



RBNA Quarterly Meeting

Saturday, May 18, 2024



Welcome!

The neighborhood with a NATURAL RESOURCE PARK!

Meeting Agenda – Saturday, May 18, 2024

9 – 11:00 a.m.

- Welcome – Introductions
- Treasurers Report
- Social Committee Report
- Current Projects
 - Enhancements
 - Roads
 - Shannon Park
- Update on Work in the Park
- Neighborhood discussion on issues and new ideas



Current Board Members & Advisors

President: Lindy Brigham – *Communications*

Vice-Pres: Mary Bird – *Communications, RNAG*

Treasurer: Terry DeCarolis – *Social*

Secretary: Catlow Shipek – *Special Projects*

Members: Estelle Stern-Eilers – *Enhancements, Blog*
John O’Hare – *Neighborhood Security*
Cassandra Peel – *NextDoor*
Vicky Strome - *RillitoRambles Blog*
Rich Young
Linda Turner – *RNAG*
Pat Mulrow

Advisors: Larry Bird – *Prince Road*
Stephen Brigham – *Project Review*
Murray DeArmond – *Nominating and Project Review*
Sue DeArmond – *Nominating and Social*
Matthew Vasquez – *Allen Road*
John Kovacik – *Streets & Traffic Safety, History*
Leslie Eldenburg - *History*
Mike Shaw - *Wildlife*
Melanie Campbell Carter - *RillitoRambles Blog*
Julie Stephens
Jim Altenstadter
Sue Ann Breems
Wallace Kinkade – *Lend a Hand*



Treasurer's Report

Neighborhood
Project Leader: Terry
DeCarolus, Treasurer

Balance reported at 2/17/2024 Board Meeting:		\$ 2,730.20
Income:	Donations and merchandise	\$ 557.80
Expenses:	Website, Lend a Hand (\$200), Festival	\$ 1,057.25
Current Balance:		\$ 2,029.95

Remember that we do not collect dues, but we do have expenses. In addition to the 'hungry jar' we put out at events, we also have some gorgeous note cards and tea towels.

Contact rbna@rillitobendna.org



Each set of cards includes 13 different scenes of the Rillito Bend Neighborhood Mural. The mural was designed, created and orchestrated by our very own Sue Ann Breems. The photography for the cards were done by another talented neighbor, Vicky Strome



Ward 3 – Vice-Mayor Kevin Dahl

- Please sign up for the Ward 3 Newsletter: [WEBSITE](#)
- Friends of Ward 3 is a non-profit to provide support for Ward 3 residents. This makes it easier for neighborhood fundraising with out having to set up their own 501-c-3s



Social Committee Report

Neighborhood
Project Leaders: Sue
DeArmond & Terry DeCarolis



The Festival on March 23rd was a resounding success. More information is on the website:

<https://rillitobendna.org/current-newsevents.html#SpringFest24>

The Social Committee encourages small neighborhood group gatherings to connect; committee can help to coordinate with local neighborhood speaker/expert to share about any range of interests (history, wildlife, plants, and more)

For more information contact social@rillitobendna.org



Native Plant Enhancements:

- Allen/Cactus Roundabout now established and self-sustaining
- Cactus Linear Garden now self-sustaining – working on damaged section

Shannon Park ROW Enhancement

- Allen Road from Country Club Rd to Rancho Morado HOA
- Working with TCB, RBNA and Shannon Park Management

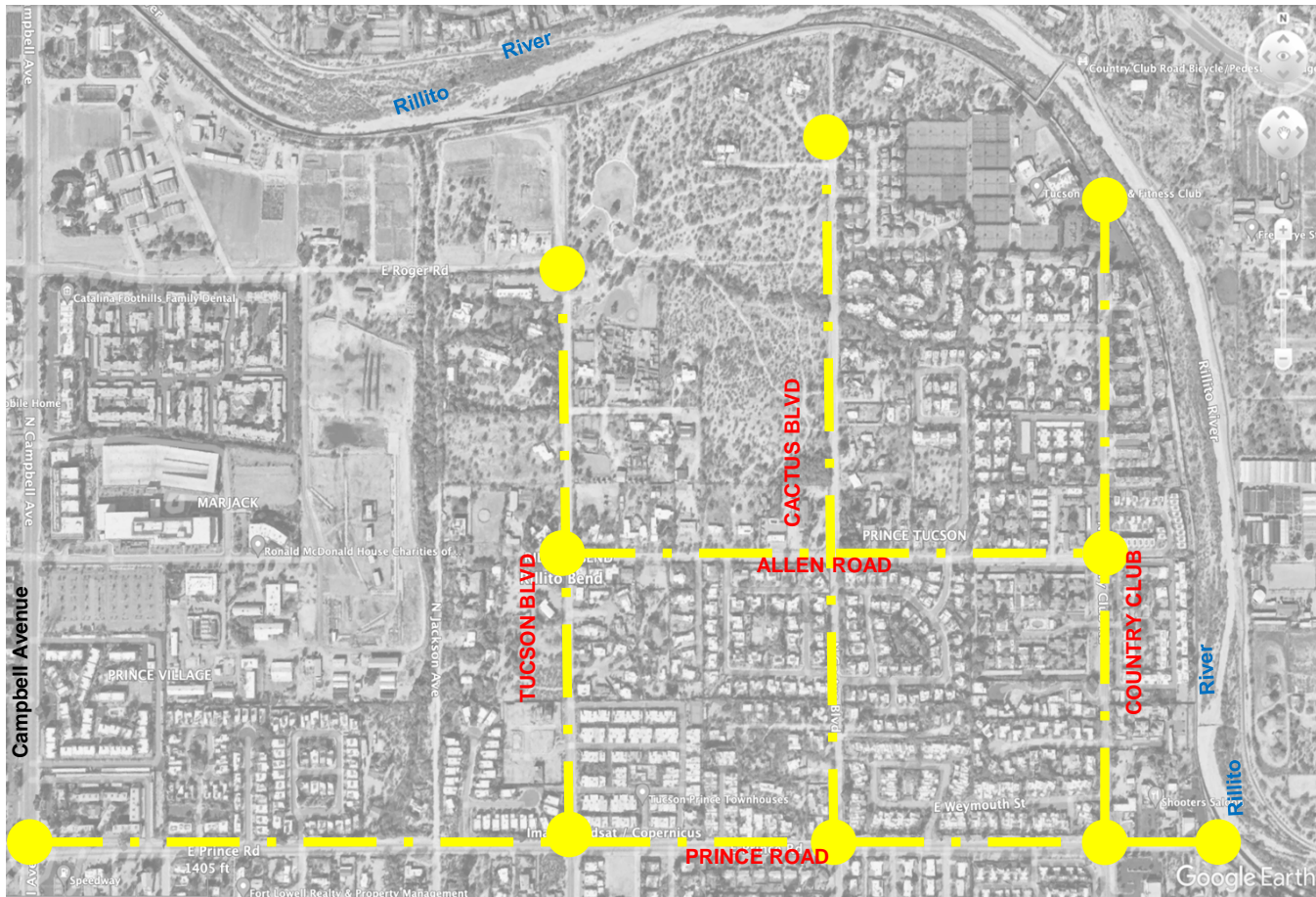
Invasive Plants

- New Blog post listing the plants
- This will be updated – please check [RillitoBend Rambles](#)
- Pull where you find them
- Report locations – rambles@rillitobendna.org



Road Issues

Neighborhood
Project Leader: Catlow



Road Issues, cont'd

Neighborhood
Project Leader: Catlow

PRINCE ROAD

- Request a timeline for a major right-of-way improvement to solve drainage, pedestrian safety/access, landscaping, aesthetic upgrades, bicycle safety, transit stops upgrades, and reduced traffic speeds.
- Request signage to identify Christmas Wash and to relocate the Tucson Clean/Beautiful Adopt a Road sign to the south side of the street facing traffic.
- RBNA to develop short-term pedestrian paths from the Rillito to Campbell Ave on both sides of the road using existing right-of-way and landscape areas.

CACTUS BLVD

- RBNA to continue supporting the RBNA “Linear Zocalo” concept as the neighborhood’s “main street” with volunteer implementation of landscape and plazas (“zocalets”) along the road such as the Mural Plaza (Zocalet #1) at the NE corner of Prince and Cactus.
- Request speed reduction strategies.
- Request an integrated green infrastructure plan to address stormwater flows from Prince Rd and other developments which contribute to stormwater flooding.
- Request improvements to the Rio Vista Park west access parking area(s).

ALLEN ROAD

- Request new pavement for failing street surface.
- Request an integrated green infrastructure plan to address stormwater flows from developments which contribute to stormwater flooding.
- Request Shannon Park Apartments restore parking area screening.

COUNTRY CLUB

- Request speed reduction strategies.
- Request an improvement plan for a safe and accessible pedestrian path.
- Request a designated pedestrian crossing at Allen Rd and Country Club with pavement striping and a illuminated crosswalk signs with solar blinking lights.
- RBNA to develop a short-term pedestrian path on the east side of the road in existing right-of-way and HOA landscaping and parking areas.

TUCSON AVE

- Request speed reduction strategies.

* **NOTE:** Unless noted otherwise, “requests” are to be directed to Ward 3 Council Office and/or a COT department.



Road Issues, recent activity

Neighborhood
Project Leader: Catlow

- Visit RBNA [Website](#) to see summary of neighborhood road issues and planning efforts
- Comments can be submitted online on home page <https://rillitobendna.org>
- Cactus Road – series of ZOCALETS are being implemented and planned along Cactus to provide areas for neighborhood interactions.
- Country Club continues to be a concern for bikes and pedestrians



Rio Vista Natural Resource Park

Neighborhood Project Leaders:
Linda Turner/Mary Bird,
RNAG*

Work is Underway: Timeline

April 18

Matt Christman, Project Manager, presented the trail map and schedule to a large group.

Beginning April 22

Work started at the SE corner of the park (zones 1-3).

- Dryland Design: constructing shallow catch basins
- AZ Conservation Corp: building trails using soil excavated from the basins, lining trail nodes with rocks, replacing barbed wire with smooth
- Tucson Audubon: removing invasive species

Late Summer

- Zone 4 basins
- AZCC to stabilize ADA path and do follow up work
- Planting to start
- Irrigation to coincide with planting

Late October

- Tucson Audubon to remove remaining sumacs



All updates are available on parks [website](#) via QR code.



How We Reach You

- **RBNA Neighborhood Mailing List** – make sure you are signed up! Go to website to sign up.
- **RBNA Website:** <https://RillitoBendNA.org>
- **Annual Newsletter** – the City mails once/year to every resident
- **Nextdoor** - sign up with nextdoor.com
- **General Email:** RBNA@RillitoBendNA.org
- **City of Tucson Neighborhood Resources:** <https://www.tucsonaz.gov/pdsd/neighborhood-resources>



Website



SignUp Form

How to Reach Us

- **RBNA Website:** <https://RillitoBendNA.org> - Questions & Comments, HOME page
- **General Email:** RBNA@RillitoBendNA.org
- **Specific Emails:** President@RillitoBendNA.org; Vice-President@RillitoBendNA.org;
Treasurer@RillitoBendNA.org; Secretary@RillitoBendNA.org; Volunteer@RillitoBendNA.org;
Social@RillitoBendNA.org
- **In person**



RBNA Meeting Minutes

Saturday, May 18, 2024

9 AM to 11 AM – Rio Vista Park

Attendance: (see sign in sheets) ~ 35

- 1. Welcome, Introductions – Lindy Brigham, RBNA Board President**
- 2. Treasurer’s Report**
 - 2.1.** \$2730.20 prior balance
 - 2.2.** \$2029.95 current balance
 - 2.2.1.** Income: donations and merchandise, \$557.80
 - 2.2.2.** Expense: \$1057.25: includes \$200 donation to Lend-a-Hand; festival musicians, Valley of the Moon venue donation
- 3. Ward 3, Vice-Mayor Dahl**
 - 3.1.** Please sign up for Ward 3 newsletter to receive updates
 - 3.2.** Ward 3 can be contacted to help with issues with COT departments
 - 3.3.** Friends of Ward 3 non-profit formed to support Ward 3 residents; looking for a statutory agent to host new non-profit who lives in Ward 3
- 4. Social Committee Report, Sue DeArmond**
 - 4.1.** Many thanks for March 23rd Festival success
 - 4.2.** Social Committee encourages small neighborhood group gatherings to connect; committee can help to coordinate with local neighborhood speaker/expert to share about any range of interests (history, wildlife, plants, and more)
- 5. Current Projects, Estelle Stern-Eilers**
 - 5.1.** Native Plant enhancements
 - 5.1.1.** Allen/Cactus Roundabout plants are now established & self-sustaining
 - 5.1.2.** Weeding of invasive plants has been primary focus along roads this spring
 - 5.1.3.** Cactus Linear Garden is now self-sustaining; working with adjacent HOA to repair bare section of Cactus where tree and wall came down last summer
 - 5.2.** Shannon Park: Allen Road (east end) project planning continues for Shannon Park Apt section of road;
 - 5.2.1.** Neighborhood driven project, just received news of mini-grant being received
 - 5.2.2.** Idea is to create a linear garden to buffer apartment parking area
 - 5.3.** Invasive Plants:
 - 5.3.1.** RillitoBend NA Blog – new post highlighting invasive plants being found in neighborhood including new arrival of Maltese Star Thistle on Cactus and Tucson Blvd;
 - 5.3.2.** stinknet has increased in occurrence this spring along roadways and a little in the Rio Vista Park;
 - 5.3.3.** others to be concerned with: feathery senna (shrub like), puncture vine
 - 5.4.** Roads, Stephen Brigham

- 5.4.1. Visit RBNA website to see summary of neighborhood road issues and planning efforts; can submit comments via link on website
 - 5.4.2. Cactus Rd – a series of “zocalets” are being implemented and planned along Cactus to provide areas for neighborhood interactions.
 - 5.4.3. Country Club – continues to be a problem due to safety concerns with bikes/pedestrians
- 6. **Update on Rio Vista Park restoration, Linda Turner and Catlow Shipek**
 - 6.1. Phase 1 coming to an end in May
 - 6.2. Phase 2 will begin in early Aug and continue through fall
 - 6.3. See Parks website, QR code on a-frame signs placed in park, for regular updates
- 7. **Discussion and New Ideas**
 - 7.1. Mark – shared an idea of a nature-based focused play project proposal, primal playground infusing nature, sculpture, art; offers his experience to help brainstorm, plan, and/or implement
 - 7.1.1. Others expressed interest in this idea especially to benefit mental health concerns in our community
 - 7.2. Gabrielle – NE entrance of Rio Vista – colony of honey bees in metal cap, “bee” aware
 - 7.3. Kay – Rio Vista Park should have recycling bins, great to see that there is glass recycling
 - 7.4. Maggie – concerned about off-leash dogs in park; others expressed frustration with off-leash dogs
 - 7.5. Vice-mayor Dahl – reminder to call Ward 3 office with any issue/problem
- 8. **Next Meetings**
 - 8.1. Aug 17, 2024: Board Meeting
 - 8.2. Nov 16, 2024: Annual Meeting

Respectfully submitted: Catlow Shipek