

# Welcome!

VIA ZOOM

August 21, 2021 Quarterly Meeting



A River Runs Around Us!



# Meeting Agenda–August 21, 2021

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1:00pm Host welcome and Zoom instructions - Catlow Shipek, Board Secretary

1:10pm President's report - Stephen Brigham, Board President

- Introduce the Board and Officers
- Follow-up to the May meeting – RBNA History initiative

1:30pm Board Reports

- Communications – Mary Bird
- Treasurer – Terry DeCarolis

2:00pm Neighborhood Enhancement projects

- Cactus Rain Garden – Estelle
- Allen Road/Meadow View - Paula
- Allen Road Opportunities – Matthew & Catlow
- Rio Vista Natural Resource Park Planning - Lindy Brigham and Mary Bird

2:30pm Upcoming Events

- November 20 - 1 to 3 PM: RBNA Annual Meeting (probably via ZOOM)
- November 7 - 2 to 4 PM: Social at the Hitching Post (Formerly Gentlemen Acres) – Sue DeArmond

2:45pm Board Nominations

- Seeking volunteers! – Murray DeArmond

2:50pm Closing Remarks - Stephen Brigham



**President:** Stephen Brigham – *Project Review*

**Vice-President:** Mary Bird - *Communications*

**Treasurer:** Terry DeCarolis - *Social*

**Secretary:** Catlow Shipek – *Special Projects*

**Members:**

- John Kovacik - *Streets & Traffic Safety*
- Estelle Stern-Eilers - *Enhancement & (Project) Maintenance*
- John O’Hare - *Neighborhood Security*
- Lisa Fabrizio
- Cassandra Peel
- Wallace Kinkade
- Linda Agen
- Shirley Foerster

**Advisors:**

- Larry Bird – *Prince Road*
- Murray DeArmond – *Nominating and Project Review*
- Sue DeArmond – *Nominating and Social*
- Lindy Brigham – *Communications*
- Estelle Stern-Eilers - *Nextdoor*



# RillitoBend History



- RillitoBend is a Neighborhood rich in natural, artistic, and political history
- **Natural** – Rillito is the valley’s significant riparian corridor through Tucson
- **Artists** – Maynard Dixon, Ted DeGrazia, Linda Ronstadt and many others
- **Political** – Mayor George Miller, Councilmember Paul Durham and many other civic leaders
- **RBNA History Committee:**
  - Need volunteers to serve on a committee
  - Review our archives
  - Research
  - Summarize, document and conduct workshops



# HOW WE COMMUNICATE

Mary Bird – Vice President and Communications

As a designated Tucson neighborhood association, we need to communicate with you and with the City.

The main avenues of communication are:

- **RBNA Neighborhood Mailing List** – make sure you are signed up!
- **RBNA Website:** <https://rillitobendna.org>
- **Annual Newsletter** – the City mails once/year to every resident
- **Nextdoor**
- **Email:** [rbna@rillitobendna.org](mailto:rbna@rillitobendna.org)
- **City of Tucson Neighborhood Resources:** <https://www.tucsonaz.gov/pdsd/neighborhood-resources>

## HOW TO REACH US

- **RBNA Website:** <https://rillitobendna.org> - Questions & Comments, HOME page
- **Email:** [rbna@rillitobendna.org](mailto:rbna@rillitobendna.org)
- **In person.**



# Treasurer's Report

Terry DeCarolis

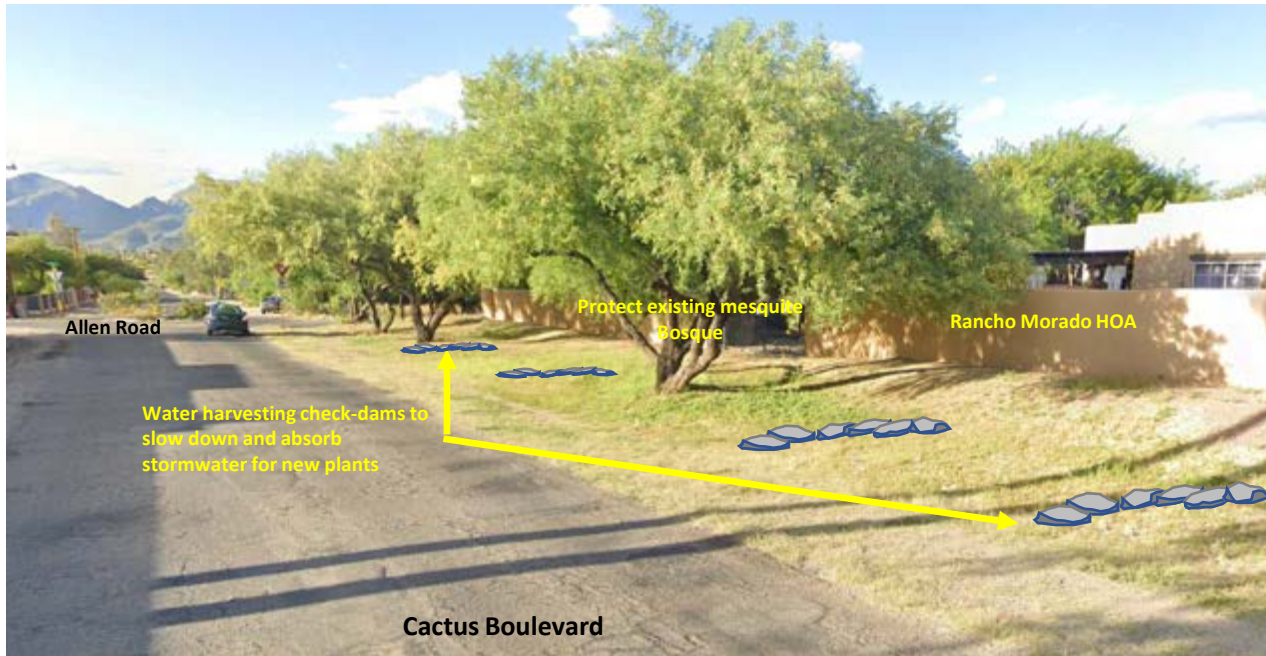


- Balance (end of July) = \$2,270.33
- Expenses
  - Website hosting = \$220/year
  - New Cards = \$471.64
- Projected income
  - New Mural Cards = \$
  - Social event = \$\$\$
- Thanks to Sue Ann Breems, Vicky Strome, and Mary Bird for producing our “Rillito Bend Neighborhood Mural Greeting Cards – a very successful source of funding!



# Neighborhood Enhancement projects

- Cactus Mesquite Bosque – Protection and Opportunities

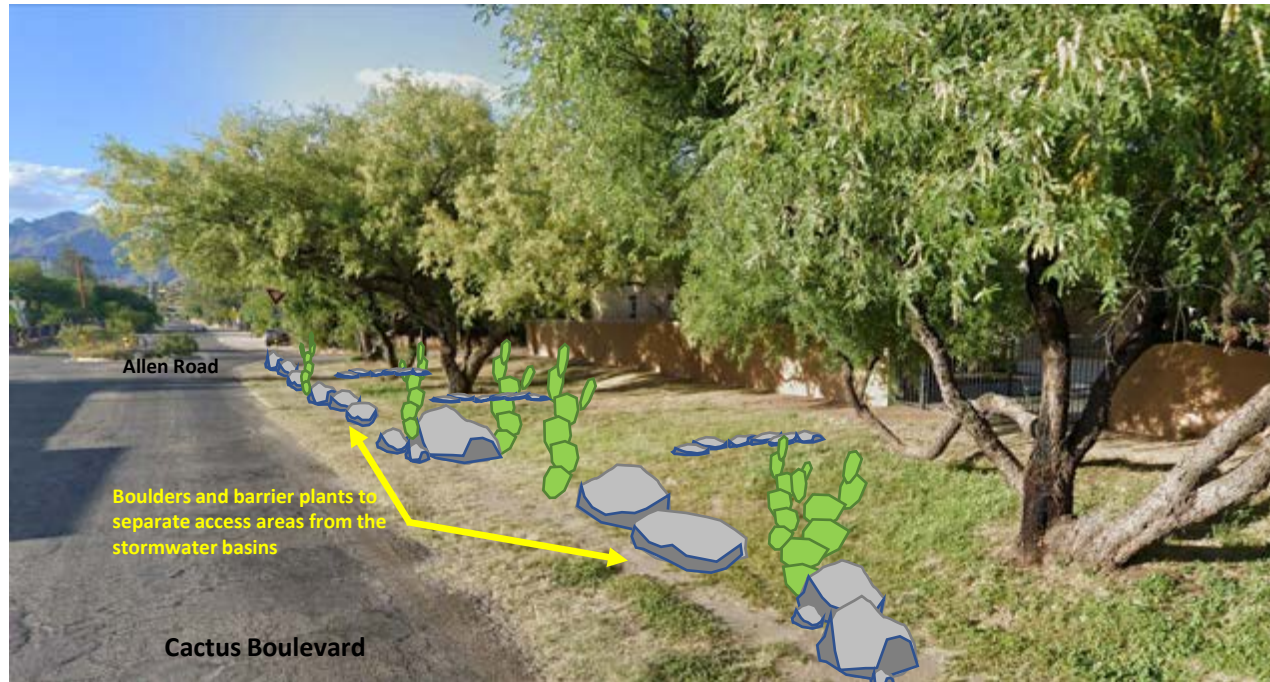


1. *Enhance the existing basin for water harvesting with a series of connected check-dams that will allow existing native plants to emerge with new plants to be installed in the restored basin,*



# Neighborhood Enhancement projects

- Cactus Mesquite Bosque – Protection and Opportunities



2. Define the right-of-way edge with boulders and native plants to keep vehicles away from the stormwater basins and to provide a pedestrian path separate from the vehicle path.





# Allen Road – Meadow View project

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Paula Datsko



# Allen Road - Opportunities



## Notes for Potential Project Areas on Allen Road:

- 1) Screen parking lot and dumpster along right-of-way (ROW) with native plants and trees. Extend pedestrian path from Rancho Morado subdivision to Country Club Road. Create bump-outs to enhance stormwater infiltration and planting areas to calm traffic.
- 2) Enhance right-of-way landscape along apartment complex with native trees and plants.
- 3) Reduce stormwater flowing from Shannon Park Apartments onto Allen Road on both the south side of Allen and the north side at Riverwalk Commons Townhomes entry.
- 4) Create right-of-way improvements for stormwater detention, infiltration and landscaping enhancements.
- 5) Create bump-outs to enhance stormwater infiltration and planting areas to calm traffic along south side of Rancho Morado subdivision.
- 6) Provide safe pedestrian walkway with clear visibility around existing traffic circle with connection to existing Rancho Morado subdivision sidewalk on SE corner.
- 7) Provide right-of-way improvements for stormwater infiltration, landscaping enhancements, and a safe pedestrian walkway.
- 8) Create bump-outs to enhance stormwater infiltration and planting areas to calm traffic along south side of Meadow View.
- 9) Provide right-of-way improvements for stormwater infiltration, landscaping enhancements, and a safe pedestrian walkway.
- 10) Provide right-of-way improvements for Valley of the Moon overflow event parking.

Matthew and Catlow



# Rio Vista Natural Resource Park: New Master Planning Process



Rendering by Stephen Brigham, 2020

The RillitoBend Neighborhood Advocacy Group (RNAG) has met and is working on our approach with the City of Tucson Department of Parks and Recreation (PandR).

We are working through Ward 3

## Current Issues:

- The rains have given us a little reprieve on the irrigation issues, but we still need to make sure long-term planning is done.
- There is no definition of a 'natural resource' park in the City. We have asked PandR to work with the County to create a definition for the City BEFORE the park planning process begins.
- There will be public input for this process to and we will keep the RBNA apprised of the progress and when and how to contribute.



# Planning Process / What You Can Do

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- Sign up to our mailing list to receive notifications and updates at <https://rillitobendna.org>
- Read the RBNA proposal, “Rio Vista Natural Resource Park: A Plan for Its Future” at <https://rillitobendna.org/rio-vista-park>.
- Show your support or concerns, by emailing us at [rbina@rillitobend.org](mailto:rbina@rillitobend.org)



# Upcoming Events – check the website



- November 20 - 1 to 3 PM: RBNA Annual Meeting (probably via ZOOM)
- November 7 - 2 to 4 PM: Social at the Hitching Post Stables at Gentleman Acres – Sue DeArmond



# Social Committee Report

Sue DeArmond & Terry DeCarolis



April 2019 RBNA Art Fair Social Event

- The Social Committee has not been active this past year since the dedication of the RBNA mural celebration due to restrictions related to the COVID pandemic.
- The Committee plans to meet this coming summer and hopes to plan a resumption of the annual fall ice cream social. This will depend on public health recommendations at that time.



# Nominating Committee Report

Murray and Sue DeArmond, Board Advisors

- Bylaws: ARTICLE IV – BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS
  - A Board of Directors, numbering up to fifteen (15) members shall constitute the governing board for the Association. The Board members will be elected for two-year terms of office by majority vote of the membership attending the Association Meeting.
- The terms of all current Board members expire in November 2021.
  - President:** Stephen Brigham – *Project Review*
  - Vice-President:** Mary Bird - *Communications*
  - Treasurer:** Terry DeCarolis - *Social*
  - Secretary:** Catlow Shipek
  - Members:** John Kovacik - *Streets & Traffic Safety*  
Estelle Stern-Eilers - *Enhancement & (Project) Maintenance*  
John O'Hare - *Neighborhood Security*  
Lisa Fabrizio  
Cassandra Peel  
Wallace Kinkade  
Linda Agen  
Shirley Foerster
- All RillitoBend neighbors are invited to become active volunteers and advisors to projects and areas that capture their interest. Hopefully, such engagement will lead some to join the RBNA Board in the future.



# Closing

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- Please provide feedback via our website comment section
- What would you like to see discussed in future meetings?  
Please share in the chat or on the website.
  - History
  - Social events
  - Social services
  - What else
- Quarterly meetings – third Saturday from 1 PM to 3 PM:
  - November 20, 2021 – Annual Meeting (probably on Zoom)
    - Agenda includes election of new Board members
  - January 15, 2022 – Quarterly Meeting
  - April 16, 2022 – Quarterly Meeting
  - July 16, 2022 – Quarterly Meeting





# Happy Zoomers!



## RillitoBend Neighborhood Quarterly Meeting (virtual)

21 August 2021 || 1pm - 2:30pm

Attendance:

- Mary Bird (VP)
- Larry Bird (Advisor)
- Leslie Eldenburg
- Sue DeArmond (Advisor)
- Estelle Stern-Eilers (B)
- Catlow Shipek (Sec)
- Stephen Brigham (P)
- Lindy Brigham (Advisor)
- Patricia Kelly
- Matthew Vasquez
- Rachel Hopkins
- Lisa Fabrizio (B)
- Leila Gass
- Paula Datsko
- Kathleen Miller
- John Kovacik (B)
- John O'Hare (joined at 1:15pm)
- Barry Shulman (joined at 1:30pm)
- Terry DeCarolis (joined at 2pm)

### Meeting Notes:

\* See website presentation slides for more detail except where noted below

1) Host welcome and Zoom instructions - Catlow Shipek, Board Secretary

2) President's report - Stephen Brigham, Board President

- Review of Board Officers and members
- Follow-up to the May meeting on the RBNA History initiative
  - Nominated Larry Bird to be the lead
    - Larry suggested: need someone familiar with real estate to help in researching and recording transactions.
    - Potential folks:
      - Nancy Fung - former board member is in real estate
      - Kimberly MacDonald lives in River Wood
      - A few other names were suggested but not captured in the notes

3) Board Reports

- Communications - Mary Bird
  - Newsletter coming soon in September to your mailbox; thanks to Malice for the graphic design of the layout
  - Website was updated to include a page on the Rio Vista Natural Resource Park
  - Mailing list: be sure to sign up via website to receive important announcements
- Treasurer - Terry DeCarolis
  - \$2,270.33 (as of July 31, 2021)
  - Expenses: website hosting and printing of new mural cards as a fundraiser (~\$1500 net profit expected) for RBNA

4) Neighborhood Enhancement Projects

- Cactus Rain Garden - Estelle
  - 25 neighbors and 15 Watershed Management Group River Run Network volunteers helped to weed and implement erosion control features today (8/21/21); wire cages were placed to protect small native plants as they grow
  - Update of project funding proposals: Tucson Clean & Beautiful did not select RBNA application for Cactus Blvd funding; A meeting is set up for the end of

August to meet with Ward 3 and Tucson Dept of Transportation and Mobility Director to see what City can assist with to enhance this area

- Allen Road/Meadow View - Paula
  - Plants are doing well with all of the rain after a long season of watering with help of 8 volunteers; 3 homeowners helped to supply water during dry season
  - Two trees were lost during the cold winter and have been replaced and are growing well
  - Currently, the focus is on weeding
  - Fall plans: conduct additional plantings and address any maintenance needs
- Allen Road Opportunities - Matthew & Catlow
  - Current focus is on Allen Rd neighbor engagement to review and ID opportunities
  - Ideas or concerns please chat with Matthew and/or Catlow
- Rio Vista Natural Resource Park Planning - Lindy Brigham and Mary Bird
  - Actively meeting to identify and move forward on current issues with Ward 3:
    - Parks & Rec has never defined a “Natural Resource Park” and is communicating with Pima County to create a definition for the City before planning process starts
    - Public input will be part of the definition process
    - May include funding for a restoration ecologist to help with park enhancements
  - Questions and Suggestions:
    - Patricia: suggested that we should look at other Natural resource park definitions from other regions
    - Leila: how does this relate to the Friends of Rio Vista group? -- these are separate groups/efforts and all voices will be part of the public process

#### 5. Upcoming Events

- November 20, 1-3pm: RBNA Annual Meeting (virtual or outdoor venue TBD)
  - Estelle suggested the lawn at Valley of the Moon + offer a tour following the neighborhood meeting
  - Other potential venues:
    - Racquet Club - outdoor ramadas
    - Tucson Organic Gardeners - outdoor ramada
- November 7, 2-4pm: Social at the Hitching Post (Formerly Gentleman’s Acres) - Sue DeArmond; Ice cream social; outdoor venue

#### 6. Board Nominations

- Seeking Volunteers for board and special project leads - Murray DeArmond
  - Let’s network and engage residents across the neighborhood to get more involved!

#### 7. Closing Remarks & Future Neighborhood meetings - Stephen Brigham

- Discussion:
  - Matthew - is there desire for additional content for the neighborhood cards? He has photos he would be willing to share for future generations of cards if needed
    - Mary - there is still a high demand for the mural cards

- Estelle - put a call out to resident artists to contribute towards a collection of cards
  - Sue - hospitality committee has a banner "Rillito Bend Neighborhood" that can be used for these neighborhood projects
- Future meeting interest:
  - History?
  - Social events/services?
- Future Meetings:
  - February 19, 2022
  - May 21, 2022
  - August 20, 2022
  - November 19, 2022 (Annual)