

Board reorganization

At the Feb. 1 meeting, the board provided certified election results, which re-elected three members. The board re-instated and reorganized to the following roles:

- Brian Bush, President
- Peter Bille, Vice President
- Connie Brown, Treasurer, re-elected
- Steve Cutler, Common Areas
- Rick DePaiva, Secretary and Community Outreach, re-elected
- Brad Gleason, Public Safety, re-elected
- Ed Miller, Architectural Control
- Per Suhr, Covenant Control
- Cindy Thrush, Forestry

Woodmoor area developments

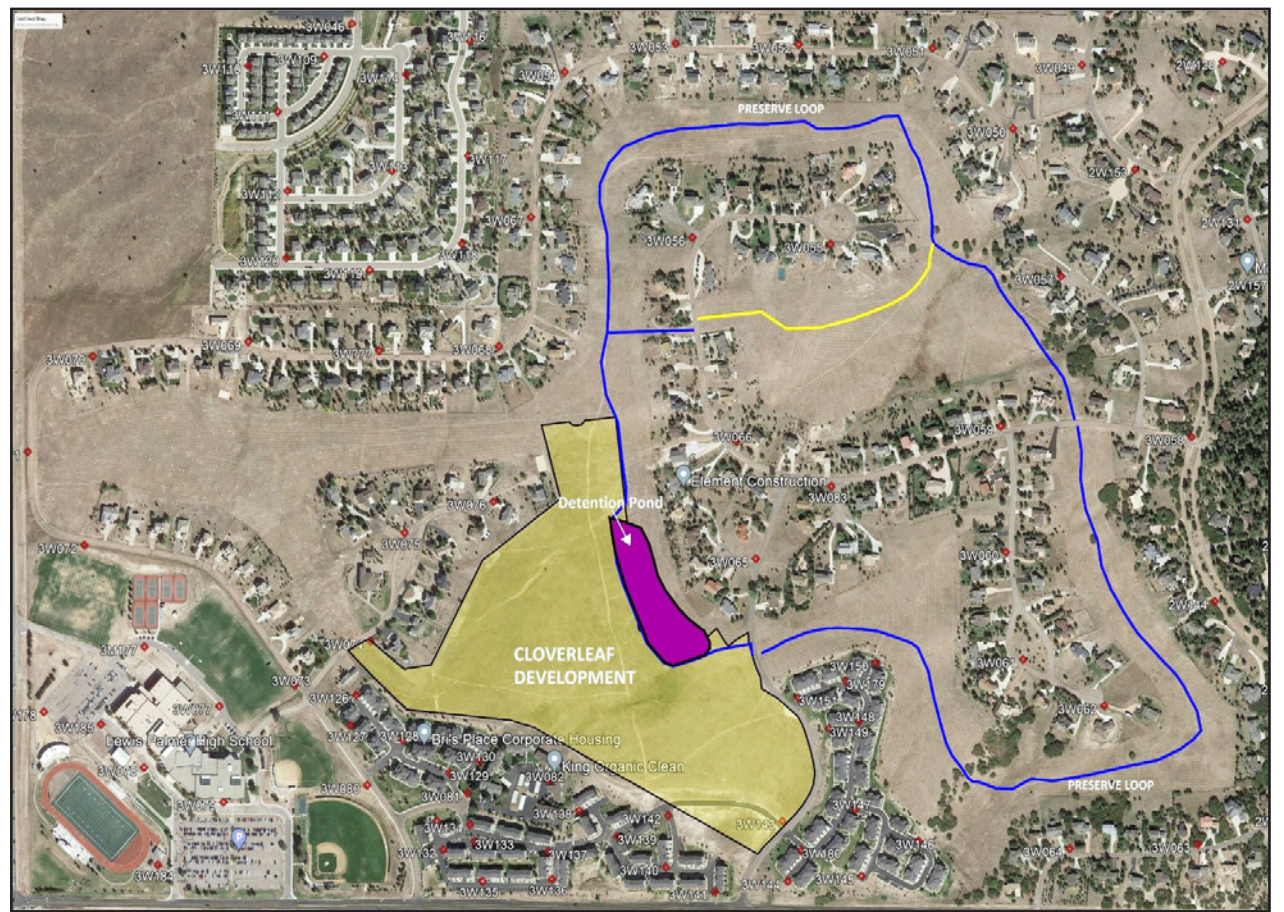
As a member of the Northern El Paso County Coalition of Community Associations (NEPCO), WIA monitors new developments in the area and comments where appropriate. The board submitted comments opposing the back entrance/exit from the proposed Caliber apartments near Palmer Ridge High School. The proposal has since been withdrawn. The board submitted additional comments opposing the routine use of the back entrance onto South Park by the Brookmoor development. WIA has been working with The Heights property owners association (POA) to monitor the Monument Ridge East development. Finally, WIA weighed in on the new El Paso Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) traffic ordinance, but the BOCC passed the ordinance as proposed.

South Woodmoor Preserve signs

At the regular Feb. 23 meeting, the board heard from resident Tish Norman, president of WOSC LLC, about its request to name trails in the South Woodmoor Preserve (SWP). Noting that WOSC had been instrumental in preserving and donating the land, she presented the results of a survey by the members of WOSC on finishing unimproved social trails, naming connector trails, and concerns about bench, pet waste stand, and raptor pole placements. She said she had sent the 17-page document, including free-form comments, to Bush, who said he would share it with the rest of the board.

Norman said she had been told by the Architectural Control Committee (ACC) that WIA would not name the trails but was not given a reason. She said WOSC was not asking for trail signs but wanted to put the names on the approved map stands. Her concern was for safety, she said, noting that Emergency Medical Services (EMS) would have difficulty finding someone on the intermingled trails. Gleason noted that a 911 system would show the nearest house and that naming the trail would have no bearing on EMS being able to find someone.

Bush thanked Norman for her presentation



Above: The map shows the newly improved trail in blue in the South Woodmoor Preserve (SWP) open space recently donated by WOSC LLC to the Woodmoor Improvement Association. At the Feb. 23 meeting, the board reported that it approved its contractor's suggestion to include the yellow "spur" as it would be more cost-effective and would result in less disturbance to the land. The SWP is near Jackson Creek Parkway and Higby Road, behind Lewis-Palmer High School. The map also shows the Cloverleaf development next to SWP. Map provided by Woodmoor Improvement Association.

and said the board would consider the comments from the survey. He explained that no other trail in WIA has a name and that the request included proposed trails that might never become trails. The board has 200 acres to shepherd with a finite budget, he noted, and had already undertaken significant work in the SWP in the eight months it has owned it. Thrush expressed her concern that this had been proposed and rejected four times and suggested that residents could add names to trail apps if they wished. She felt the board should put the issue to bed. Resident Jennifer Davis was not in favor of trail naming and thought designating them on apps was a good idea; she also thanked the board for its clarification on EMS responses.

Board highlights

- The board appointed Bush, Bille, Brown, and DePaiva as authorized signers on its financial accounts.
- The board voted unanimously to meet on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. following a 6 p.m. executive session. The November and December meetings will be moved earlier due to the holidays.
- The board also set its covenant hearing dates and appointed committee members.

- The board authorized the ACC administrator to approve certain projects, handle compliance fee refunds up to \$500, and handle routine change orders for all projects.
- The board authorized the director of forestry to review and approve tree removal requests and Firewise lot evaluations and appoint Forestry Committee members.
- Gleason noted that most red flag warning days, which indicate increased fire danger, occur in March through July and asked residents to check local media and the sheriff's website for fire bans before using outdoor grills.

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 will be on March 22.

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

Jackie Burhans can be reached at jackieburhans@ocn.me.

February Weather Wrap

By Bill Kappel

Overall, February was pretty close to normal, but it took a winding road to get to normal. Temperatures overall came out right about normal, with high temperatures slightly warmer than normal and lows right at average. Snowfall was slightly above normal as several of the snowstorms occurred with very cold temperatures and high snow/water ratios.

The first week of February was mild and dry with temperatures peaking about 10-15 degrees above normal on the 4th and 5th as highs reached the mid-50s. This also helped melt some of the snowpack that had built up during January. This warmth was interrupted by a series of cold fronts that affected the area starting on the 6th.

The first push of cooler air came through without any moisture, as the snow stayed in the mountains. Temperatures dropped to normal on the 6th and 7th. As the system departed, the back side of the storm swung through and pro-

duced snow and wind from the evening of the 8th through the morning of the 9th. Some decent snowfall rates occurred as well, with several inches accumulating in about two hours just before midnight on the 8th. Temperatures were cold behind the system with highs only reaching the low to mid-20s. Fresh snow on the ground and clear skies also made for efficient radiational cooling, and lows dipped just below zero on the morning of the 10th.

High pressure built in behind this system and brought in mild air from the west/southwest. Temperatures responded, jumping from the upper 30s on the 10th to the mid-50s on the 11th. Mild conditions stuck around through the next couple days as the west/southwest flow kicked in ahead of the next approaching storm system.

This next storm had more moisture to work with and again another shot of Arctic air, all just in time for Valentine's Day. Snow started to fall by late afternoon on the 14th and continued through the 15th. During the storm, 4-8 inches

of snow arrived along with chilly temperatures. Highs only reached the teens on the 15th and dipped below zero again on the morning of the 16th. This storm also had a lot of wind, so significant blowing and drifting occurred, making for some tough driving conditions at times.

Just like earlier in the month, mild conditions quickly returned, with sunshine and high pressure building in from the west/southwest. This allowed temperatures to jump back above normal from the 18th through the 21st. Highs again peaked in the low to mid-50s during the period. However, the good snowpack helped to temper highs from reaching their full potential.

These mild conditions were again interrupted by the final shot of cold air for the month, and this was the coldest yet. A strong push of Arctic air moved in during the early morning of the 22nd, accompanied by a strong cold front, gusty winds, fog, and flurries. Cold air continued to deepen through the morning with snow starting to fall as well. The cold air resulted in light and