



Friends of Candelaria Nature Preserve Committee of the Open Space Alliance 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Submitted to the City of Albuquerque's Open Space Division,
Colleen Langan-McRoberts, Superintendent
December 9, 2024

Mission (2020)

To serve as a guiding body for non-governmental support of projects to build and maintain the ecological health and educational activities of the Candelaria Nature Preserve, in accordance with the Resource Management Plan of January 2021 and in collaboration with the City of Albuquerque's Open Space Division

Highlights

- Membership: 125 members
- Organization: Friends of CNP became a Committee of the Open Space Alliance in October 2023. Eight members of the Friends of CNP serve on the Committee Leadership Team: J. Allen; D. Hunt; A. Farley; J. Rhodes; R. Salvaggio; C. Siegel; K. Stone.; and C. Zebrowski.

Quarterly Leadership Team Meetings were held on July 15, August 26, and November 14.

Our Committee Chair serves as a Member of the Board for the OSA.

- Funds
As of October 31, 2024, Friends of CNP had \$8,560.73 in our account with OSA. We anticipate spending most of that amount on implementation of the Interpretive Plan once the details are conveyed to us by OSD.

Jennifer Moss is the Accountant for OSA.

- Public Guided Walks: Friends of CNP continued leading Guided Walks for the public on the last Friday of every month. Guides' scripts are continually updated with information from the field.
- Field work: Friends of CNP continued field work on some Mondays and every Friday
- Public Event: On October 19 Friends of CNP held an "open house" gathering for members, friends, and the public at CNP Tree Nursery Tract. The weather was very cold, windy, and

raining but we considered the event as a success, as ten new members signed up..This event will likely be held quarterly in future.

- **Interpretive Plan:** Friends of CNP continued to follow guidelines by the National Association of Interpretation and the U.S. National Park Service. Friends of CNP held a Plan development workshop on Jan 17 with representatives from the Open Space Division, Ciudad SWCD, Rio Grande Return, and Friends of CNP.

Friends of CNP also held two focus groups, on Art and Field work applications to the Interpretive Plan.

On October 22, the Interpretive Plan with Program Overview Table was submitted to Superintendent McRoberts for completion, which will entail design, images and text for signs and hopefully for an Interpretive Learning Trunk that can be used with visitor groups at the Tree Nursery Tract and Woodward House. Friends of CNP are prepared to secure grants that will support this completion upon approval of OSD.

Volunteer hours:

Committee Chair Jeannie Allen, 400 hrs. A spreadsheet with activities and hours itemized on each day worked is available on request.

- Leadership Team (eight members): 48 hrs.
- Records on the hours spent by volunteers doing field work this year were kept by Ciudad Soil and Water Conservation District and Rio Grande Return.

Speaker Series (open to the public, on Zoom)

Total estimated visitors to Speaker Series, 2024: 300 visitors

- *Wildlife at the CNP*, with Joanna Strange, Open Space Field Biologist
- *Using Drones for Mapping, Data and Photos at the CNP*, with Joe Zebrowski, Cartographer, Geographer, and Educator
- *Restoration and Regeneration at the CNP*, with Cameron Weber, Rio Grande Return
- *Puebloan Agrarian Civilizations along the Rio Grande*, with Jon Gahate, Pueblo Cultural Educator and Lecturer, Laguna & Zuni Pueblos
- *Loving a Changing World while Still Fighting for Justice*, with Laura Paskus, Climate Journalist
- *Birds at the CNP*, with Jo Strange, Open Space Field Biologist

