

VVPOA Annual Report 2020-2021 March 2022

The By-Laws require that the VVPOA have an Annual Report at the March General Meeting. All minutes can be reviewed by members for more detailed information. Board minutes can be reviewed upon request.

The VVPOA Board for year 2021 consists of:

President: Patti Greenelch

Vice President: Daisie Ferretti and Gwendolyn Kielblock (resigned 10/2021)

Treasurer: Ross Ferretti (filled in Nov.2020)

Secretary: Peggy Barksdale

Unit Directors: Unit 1- Pam Morgan (filled Nov. 2021)

Unit 2 – Gary Barto (resigned Oct. 2021)

Unit 3 – Cathy Foley (filled July 2021)

Unit 4 – Dave Allen (moved from Assist. To Director)

Unit 5 – Joan Otterson

Unit 6 – Mal Otterson

Unit 7 – vacant

Unit 8 – Paul Coleman

Membership – Kathleen Green

Maintenance – Chris Kinderman (resigned Aug. 2021)

Pond/River – Dennis Kuhn (resigned Oct. 2021)

Activities – Marion O'Donnell (resigned Dec. 2021)

The VVPOA Board met monthly through 2021 in spite of Covid. General Meetings were held monthly for the entire year. Precautions were taken (social distancing and encouraging mask wearing) to minimize exposure.

We have listed below a summary of accomplishments to date.

- Dinners were continued on a monthly bases for take-out for 6 months and then dine-in was also offered for the remainder of the year. The dinners continue to be a fundraiser that is enjoyed by the community and helps provide needed funds.
- Pond Clean-up days were held through winter and spring, including several dates where detainees from the Yavapai County Jail cut brush. A volunteer, John Diehl, has been working several days a week since spring clearing brush around the pond. It has never looked so good!
- Hall rental continued to be sparse because of the Covid Epidemic but began to pick up some during the summer. The loss of income due to no rentals was very noticeable.
- Because of COVID, the Arizona Hula group could not meet at the Cottonwood Recreation Center so we offered space in the Ranch Room to them for donations. This has generated income and notice from the community. They performed at a dinner in August for us. The community was very pleased.

- Bingo license was renewed. Bingo started in April and averages about \$100 per week.
- Caretaker, Rich Renniger's contract was renewed and he continues to be a huge asset to the VVPOA. The women's bathroom was painted and a new toilet installed. A new sink was installed in the men's bathroom. He continues to handle all the hall rental agreements, keeps the properties in excellent shape and is always ready to help when needed.
- A grant for \$5,000 was received from Friends of the Verde River for the Nature Preserve. Several properties along Comanche Dr. were blocked off with posts and chains to prevent access by motor vehicles. Property owners along the river were pleased. Signage was posted with the rules for visiting the Nature Preserve. Trails are maintained by several volunteers. The VVPOA Nature Preserve is 3 acres of pristine habitat for the public to enjoy wildlife and recreate in a quiet and civilized manner.
- Supervisor Donna Michaels has continued to support our efforts to make the Verde Villages a safe and valued place to live.
- A spring and fall yard sale were held and many community members donated items to the VVPOA sale table. These fundraisers each made about \$500.
- The Board agreed to reach out to the Friends of the Verde River to see if they could help find ways to clean the pond water. Meetings were held with the River Flow Biologist. Funding for tentative projects for the pond were discussed and a meeting was held with The Nature Conservancy. The Friends of the Verde contracted with an architect to draw up plans for downsizing and reworking the pond to use less water.
- The work for a VVPOA Community Vision Plan and Statement were begun by the President and Vice President. This information gathering is being done throughout the county to add to the Yavapai County Comprehensive Plan for 2032. A survey was developed to be taken online or by hard copy. 250 residents of the Verde Villages responded. The data will be used as the project continues.
- The pool had a major leak that after extensive searching was repaired. The pool needs resurfaced and redecked at a cost of about \$20,000. Several grants have been submitted for this expense but so far there are no funds available.
- Pool season opened in June and \$6,660 income came from swimmers. Unfortunately, due to the repairs of the leak, not much profit was made. However, with temperatures over 100 degrees for most of the summer, we were pleased to be open to the public six days a week for six hours each day.
- The VVPOA website has been up for most of this year and looks very professional. Our Vice President/PR Chair, Daisie Ferretti has also developed a monthly online newsletter restoring the name of "The VVPOA Roundup".
- Looking forward to the 50th Anniversary of the VVPOA, plans were discussed for name change, special events and coverage by the media.

- Late July and August saw Verde River flooding that greatly impacted the entrance to the Nature Preserve on Cayuse and Comanche Drs. Supervisor Donna Michaels and Yavapai County Department heads met at the river to survey the damage and followed through with repairs. The river volunteers began work as soon as things dried out to repair the trails and vistas. Most of the signage was recovered and replaced.
- Meetings were held with The Nature Conservancy to write a grant for the American Rescue Funds for a feasibility study for water treatment in the Verde Villages. Funds will be allocated early in 2022.
- Bulletin boards were installed in the Nature Preserve and at the Pond. The COCSD (Cottonwood-Oak Creek School District) has given permission to install bulletin boards for the community at several school.
- Colorful murals were painted by cartoonist, John Squier, on the walls surrounding the pool.
- A new brochure was developed by PR Chair that features all the amenities offered by VVPOA and will be distributed throughout the community and with realtors.
- Many activities were offered throughout the year with very little response from the community. From programs for families and children, computer classes, games day and more, there was not enough participation to continue.
- Although membership remains at around 400, this is not enough to sustain the VVPOA. In an effort to find more funds for support, the VVPOA Board began steps to rezone property in Unit #7 to sell for residential homes.
- The future for the VVPOA does not look bright going into 2022. We have few volunteers and the apathy in the community is at a record high. In the upcoming year, a long-term plan must be established to look at options if the Association does not survive.