

Taos Canyon Neighborhood Association

Board Minutes for October 25, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 10:10am with the following in attendance: De Lazzaro, Shelley Loveless, Mary Short, Ed Strong, and Natica Dahlkamp.

Old Business:

The TCNA/Firewise Picnic in June was a great success – our first one in 3 years. The speakers were enjoyed by all – Tanya Duncan from Taos Soil and Water was informative about the thinning program and gave out the booklets on the noxious weeds. Garrett Vena Klasen gave his usual informative talk. This time he addressed hummingbirds, bears, and poisons. Russ talked about what was new in the fire department. Drena Welty talked about the Firewise Community and what it does. (See Lynn’s minutes for details on the above as they are complete.) By the way, Firewise is turning in over \$250,000 in volunteer hours and monies spent for 2023 – the most ever.

Was there enough food? We had plenty with the BBQ from Garrett Vene Klasen. We had 72 hotdogs and 40 buns and that was about right. The raffle went well and more raffle money was collected for RFFD than had been previously.

Road Issues – look good where they put new blacktop where the road edges had given way or there were big drop offs. Apparently, they did their work the week following the striping of the white lines. They need to coordinate schedules. De Lazzaro and Ed Strong are going to drive the canyon and report to Joseph at the DOT any discrepancies. They will address mowing, culverts, and the chamisa as well as the trees with branches to close and over the road.

New Business:

Calendar for next year discussed. If Edward approves, the dumpster days will be the 3rd Saturday except in February, April, and June when it is usually the 4th. Sometimes he has to rearrange the dates according to what is going on in town and we won’t know that until January. We did all agree that we liked the earlier

date for the picnic, so we chose June 9, 2024 for next year. The highway cleanups are always the last weekend in April and September. Edward will have to tell us when we get a chipper day. Since we got 2 last year, we may only get one next year.

From last spring's cleanup, the dead animals in the Gravel pit were never removed after Todd Rasmussen reported it to De. She reported it to the Forest Service, the County, Solid Waste, Fish and Game and no one wanted to take responsibility. They said the land was not their responsibility. The gravel pit has always been a mess. Trish Curran has volunteered as a Special Project to see what can be done about the state of the Gravel Pit and who is responsible. She does not want to be on the board, but she does want to get this cleaned up. Thank you, Trish.

Mary Short's treasury report from the end of September was \$4555.85 in the bank. The annual report is due to the State and Mary will pay it and be reimbursed. We have just over 40 paid members in the association. It was noted that Linda Rausch has moved to TX and her cottage industry website should probably be taken down. (She has not paid). Her house in the canyon was sold to her son and I have since received that information from him.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:10am.

Respectfully submitted,

Natica Dahlkamp (acting Secretary)
Firewise Chair