

Our mission is to act in the interest of the members on issues such as limiting commercial development, reducing litter and crime, and retaining environmental quality.

March 22, 2025, 10:30AM-NOONish

GPANA SPRING Membership Meeting

The meeting started at approximately 10:30 AM at the Cooper Center for Environmental Learning on Trails End Road. Folks signed in and then helped themselves to potluck treats. Donna Snyder, President, opened the meeting by introducing board members - Dori Frankel, Vice President, Barb Fleming, Treasurer, at-large members Karen Sweeney, Susan Sferra, and Mike Ignatowicz. We had about 30 people attend the meeting.

Barb Fleming gave us the Treasurer's Report (see last page)

Invited guests **Debbie Hicks** and **Kathryn Leavey** spoke about **Danny Lopez Park** (formally known as Christopher Columbus Park). They represented "Friends of Danny Lopez Park" and shared the progress that has been made with removal of buffelgrass, advising on improvements at the park, holding regular cleanup events and more. If you'd like to get involved, contact us at gpanasec@gmail.com.

Northwest Fire District

Veronica Rubio from the NW Fire District spoke on safety issues that homeowners should be aware of regarding their property, inside and out. There was quite a bit of discussion about the house fire on Salerno on March 17. Veronica was full of safety information and recommended such things as having a 100 ft hose accessible on your property, replacing your fire alarms every 10 years, stay away from the small fire extinguishers they sell at Costco and when replacing fire extinguishers, take the old ones to hazardous waste disposal. Tucson schedules hazardous waste disposal events at different locations around the city and county. Also, remove brush from around your house. And remove buffelgrass, fountain grass and stinknet from your property.

The Fox and Rabies Situation

Unfortunately Ellen Santos from the Pima County Health Department had family issues and wasn't able to come to our meeting. She is Pima County's Epidemiology Program Manager. She did send us a PDF file on Rabies Prevention which is now available on our website. Click Here. After our member Karen Warren, who lives on Desierto, was attacked and bitten on Monday, March 10, the rabid fox had a close encounter with Fred Hudson on Fred and Donna's property on Placita Tuberia. Then it showed up on Karen Sweeny's property on Laroca, and then on

Sherry Barrett's property on Desierto. Sherry spoke about their experience. Fred Hudson also spoke. It was a very sobering discussion about rabies.

The Cooper Center for Environmental Learning Improvements

A big thank you to Colin Waite for letting us use the camp for our meeting. It was a beautiful morning. The improvements at Cooper continue and include composting toilets, showers, concrete walkways that are handicap accessible, a Joe Pagac mural and more.

Some News/Updates from the last few months...

1) Bylaws

Our bylaws – we've worked for quite a while to clarify the language and update. The Bylaws will be sent to members for approval. We plan on distributing them in April via email, so please be on the lookout for that. We need a vote from members to approve the revisions...

2) Cleanups

The Pima County Department of Transportation has recognized GPANA for its participation in the Adopt-A-Roadway program on Camino de Oeste for over 20 years. Big thanks to all our members who've pitched in over the years.

3) The loss of Raul Grijalva, our state representative for over 20 years...

Roger Carpenter, a former president of GPANA, spoke about Mr. Grijalva's commitment to the environment and other issues pertaining to our piece of the Sonoran Desert. Roger suggested to me, after he spoke, that the Sonoran Desert Preservation Plan, of which Raúl Grijalva had an active role, be shared with members. Here's a link. And here's another link with more about Grijalva and his political positions.

4) We are in need of a person to take over Tony Knight's job of coordinating the cleanups at Feliz Paseos Park. The cleanups take place twice a year (Spring and Fall). The next one is April 12. Dori Frankel has volunteered to manage that one, but I'd like to see us get a permanent replacement. I'm happy to give more details if you are interested. It's ideal for someone who lives close to the park or visits it often.

We also been running without an official secretary. If you'd like to learn more about what that would involve, please contact me via email (gpanasec@gmail.com) and we'll chat! We need more folks invested in this organization!

Thank you to all who came out and contributed! Donna Snyder, President March 23, 2025

GPANA Treasurer's Report 02/28/2025 Prepared by Barbara Fleming, Treasurer

		Current Period 02/01/2025-02/28/2025		Year to Date 01/01/25-02/28/25	
Beginning	Balance	\$5,790.47		\$5,656.94	
Income					
	Membership-Checks & cash Membership-Credit card-Website Prepaid for 2026 Donation	\$180.00 \$80.00		\$180.00 \$220.00	
	Total Income	\$260.00	-	\$400.00	
Expenses					
	WIX/PP Fees Post Office Box Website Insurance Office Expense State Taxes Raffle prizes Gift cards Election Buddy Tucson Mountains Association Coalition Sonoran Desert Protection Donation to Camp Cooper Donation to Darksky International Correction-Prior year Total Expenses	\$3.83		\$10.30	
Ending Balance		\$6,046.64		\$6,046.64	
Member Totals		2022	2023	2024	3/9/2025
Member households Individual members		141	146	147	145
New Members		261 18	273 16	273 11	268 1
Members not renewed		6	9	10	14