

**Minutes from the South City Park Neighborhood Association
January 19, 2010 – 7-8:30 p.m. Montview Manor**

Twenty-one SCPNA members attended the meeting. President Bonita Lahey brought the meeting to order by introducing Vice-President Karen Newman, Secretary Claudia Christian and Treasurer Doña Dodson.

The SCPNA Officers launched an initiative to revitalize the SCPNA. The neighborhood is changing. There are more families, more dense housing (condos and apartments), and more urban establishments. This purpose of this meeting was to brainstorm ideas with members.

First a review of what SCPNA has done:

1. Attend to things going on in city which affect the neighborhood
2. Successful in negotiating with City Council
3. Represent and attend to parking issues
4. Monitor and interact with city regarding liquor licensing on Colfax
5. Working with planning on the types of buildings that can be built in South City Park (SCP).
6. Keep track of and negotiate with the City regarding the type of businesses on Colfax
7. Represent SCP to the Denver Zoo and Museum of Nature and Science regarding building expansion and the wholesale takeover of open spaces
8. Supported the creation of the running trail
9. Supported City Park Jazz from inception
10. Help Denver Police with crime initiatives and neighborhood crime awareness
11. Encourage social gatherings of neighbors including block parties, double block parties (alleys and down the block), and porch parties.
12. Liaison with Denver Police Department

The SCPNA cannot be political but can hold discussions and represent the neighborhood on issues that affect the neighborhood

Member suggestions for the revitalization of SCPNA:

Social connection suggestions:

1. SCP only parade down Sixteenth Avenue with children, dogs, lawnmowers, etc.
2. Senior walking club/group
3. Expanded Garden tour
4. Restaurant hop on Colfax
5. Entire SCP Neighborhood party in City Park
6. Progressive dinner party through SCP (ex. Jackson St. progressive party to view home improvements)
7. Presentations of things of interest – businesses, history of the neighborhood from Eileen, neighbor's hobbies, etc.
8. Have a SCP day at City Park Jazz

Specific issues to work on:

1. Traffic, especially during City Park events (ex. City Park Jazz)
2. Crime safety/Neighborhood watch meetings

3. Graffiti on the businesses – ex. Porno store; City can only clean up graffiti on public places not personal property such as a business.
4. Make proxy votes – for people who can't get to the meetings

Sponsor service days/projects:

1. Clean up trash from Colfax
2. Clean up your alley day

Create coalitions with:

1. Meet with the Colfax on the Hill at least once or twice a year. (Business organization is: Colfax on the Hill - Colorado to Yosemite is the Fax improvement district)
2. Meet with East High School Booster Club
3. Liaison with high density housing (ex. The Retreat, Pinnacle & 1601 Colorado)
4. Meet with City Park Jazz specifically regarding parking issues.

Distribute/Collect information

1. Included National Jewish series on historic buildings, Museum of Nature and Science lectures in the newsletter.
2. Keep track of the problem houses in the neighborhoods. Assist neighbors with nuisance homes.

Distribute information on how to deal with trouble homes.

3. Support/assist neighbors with out of control barking dogs.

Website/Technology issues:

1. Create an electronic 'bulletin board' to advertise garage sales, especially when accepting other items
2. Creates Facebook and Twitter accounts
3. Put meetings on YouStream or videotape

Denver Police Department Update with Technician Amy Esten:

Contact information: Technician Amy Esten, amy.esten@denvergov.org, 720-913-1095(office)

Technician Esten is the community resource officer for SCP. Among other things, she is available to help neighbors organize and run with neighborhood watch meetings. She is also available to run a meeting about how to protect your child on-line

- Crime is down 5.3% from last year.
- Quarterly meeting with Street Action Crime Team (SCAT team) on January 27, 2011 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at the station. 39th and Holly
- Technician Esten is creating an email list to notify neighbors of crime trend, DPD wanted, etc

Question about marijuana dispensaries – DPD sitting back until laws can be sorted out. District Attorney and City Attorney won't take cases. Technician Esten thinks it will be another 6 months before police department can enforce the rules. There have been a number of burglaries of dispensaries – break into store next door and go over the top. Been a couple of armed robberies, but dispensaries are getting smarter about who they let in.

Update:

Meeting with City Park Jazz – City Park Jazz is aware of the current parking and traffic issues regarding the event days. They are talking about leasing the parking lot at East High. They are also interested in getting parking on both sides of 17th street.

Announcements:

Meet the mayoral candidates that have declared at the Botanic Gardens - January 26 from 5:30 – 7 p.m.

Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation (INC) larger meeting for delegates only – SCPNA and NCPNA are hosting Feb 12 meeting at Museum of Nature and Science in the Ricketson's auditorium and free food. Carla Madison will be there.