

Entities beset by funding woes

Shanklin and Davies iterated the need to generate greater funding support since the current Trails and Open Space tax gets funneled almost entirely to the City of Colorado Springs. Shanklin added that private philanthropy is the next wave of conservation. Depending on the circumstances, donations of land for public benefit may qualify donors for tax credits or deductions.

Bylaws amended and reports presented

The membership approved a bylaws amendment to change the fiscal year and support transitions in director positions. Current membership consists of 40

active associations comprising 8,633 homes, lots, or units.

Lynd provided a breakdown of January-through-March income and expenses. The collection of membership dues of slightly more than \$2,000 offsets the significant payments of over \$800 for insurance and website fees.

Transportation and Land Use Committee project updates, presented by Vierzba, focused primarily on traffic and water source concerns. He commented on the status of Colorado Springs Utilities' potential for becoming a regional water and wastewater provider for the Tri-Lakes area. Vierzba also expounded on the area's formation of a possible Tri-Lakes Rural Transportation Authority. Government entities and rev-

enue sources must be contacted, and planning data and mapping information must be collected.

At the start of the meeting, President Larry Oliver honored two of NEPCO's founding members in attendance: Ken Judd and Swedenburg.

The remaining 2018 meeting dates are May 12, July 14, Sept. 15, and Nov. 10. The May meeting will feature Lenard Rieth, from Anderson, Dude & Lebel, who will provide updates to Colorado HOA law and management. Meetings are held from 10 a.m. to noon at the Monument Town Hall conference room, 645 Beacon Lite Rd. off Highway 105.

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Woodmoor Improvement Association Board of Directors, Feb. 28, March 28, and April 25

Board president provides updates; board hears resident's composting proposal

By Jackie Burhans

The Woodmoor Improvement Association (WIA) board met on Feb. 28, March 28, and April 25 for president's updates, community comments, and directors' reports.

President's updates

Board President Brian Bush said at the February meeting that the board was able to present the Vincent Elorie award to former Forestry Director Eric Gross in person.

He also congratulated Woodmoor Public Safety Chief Kevin Nielsen and Common Area board Director Rich Wretschko for their work on the Safe Routes to Schools \$200,000 grant, which has been approved. WIA participated by doing the planning and providing \$50,000 for the project. Bob Pearsall, Architectural Control Committee and Common Areas administrator, was also involved.

In March, Bush highlighted the requirement for residents to retrieve trash containers promptly. Article V, Section 11 of the Covenants says, "No trash, litter, or junk shall be permitted to remain exposed upon the premises and visible from public roads or adjoining or nearby premises." Bush noted that we are moving into bear season and want to be careful not to attract wildlife by taking trash out too early or leaving cans out after trash has been picked up.

Resident promotes composting

Mattie, a 15-year-old resident, spoke before the board at the April meeting to promote the idea of community composting. She noted that composting enhances soil and keeps 30 percent of trash out of the landfill. She suggested building bins in an open space for compost drop-off. After three months, the resulting soil could be donated to local schools for their gar-



Above: The \$200,000 Safe Routes to School grant awarded to Lewis-Palmer District 38 along with a matching grant of approximately \$50,000 from Woodmoor Improvement Association will fund a trail connecting Lewis-Palmer Elementary School, Lewis-Palmer Middle School, and Palmer-Ridge High School. The trail which follows the route shown in red in the map above, will allow Woodmoor residents to walk and ride bikes safely to those schools from nearby homes. Part of the trail will go through the recently-approved Beach at Woodmoor development on Woodmoor Drive. Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District is also facilitating the construction of the trail by allowing the use of its property at the southern end of Lake Woodmoor. *Image provided by Woodmoor Improvement Association*

dens or a community garden could be started. Board members responded positively and commended Mattie but raised concerns about starting fires and attracting bears. Mattie agreed to do further research on bin designs and organizing volunteers.

Board report highlights

- In the March meeting, the board unanimously approved The Beach at Woodmoor development. The developers will construct part of the Safe Routes to School trail. Construction is expected next year.
- WIA is moving forward with its information technology upgrades and new system.
- Director of Community Outreach Kayla Dixon reported on upcoming events, including a Memorial Day ceremony on May 28 and the Fishing Derby on June 2 at Palmer Lake.
- Vice President Peter Bille reported for Treasurer Lee Hanson that past due accounts are slightly higher this year than last and urged residents to pay their association dues.
- Covenants Director Per Suhr noted that a \$2,500 fine had been levied for an open fire without spark arrestors.
- The board unanimously approved spending a total of \$9,000 to replace the valve and do culvert work at both Hidden Pond and Twin Pond to stay aligned with the augmentation plan required by the Colorado Division of Water Resources.

The WIA Board of Directors usually meets at 7 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month in the Barn at 1691 Woodmoor Drive, Monument. The next meeting has been moved to Thursday, May 24.

The WIA calendar can be found at <https://www.woodmoor.org/wia-calendar/>. WIA board meeting minutes can be found at <https://www.woodmoor.org/meeting-minutes/> once approved and posted.

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April Weather Wrap

By Bill Kappel

Finally, some active weather affected the region on a more consistent basis during April, but even with all the fun, precipitation (both rain and snow) was below average again. This was the seventh month in a row with below-normal precipitation, so we could definitely use a wet May. Temperatures for the month ended up right around normal, but as usual we experienced several large swings between mild and cool.

The first week of the month saw several of these swings in temperatures, rolling between the 40s and 60s every other day from the 1st through the 6th. From the morning of the 6th through the 9th, unsettled weather affected the region. This brought around a quarter of an inch of precipitation, with a trace to an inch for most of us.

Quiet and mild conditions returned for the next few days, with temperatures quickly rising to the mid-60s and low 70s from the 10th through the 12th. A more vigorous storm system moved over the region starting just after midnight on the 12th. This produced a few thunderstorms just after midnight to our north in Elbert and Douglas Counties. As colder air continued to filter in and moisture increased, snow began to fall. Light accumulations occurred by sunrise, then we had a short break between the next round of snow and wind later that afternoon and evening. This next round brought heavier snow and stronger winds. The storm quickly moved out during the morning of the 14th, with plenty of sunshine returning but not before it deposited 6-8 inches of much needed snow.

Sunshine and seasonal temperatures over the

next few days quickly melted all the snow. Once the snow was gone, energy from the sun was more efficient at heating the atmosphere and allowed highs to reach the mid- to upper 60s. Conditions were quiet for the next few days with generally clear skies on the 18th and 19th. The next storm began to affect the region by the early morning of the 20th. A few snow showers developed that morning, but the real action held off until the afternoon and evening. Snow, heavy at times, developed around 2:30 p.m. and continued for a couple of hours, with another round of snow developing during the evening and continuing through the early hours of the 21st. This storm totaled 3 to 6 inches in most locations.

This time we only had a brief break between unsettled conditions, with sunshine returning on the 22nd and highs reaching the upper 50s, about 20 degrees warmer than the day before. Mild conditions stuck around the next few days ahead of the final round of storminess for the month. Thunderstorms and rain showers developed during the 23rd—the first time this season with organized thunderstorms developing in the area and a sign of things to come as we head into May and the summer season. However, temperatures were able to cool enough that the precipitation changed over to snow showers by next morning. Cooler air continued to filter in over the next few days, with 1-2 inches of snow accumulating on the 24th. Cool and unsettled conditions contributed to bring light snow and snow showers at times on the 26th and 27th.

Quiet conditions returned to end the month with

mild and dry conditions from the afternoon of the 27th through the 30th. Highs reached into the low 70s each afternoon with breezy conditions at times.

A look ahead

May often experiences a wide variety of weather conditions in the region from warm, sunny days to severe thunderstorms and hail, and even some snowfall. May 2007 was a snowy May, with over 20 inches accumulating for the month, while at other times very little snow fell during the month. In general, we can usually expect warmer conditions to finally settle in, with temperatures reaching above 80°F likely to occur on several afternoons.

April 2018 Weather Statistics

Average High	57.0° (+0.5°)
Average Low	27.6° (+0.2°)
Highest Temperature	74° on the 29th
Lowest Temperature	15° on the 7th
Monthly Precipitation	1.59"
	(-1.37", 53% below normal)
Monthly Snowfall	14.9"
	(-11.8", 56% below normal)
Season to Date Snow	59.2"
	(-57.5", 49% below normal)
	<i>(the snow season is from July 1 to June 30)</i>
Season to Date Precip.	4.90"
	(-1.52", 24% below normal)
	<i>(the precip season is from July 1 to June 30)</i>
Heating Degree Days	681 (-7)
Cooling Degree Days	0

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