

Minutes of SCFDW meeting of September 19, 2021

Opening with welcomes and pledges to the US and NM flags

VIP recognition and brief statements: County Commissioner Katherine Bruch updated us on the recent work of the county commission, mainly building projects resulting in more space for sheriff department, fire department and county justice system. Laura Montoya spoke about her candidacy for state treasurer, see her facebook page and website to donate. Barbara Jordan about her candidacy for mayor of Rio Rancho “bringing unity back into community”, Gary Tripp spoke about his candidacy for school board in district 1 and asked urgently for people to help with phone banking and donations at garytripp.com.

Speaker: Elena Kayak, sustainability consultant to public school systems, currently based in Santa Fe. She gave a very energetic talk about personal decisions and individual efforts toward more sustainable lifestyles, including recycling, “precycling” and evolving a gift/exchange economy. She recommended several films and websites for further explanation: Plastic Wars by Frontline Films, Extinction by David Attenborough, the EPA’s website where you can calculate your carbon footprint, the “lifecycle of a t-shirt” to google, the Every Kid Outdoors federal program.

Business meeting: Minutes from the previous meeting were available for review and were approved. The treasurer’s report was a brief statement of account balance which can be reviewed on our website.

Old Business: Alex Piland reminded us about the upcoming DPSC fundraiser on 9/28/2021. Karen Schafer updated us on the developments with Feed RR Kids. We can donate at uwestside.org and there will be a meeting to assemble food packets on October 12 at 9 AM at the westside Unitarian church. Senator Brenda McKenna gave a legislative update with a 9 page report on democrats’ accomplishments in the legislature which can be read and reviewed at brenda.mckenna@nmlegis.gov. Commissioner Bruch encouraged attendance at the county commission meetings, 6PM on the first and third Thursdays available on Zoom.

New Business: This part of the meeting was cut short due to the time used by our speaker, but Deb Dapson asked for attendees to the NMFDW fall meeting on the 16th of October. We can register at nmfdw.org and may attend in person or on Zoom.

Meeting adjourned. We will plan a winter meeting for after the holidays, and a social gathering sometime during the holidays. Stay tuned!

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Clark