Carefree's Future Matters - Vol VIII, E13,V1 - Sunday, June 18, 2023

Friends of Carefree, our wish goes to all of the dads out there for a Happy and Relaxing Father's Day! You earned it.

Hello Carefree summer.

I have been woefully behind in my publications since the Property Tax defeat. I will have to catch you up on a other town information but, for now, I will share just two items with you.

The day after the election two resignations occurred. Tony Geiger resigned from the town council and Cheryl Kroyer resigned from the Desert Foothills Land Trust [DFLT] board. Cheryl's departure was curious, perhaps she resigned from the wrong board. Sarah Gondell, pro-tax advocate, was elected to the DFLT board in March. Sarah may be a resume building to improve her optics should she have visions of joining the town council in the near future. If it walks like a duck...

The remaining updates can wait for a few more days except for a General Plan update, and to advise you of the <u>important</u> GP Workshop 3 meeting tomorrow, Monday, June 19th in the Council Chambers at 5PM. All residents are encouraged to attend. It is your General Plan, and we cannot allow it to be hijacked by he economic development director or any other members of staff. They are employees, not residents.

The upcoming meeting follows last week's presentation to the Planning & Zoning Commission. What was expected to be a relatively straightforward review of the Workshop 2 Survey results turned out to be a 2-hour ordeal. Right out of the box, commissioner Burns took issue with the Residents' Survey, engaging in at least a 15-20 minute exchange, contending that the survey was not valid, not scientific, not this, not that. The tone of the meeting was set. It felt like a foxhole-to-foxhole encounter. Even the wording of resident comment summaries was questioned ad-

nauseum. [Matt, from the Baker Group, deserves a Carefree Medal of Valor.]

After enduring the protracted update, and with all but 3 residents remaining in chamber, the public was given the opportunity to speak. Wendy Mattes provided the commission with information on the 501(c)3 nonprofit organization [CarefreePark.org] she started to protect open space in Carefree. She outlined the objectives and answered a number of questions from the commission.

I spoke next, summarizing that 'we all' want the GP process to run its course, to be completed, to be presented to residents for review, and to give residents the opportunity to approve the final draft in the November 2024 election. I was compelled to remind the commissioners that we each have only one vote. [Nobody has a super-vote, or veto power.] While I believe everyone would like an acceptable GP approved in 2024, that will only occur if it reflects the will of our residents.

It was shocking to learn that a commissioner needed to hear the meaning of low-density, or high-density development. I cited Eastwood as a perfect example of unacceptable high-density development. When asked where Eastwood was located, I suggested that the commissioner use Google maps, enter the intersection of Pima Road & Cave Creek Road and then look for the area that appears to be numerous ant hills close together [see below]. A rough count indicates there are approximately 39 homes on just under 10 acres. That is very high-density development in anyone's book, especially so far from the town core. As the saying goes, "it is never too late to learn." Let's hope that is true...



Have a great Father's day!.

In closing,

Another reminder to the remaining members of the Carefree Town Council and the Public Safety Advisory Committee:

You perpetrated a deliberate misrepresentation of material facts concerning Automatic Aid in an effort to conceal the truth you knew, or should have known, thus endangering the future health, safety, and welfare of the citizens you have sworn to represent in your oath of office.

And there you have it, for now.

Respectfully submitted by John Traynor

Notice: In addition to reporting *facts*, this Newsletter will contain the author's perspective on topics or events affecting Carefree residents. That perspective may not be popular with the mayor, council members, staff, town attorney, or Facebook Trolls. The fact is, I don't care what they think.

If we lived in a perfect world, we would need but one newspaper.

God Bless America.

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"The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing." Attribution not verified; Not JFK and Not Edmund Burke. Possibly philosopher John Stuart Mill, 1867. I attribute it to Common Sense!