

MINUTES-MARCH 17, 2010 SCPNA MEETING

About 20 attended the meeting on March 17, 2010 at the Montview Manor Penthouse, 1663 Steele Street. A drawing for a shamrock plant (St. Patrick's Day!) will be held at the end of the meeting.

Denver Police District 2 Report

Technician Amy Esten (our Community Resource Officer) gave a report. Fraud alert from the D.A.'s Office-if pumping gas do not leave car unlocked-thefts have been happening. A scam to watch out for is door-to-door asking for money help. Tell them to call the Denver Police who will help them and they usually leave. Question: What about people sleeping in doorways on Colfax? Reply: They shouldn't be sleeping in doorways; there are plenty of shelters. Call on them. Police will help. They want them off of Colfax. People won't be arrested without a complainant. Amy will look up the municipal code for that. Question: What about traffic in the park on weekends--on Sundays? Reply: There are proposed changes to allow the park to open to traffic on Sundays. Are you experiencing problems with that? She's not there on weekends. It will also pick up as spring comes. Question: How can you find out why a police cruiser is circling your block if it is serious? Reply: If there are several cars-go inside and lock the door. (She left handouts-crime is down 16%.)

Vote-SCPNA Goals/Actions for 2010

Five proposed goals & actions were listed on the back page of the March Newsletter. A sixth goal was added.

Goal #1: 300+ Members Achieved (through campaign, Block Captains, flexible dues). This may equate to 150 households. There are 1500 households in the hood. This action needs a campaign. Block captains have been sent a list of paid up members. Flexible dues are permitted-especially for affordable housing folks.

Motion to approve by Bonita Lahey; second by Sally Barton Higgins. Result: Passed unanimously

Goal #2: Delegates to Four Other Organizations (through appointments):

- Project Angel Pride-working on renovation of the West (main) entrance way
- Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods (CHUN)
- Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation (INC)-2nd Saturday meetings
- City Park Alliance-Parks & Rec-Bonita Lahey is interested in being a delegate representing SCP

Motion to approve by Rich Kadinger; second by Rob Hunsley. Result: Passed unanimously.

Goal #3: Parking and Traffic Issues Resolved (through initiative of SCPNA VPs). We have 3 VPs who are ready to move on this. Karen Newman and Bonita Lahey are talking to the Bluebird about leasing the East HS parking lot. Motion to approve made and seconded. Result: Passed unanimously.

Goal #4: Quality of Life Preserved (through enforced Agreements). Black Arts Festival last year caused big issues, for example. Motion to approve by Tom Clarke; second by Pat Rempel. Result: Passed unanimously.

Goal #5: Eventfulness experienced (through July Social Month, Block Parties, CPJ Pot Luck). No formal meeting in July-special meeting if needed. Mardi Mathers and Oliveann Slotta had proposed that July be a social month without a meeting. Madison Street has block parties; our association should promote them. Comment: Front porch party an option. Desserts-traveling. Need a committee to deal with the month of July. Comment: Maybe the association can do something to make it easier. Safeway (or some company) has contributed money towards the cost of block parties; we should check it out. Maybe we could buy street barriers. What about a Pot Luck during one of the City Park Jazz events? Motion to approve by Sally Barton-Higgins; second by Warren Rempel. Result: Passed unanimously.

Goal #6: Candidates for 2011 elected officer positions are found by July 31, 2010 (through good defining of roles). Motion to approve by Bernie Hoffman; second by Oliveann Slotta. Result: Passed unanimously.

Update-New Denver Zoning Code (Rich Kadinger & Rob Hunsley)

(Also, see article by Rich Kadinger in SCPNA Newsletter March 2010.) A small group (Rich, Rob, Phil Mann, Jim Slotta) met with Councilwoman Carla Madison and Planning Department personnel to talk about the New Denver Zoning Code/Draft 4. A lot of our concerns have been met-there are 4 remaining: (1) On Cook Street--single family homes zoned like apartment buildings; (2) On Garfield & Monroe Streets--P1 parking lot. Main Street Zoning allows big buildings encroaching into the neighborhood, although there are some protections with

the R2 bulk plane. (3) West of Steele Street--G-MU-3 multiuse code. St. Paul & Fillmore Streets are more 2 unit form than this. We want to protect the houses on Fillmore Street. (4) On 1600 Block of Fillmore Street--office building--new code does not allow for medical offices in a residential setting. Carla Madison suggests City Planning go back and look at hospital campus zones. So, that's the gist of it. The city promised to get back to us-we think it is now a July deadline. (Most of South City Park is R2 or R3 now.) With the New Zoning Code, we would go to mostly U-TU-B, which would allow the neighborhood to have some potential increase in density. That is the city goal. We have a baby step now compared to what they began with. Our transportation corridors make us a great location for this. Many thanks to Rob & Rich, Phil Mann and others who have worked on understanding the impact on South City Park of the New Denver Zoning Code.

Report-Denver Museum of Nature and Science (Bridget Coughlin)

Bridget is the Museum's new Vice President of Strategic Partnerships and Programs. (1) Body world. We really are trying to help the parking. A Church lot at 17th & Colorado is being used for volunteers & staff. Operation Save a Spot-car pool. George Sparks made a video. 100 staff have agreed to not drive 3 days a week. She has given us her contact info. Let them know-they will keep looking for incentives. Question: Is there adequate bicycle parking? reply: Yes. (2) Better Denver Funds for beautifying south space for school buses; southern educational facility. Hope for an image of a *parks museum* rather than a *museum in the park*. No green space will be eaten up. The building will push out to where the existing concrete is. Breaks ground in 2011. Has handouts. They will come back frequently. Doing well for matching the funds. \$8M gift from a family foundation. She is a Member of CHUN, and a Congress Park neighbor. Suggestion: 15% off if you ride your bike. Reply: Keep the suggestions coming!

Announcements:

Multi-Neighborhood April 24 Energy Blitz will include a blitz in South City Park; a volunteer celebration in the pavilion afterwards. Our list: solar-passive photovoltaic cells-can our roof space accommodate it? Lists of incentives currently being offered include refrigerator rebates. Scale of what people could afford. Liked the energy audit concept-is it free? Also, info will be offered about xeriscape; get rid of bluegrass.

Rich Kadinger gave a report on road changes in City Park. Keep closed road to the south of Ferril Lake. Keep current roads open but realign them. Example-by Colorado Boulevard-one road opening up-along 17th between Harrison and a little loop by the playground. But maybe close the Harrison access. The suggested changes seem reasonable. Some one-way may become two-way streets. One big change--now roads are open Monday through Saturday. Problems with gangs & crimes led to shutting down roads on Sundays in the warmer months. They are proposing opening them up on Sundays as well. If problems, they will shut them down again.

Rich also reported on the status of nearby medical marijuana dispensaries. There are three locations that have applied for licenses. One is at 1515 Adams; one is at the Qi gym; another is the building at the old Meggitt Motors location. He doesn't know how all the locations can remain in business after the city does distance measurements, unless they paid their money before December 15. The business at 1515 Adams has been sold to people from California. In addition, State Representative Beth McCann has introduced legislation to ban dispensaries in residential areas.

The shamrock plant drawing was won by Rich Kadinger. The next meeting will be the third Wednesday in May.

-Submitted by Jim Slotta