

President's Report for the January 2020 Meeting

Sometimes I have trouble writing my monthly reports, so then I follow my English teachers' advice and "write about what you know". Well, in January, like a lot of other months there are lots of irons in the fire, but not quite ready for prime time. So, as I did with Ted last month, I am going to talk about a Board member who is re-upping their commitment to The Springs. Now Ted, unfortunately, was not here to listen, but Brent is, so here goes.

I always smile when I see the sign out to remind folks of the monthly meeting. Brent did that, as it was his idea. He regularly contributes to the CHAT and to the grounds crew. Brent is a thoughtful self-starter - he brings donuts to the meetings, often brings up water conservation in discussions, is an excellent head hunter, and helped out with the Republic contract this summer when Lee was so busy. A good social organizer, Brent is assisted by his wife Jan, and they do a great job, as do his volunteers. Then comes the tough one, "duties as assigned". Never a hesitation, always honest in his feedback, Brent finds a way to do stuff. That is priceless. Thank you Brent. We appreciate your efforts.

Beware of any email using my name, asking you to buy gift cards. Don't do it. It's not me. Any Springs related information from me will have a title and specific purpose.

Lastly, the Annual Meeting is coming up. You should have received information in the mail. Please attend on Saturday January 25 at 3 pm in the Anza Room. Thanks, and see you there.

Best,

Rebecca Keenan
President of The Springs HOA

The President's Report February 2020

My primary goal over the last month was to write letters: one to the GVR CEO and the Facilities Director regarding financial help with 2021 repairs for the streets surrounding the GVR facilities and the adjacent parking lots; one to a resident regarding the Board's expectations of him; eight letters to GVR clubs that are located in The Springs regarding our 20 mph speed limit and our request to park on the asphalt and not on the curb/sidewalk; and finally one to GVR Maintenance Supervisor regarding limiting member parking near the GVR facilities to the GVR parking lots and not on our roads.

Sharon Toborg helped with and cosigned the letter to the GVR CEO and the Facilities Director. We asked for a response by February 24, 2020. My feeling is that Mark Koruga, as Director of Infrastructure, will be brought into future meetings as an additional presence and support.

The letter to a resident of The Springs will be written with Ted Boyett's input and delivered next week.

Letters to GVR clubs are being dropped off on Friday and copies sent to GVR staff who work with the clubs. These letters are not asking GVR members to change anything, except their speed and to park on asphalt. Ideally the issue will be brought up at a club meeting and also put on their website and/or their newsletter. The letter I am sending can be copied and reprinted for posting.

The letter to the Maintenance Supervisor is open ended, looking for suggestions and input about prohibiting parking on Via Rio Fuerte and possibly Heroe where it is adjacent to GVR buildings and parking lots.

In addition to using up lots of letterhead paper, I am preparing a work list for the Board which will list the projects they want to do in 2020 and a timeline. It's very helpful to me, as there are lots of irons in the fire.

Lastly I have been working on a Springs resident reporting system where folks can report a sidewalk area that needs fixing by street and house number. This will be helpful when Sunland does a 'walk around' to evaluate projects needing concrete. Also, once a problem is posted, ideally you should be able to find out approximately when it can be repaired. It's early days but I hope to be able to show you something by the March Meeting.

Rebecca Keenan
President of The Springs HOA

President's Report for March 10, 2020

Good morning. I hope everyone is enjoying the coming of spring in The Springs!

The first issue I want to address is the problem with nuisance calls to residents here in The Springs. Since the initial "outbreak" there haven't been additional calls (to the best of my knowledge). Also, there is no follow up information from law enforcement. I would like to call the matter "over" and acknowledge that we all have learned a few things. Please see the CHAT article by Brent Gordy and be vigilant when answering calls. It's ok to email the HOA to let us know if you receive a nuisance call so we can track the number or identify another "outbreak".

Next I would like to clarify soliciting issues in our HOA. Our roads are private and in a gated community. Our lawyer confirms that we, as residents, have every right to tell solicitors (people witnessing, salesmen or political canvassers) to leave our HOA. A sign is posted at the gate. I am contemplating putting up a different sign, to have more detail, but the word "soliciting" does cover trespassers who seek to interact with you for uninvited purposes. And trespassing is what the people are doing. Folks do not want to be bothered with uninvited visitors and safety is a priority. If possible, email the HOA and let us know so we can look for patterns. A call to the sheriff, if the uninvited folks won't leave, is also an option. The email is hoa@thespringshoa.org.

At the end of February Ted Boyett and I attended a 'lunch and learn' conference put on by our legal firm, Goldschmidt & Shupe. The focus was on ARC issues (which Ted will report on) but there was also a short presentation about politicization of HOAs. The main takeaway was "HOAs are sometimes viewed as quasi-governmental bodies but they are actually private corporate entities and as such are responsible for obeying county and municipal restrictions." As usual, the lunch was great, and Springs' residents please note there are political sign ordinances in our county.

Lastly, at the 'lunch and learn' I had an opportunity to talk with a Sunland representative about our curbs about which there has been an ongoing discussion in our community. As you know, most, but not all are wedge shaped. I asked his opinion about vehicles parking on them. His **opinion** was that the curbs were not as much at risk for damage as were the sidewalks, due to the depth of the concrete. Sidewalks have a thinner pour and are more likely to crack. His additional comment was that truly large vehicles are more often the culprits for damage, and to warn vendors with them to stay off the concrete. The curb joint is also at risk, but opinions regarding that vary widely.

I was not able to attend the volunteer recognition gathering, but want to offer my thanks for the generous volunteerism in our community. It makes life here truly special and community oriented.

Rebecca Keenan
President of The Springs HOA

President's Report to The Springs HOA Board
April 2020

Well I am hunkering with the rest of you and staying in touch with neighbors and family. Work is ongoing on a number of issues, but progress is slow because of the pandemic.

Cooperating with GVR for the cost of street repairs around the GVR site in The Springs is basically on hold. There is a newly elected board that is just getting started. Due to the number of changes and decisions regarding the pandemic, we were removed from the agenda for the March 26 meeting. The April 29 meeting agenda has not been published yet. We are ready to present information. The interim CEO has been contacted again. Stay tuned.

The work with our lawyer regarding a resident has been completed. Letters have been sent stating no hitchhiking, no interference with drivers on our roads, and safety for everyone in the community is our top priority.

We are working to reset our meeting schedule and meeting location with GVR before their employees are placed on furlough next week. Our meeting on April 14 was cancelled and the new date will be E-blasted later in the month. That meeting will be closed and residents can submit comments or concerns to the Board by email prior to the meeting. No major issues will be voted on at the next meeting.

Some snow birds left early, and some are staying longer. Nevertheless folks are out walking. Please stay off the golf course and cart path during normal golfing hours. Please also remind your neighbors. It is not our property and it is not a park. Interfering with the paid customers is rude and unsafe.

Enjoy those wildflowers and blooming trees, be safe and at home.

Rebecca Keenan
President of The Springs HOA

**President's Report
September 8, 2020 Meeting
The Springs at Santa Rita HOA**

There is only one place to start after months of Covid19 and extreme heat. Thank you all for hanging in there and my special thanks to the Board members for doing their jobs so well. No longer are we just dealing with bees in the bell tower or bird poop on the gate house. This is a tough year with many changes to our lives, and some disappointments, and some successes.

Disappointment #1: After months of delay to even get on the agenda, the GVR Board flatly refused to acknowledge our unique circumstances with private roads surrounding their heavily used facilities, and by vote denied The Springs help with with any maintenance.

Success #1: Our Infrastructure guy, Mark Koruga has looked at some new alternatives which he will discuss later.

Disappointment #2: The Board had to refuse some group activities in our community because of Covid19.

Success # 2: It is very clear that our well written governing documents have The Springs at Santa Rita HOA best interests at their core. We were able to utilize their clarity to make good decisions.

Disappointment #3: Our budget discussions are going to be more difficult this year with our aging community infrastructure.

Success #3: TBD. Just know that the Board will give it our best shot along with the good folks in the Capital Reserve and Finance Committees.

Disappointment #4: We can't meet in person.

Success #4: We are Zooming for the rest of the year. This allows us to be where we need to be and get some work done too. Thank you Jeannie for organizing us. This first public meeting might be a little awkward, but it is safer and we will get better at it.

On a personal note, this will be my last year on the Board ending in January 2021. My family obligations require my full attention now and honestly make it hard for me to do a good job. Thanks to Jeannie and the rest of the Board I have been "managing", but it's time to step down. I will still participate in some way, as I have learned so much, but it needs to be less.

I highly recommend that you all smile every day, multiple times if possible.

Respectfully
Rebecca Keenan
President, The Springs HOA

**President's Report
The Springs at Santa Rita HOA
Board Meeting October 20, 2020**

Good morning. Thanks to all for cooperating with a one week postponement of this meeting. Surgery scheduling got in the way. It's snowing where I am in northern MN. It's too early!

This fall, many tasks have been managed by remote control. I'm remote and trying to have control.

Issues that came up this month were:

1. A wedding held at the GVR facility in The Springs clearly did not comply with the standards applied to all GVR members. Community members were rightfully concerned. I advised that they write letters to the GVR board to state their concerns, and I will as well, on behalf of our Board.
2. There have been issues with folks meddling with others' posted political signs. Hands Off!
3. A request for a HeartSafe flyer to be posted along with annual meeting mailing was approved.
4. The pump noise from mine pumps is still being monitored and appears to be minimal at this time.
5. I published a bare bones CHAT to residents for October and am preparing to do another for November. Please have materials to be published in CHAT sent to me by October 27, 2020. We continue to look for a new CHAT editor.

Please take care of yourselves, socially distance and wear your masks. There is evidence that masks can lower the viral load you inhale if you happen to get infected, and that can potentially lessen the impact of the virus on you. Important to remember!

Rebecca Keenan
President of The Springs HOA

**Presidents Report
The Springs at Santa Rita HOA
November 10, 2020**

Good morning, There are a few “people” items to mention first.

Ms. Deckinger will not be with us for the rest of her term as Secretary for this HOA. I want to thank her for her time and her willingness to serve this community. We all wish you well, Cindy.

It is with great sadness that we note the recent death of Tom Kramer. Tom was a great volunteer for several Board committees and our community. Our condolences to Sandie Stone and her family, and we thank him for his contributions.

There are some ongoing discussions I would like to mention. One is about an incident of the now famous wedding which will be discussed under Old Business. One is about the need for new volunteers to our Board and its committees. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with the Board and am sad to be leaving. The dedication of its members is to be commended and the experience of coordinating with good people is priceless. Step up folks. We have a good community - let's get going and support it.

I have been doing the CHAT for the last couple months because it's important to get the news out. The Board is still waiting for an editor to step forward. I am not going to do this endlessly even though it's kind of fun. So help us out here, we need you.

Thank you's go out to various community members for being watchful citizens and communicating with us. Your input has been helpful.

And finally I want to emphasize that we need to continue to uplift the spirit of our community and be gentle neighbors. We need to be willing to look for common ground despite differences, and value the overall well-being of citizens. It's ok to have opinions, just remember that others do too, and we can still work together.

Have a pretty good day there in Arizona. Please wash your hands frequently, wear a mask when out in public, and socially distance - lives depend on it.

Rebecca Keenan
President of The Springs HOA

President's Report
The Springs HOA Board
December 8, 2020

Good morning. As we near the year's end, there are a couple things to finish up.

We set the dues with a modest increase and that allowed us to finish our Budget that we vote on today. The Personnel Committee and the ARC chair have reviewed applications and interviewed people for the Compliance Agent position. We will vote on that today. The open positions on the Board for 2021 were advertised and people were recruited. The Grounds crew has been chopping up cacti and ramping up for the winter crew and a change in landscape company with a better bid. Roger has been calculating, Jeannie has been mailing, Mark is measuring streets and we all scurry about trying to be sensible and safe. It's pretty much the normal routine with normal changes and for that I am happy.

It's important to keep communicating and Zoom is helping us do that. Coming up in January is the Annual Meeting, and there is a good chance that it will be virtual. No cake - just saying! We will try to keep it simple and safe. The plan for future Board meetings will be discussed today as, for now, it seems we have options. The options could disappear tomorrow. That is ok because we can be flexible.

It's important to stay positive, as in "everything will work out" and "tomorrow is another day". Our community is financially secure, houses are selling, and the place is looking pretty good. Our roads are going to be maintained at a lower cost if all goes well. That gives our community a financial break because at their age, most of the roads need some care. Thanks to Mark Koruga and a company that is resourcing old rubber tires, we should be able to handle the road expenses over the next couple years without a levy for homeowners. Our office technology is also old and needs updates in order to work properly. This is normal and fixable. For that I am glad.

It's important to look to the future. 2021 will be here before you know it and our HOA will move forward with stability and confidence. My thanks to all the volunteers who have helped the Board in 2020 and keep our community a great place to live. Enjoy the winter holidays as best you can with masks and social distancing. 2021 is going to be a better year. For that, I am very glad.

Rebecca Keenan