.

At our quilters meeting last week much discussion was had regarding the annual spaghetti dinner. Due to the kitchen being completely shut down, the vote was to not offer food at this time. In lieu of this we plan to host several happenings on Feb 10 - 12th. A silent auction of available items will be displayed on tables in the club house. Bids will begin on Thursday 1:00 p.m. and close on Saturday 12th at 3:00 p.m.. Also on those 3 days you can purchase a \$5 opportunity to win a free quilt. This will be available each day. Plus you can view at your leisure our quilts hanging on the club house walls. These quilts can be purchased. Watch for signs or online blasts for other surprises.

If you have an item or gift basket you would like to donate for the silent auction please notify gals in the quilt room. Thanks!

### **PARK TIDBITS**

#### **SPORTS DAY IS COMING BACK**

By Stan Miller, Coordinator

With your help, Sports Day will return to Desert Aire on Saturday, February 25th.

We'll need volunteers to coordinate and monitor all the events. In addition to the traditional putting and horse race, we've had horseshoe pitching, ladder ball, bocce ball, pickleball, golf chipping and pitching, shuffleboard and pool (8 ball).

Hotdogs and beverages will be available for purchase during the horse race.



Awards will cap off what has always been a fun day of competition and fellowship.

As an aside, the 12th Annual George and Shirley Moore putting match play competition will be underway next week. The winners of those two events will be recognized at Sports Day.

Another fun event that has brought the community together is the popular Can/Am Lot 4 golf competition, and the awarding of the coveted Can/Am trophy. Coordinates and volunteers will be needed for that.

After two years of Covid stagnation, it's time we return to the reasons for which we come to Desert Aire...FUN.

We need volunteers and competitors.

**RULES OF THE ROAD AND OTHER SAFETY TIPS**

By a Concerned Homeowner

We are frequently reminded about the 15 mph speed limit in the park for golf carts and bicycles as well as cars but did you know that there are 'rules of the road' too that help keep us all safe? Cars, golf carts and bicycles belong on the right side of the road and pedestrians belong on the left.

When you are making a left turn into Desert Aire you can get into the center turn lane 200 feet from the entrance and there is a power pole with 3 yellow stripes marking that distance. And, please, don't cut the corner when you're making that left turn as those of us who are exiting the park need to pull out far enough to see past the Realty sign on the right and palm tree on the left to check for oncoming traffic. A few drivers have given me a close call.

**JACK & JILL GOLF TOURNAMENT**

By Bruce Olesen, Coordinator

Desert Aire finally got to have another Jack & Jill Tournament on January 16. A very fun time was had by all! Due to COVID restrictions, we were unable to have an evening dinner and awards

event, so we ate boxed Kentucky Fried Chicken on the Patio and received the awards!

The winners are as follows:

**First Place:**

John & Pam Barry; Bob Thorson & Aone Zier

**Second Place:**

Dave & Colleen Lockhart; Ron & Barb Eggiman

**Third Place:**

Gordy & Glenda Klein; Bob & Sue Adams

**Closest to the Pin:**

Men..... John Barry

Women..... Laurie Stehle

**Long Putt:**

Men..... Ron Eggiman & Dave Lockhart

Women..... Ann Van Oene

Congratulations to the winners and the team who planned this event!

There will be a Jack & Jill Tournament in February, as we now have volunteers to plan the event. See you then!

**BRIDGE PLAYERS AT DA**

By ReNae Randall & Sherrie Haines Coordinators

Please be aware Tuesday night bridge at 7:00 p.m. is now Tuesday night 10's at 7:00 p.m.

Thursday 1:00 p.m. Duplicate bridge is now Thursday Mixes Bridge. Beginners welcome.

**DESERT AIRE FAMILY**

**DA FAMILY UPDATE**

Thankfully we have lost no one from DA this past month. We do have DA residents who need our prayers, as there have been a few surgeries and a few cases of COVID.

Let's all be careful and pray for our friends and neighbors.