

Friends of the Tonto National Forest  
Minutes of Board Meeting 27 June 2022

Attending via Zoom were Don Pike, Scott Wood, Patti Fenner, Dave Ettelson, Helene Tack, Pete Allard, Susan Sridharan, and Eric Yamane

6:00 Call to order – Scott

President's Report – Scott

- Will meet in July with Payson district ranger to determine needs.

Executive Director's Report – Patti

- First Aid/CPR Training (June 25) Trained 13 people on 1<sup>st</sup> aid/CPR. Stop the Bleed Training to take place on September 17th. Training is free and up to 30 people can be accommodated. Discussed whether we should invest in a first aid kit and what should be in a kit.
- Combined Federal Campaign – Will get some money, but not much. Probably will not participate in the future.
- Fundraising Plan – All expressed interest in meeting to develop action plans. Patti will send out a request for dates/times to meet via Zoom. She has also created a grant calendar to facilitate our pursuit of grants. Match challenge is on the website.

Financial Report – Susan (Detailed financial info submitted to Google Drive)

Highlights –

- Donation button on web site up and working

Cultural Resources Committee Report – Scott

- The Forest archologist has mentioned a site monitoring project, which might be something in which we could be involved. Will meet to better understand this.

Natural Resources Committee Report – Don

- Noxious Weeds - Don  
Shared a screen on Zoom. Showed plans for 2022/23. Material presented will be on Google Drive.

### Superstition Mtns -

-- SPA still open. Possibility of additional funding. Also, awaiting feedback on photo monitoring.

-- DFFM invasive plant grant 21 – Plan is for herbicide treatment of Stinknet in Feb/Mar, 2023. May need extension of the grant.

-- DFFM invasive plant grant 22 – Application due by 7/29/22. Will involve removal of Fountain Grass by youth Conservation Corp groups.

### Usery Mtns –

--Will address 10,000 acres with a focus on the urban interface where people on foot or bikes bring in the invasives. Involves area from Bush Hwy to Usery Pass Rd. Will be working with SRP, Hawes Trail Alliance, and other organizations to address the problem. However, since it appears the Hawes Trail Alliance is more interested in building more trails, will need to ensure that this work also include addressing the invasives problem. Don will meet with Bec to discuss how to address the situation.

### Bush Fire Rehab Area-

--Working with Natural Restorations events for invasives removal. However, takes more than a one-time effort.

- Water Source Inventory/Spring Water Quality Monitoring Project – Trent
  - Trent sent a note. Asked that another water monitoring kit be purchased. Have approximately 50% of springs adopted in the Payson area. Kits available to be checked out for monitoring use.
- Milkweed for Monarchs – Susan/Patti
  - Grow kits will be assembled in July for Nov planting. Will be two sites – Cave Creek and Phon D. Specific Cave Creek location TBD.
- Riparian Photopoint – Patti
  - Have around 60 volunteers. Will have good coverage for next year.
- Adopt-a-Site - Eric
  - Will create a presentation to use at meetings with Wells Fargo branches for interested people. Plan for meetings in August.

Cave Creek Trail Project – Susan

- Patti and Susan met with Jordan Bowen from Cave Creek regarding this project. Signs have been designed and it has been determined where the signs will be placed. Cost will be about \$8,000. Have arranged with work crews for work in the Fall.

#### Membership Committee - Pete and Helene

- Helene reported on meeting with the family of Chris Dyer, who had died in the Superstitions. Family wants to do something to assist future hikers to support their safe use of the trails. Follow-up call was made with Ron, the wilderness specialist of the Tonto, to discuss their intent. He said he will hike the trail to see what, if anything, could be done. Another facet of this is that use of the All Trails app without use of a backup map, can lead to problems. Will determine if additional signage is needed. Dave suggested we consider the planting of a few trees as a commemoration of Chris's passing.
- Pete reported on membership and submitted info to our Google Drive. Two new members for a current total of 64 members.

#### New Business

- Don is working with CAZCA on the brochure to have it be usable by more organizations.

7:35 pm Adjourned