

Washington Park East Neighborhood Association

January 9, 2018

Board Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present: Tim McHugh, Bill Tracy, Lance Musselman, Lee Berkey, Butch Clark, Monica Brisnehan, Ana Quintana

Board Members Not Present: Ryan Schulz, Joanne Asher

The Board meeting was brought order by Tim at 6:45 p.m. at St. John's.

Minutes for the November 14, 2017 meeting were reviewed and accepted. Board members, guests and speakers were introduced.

Presenters:

Afor Chavez, Operations and Outreach Assistant, Denveright.

Denveright is a 20-year plan which combines land use, transportation, parks and recreation, transit, pedestrians and trails into one comprehensive overview. Denver has already met the population and housing goals for 2020 which were in the Blueprint Denver Plan, and mobility – addressing how people get around the city – and encouraging an active and healthy lifestyle, is a high priority.

The process for developing the five sub-plans and the overview was inclusive, involving neighborhoods around the city. Each plan has its own goals.

Blueprint Denver: how and where to encourage city growth; encouraging authentic neighborhoods.

Parks and Rec: maintaining parks, expanding urban forest and meeting recreation needs.

Transportation: how to move people, not cars; identify gaps in transportation needs.

Pedestrians and Trails: safety, connections between housing, work and schools.

Comprehensive Plan: land use, economic growth and sustainability.

See the website for a map of the city showing areas of growth and open space, with drawings of city streetscapes showing how many of the ideas will be integrated into street and intersection designs, and a schedule of meetings, at denvergov.org/denveright.

Paul Kashmann, City Councilman.

Paul brought yard signs for distribution with a message asking people to drive more slowly. He said that studies show that neighborhood residents are the most likely to speed within the neighborhood, averaging 8 – 12 mph above the limit.

The city's 2019 budget is being discussed now. Pedestrian safety and homelessness are two of the top concerns. 40% of homeless (no permanent address) work 32 or more hours per week, and there are approximately 3K homeless in Denver. One consideration is to provide a fund for legal assistance to renters facing eviction, since, once they have a record showing an eviction, they are unable to qualify to rent an apartment or house.

District 6 issues include safe routes to school and walkability. The Evans Ave. corridor, from Broadway to Colorado Blvd. will be enhanced, as well as Colorado Blvd. To Quebec. Expect to see more use of roundabouts. A two-way bike lane and intersection improvements near DU will be included, and the park will be considered for restriping, repaving and a resurfacing of the tennis court.

Treasurer's Report:

Bill Tracy presented the report on revenues and expenses for the past month. The balance of the WPENA bank account is \$6149.74. The report was accepted.

Concern was expressed that our account balance is getting low. Lance informed the Board that ad revenues due February thru May should total \$2800. Business membership renewals could add another \$600, bringing the association's account to more than \$9,000, plus membership dues and minus upcoming newsletter expenses.

Committee Reports:

Communications: Monica Brisnehan, Chair

Newsletter:

Distribution complaints from Board members were forwarded to Yankee Peddler, which responded that they ran out of newsletters before they finished distribution. YP agreed to let Lance know if that happened again so they could be given an additional number of newsletters.

The 2018 newsletter schedule was distributed.

Crime and Safety: Joanne Asher, Chair

Joanne was attending the CAB meeting and was not able to attend the Board meeting.

Zoning: Biddie Labrot, Chair

There was a mistake in the zoning article of the winter newsletter. A correction will be provided in the next newsletter.

One variance review was performed, 901 S. Williams, concerning an existing violation of the height limitation. Zoning agreed with the variance request.

Lee urged people to pay attention to the blue signs which are posted when a variance has been requested. They are your notice of your right to protest the variance and spells out the timeline and the dates of the BOA meetings.

Park/FANS: Tim McHugh, Chair

Tim reviewed some of FANS' accomplishments and improvements to the park, including the addition of a bicycle repair and tire pump station, the Adopt-a-Tree program and the annual photo competition. Tim presented Paul Kashmann with a FANS calendar, which uses winning photos from the annual competition.

The city offers free membership to the recreation center for those who are 60 and over.

Membership: Ana Quintana, Chair

Ana discussed plans to send renewal notices to paid members; several attendees at the meeting said that they were unaware of renewal requirements or deadlines.

Information about dues will be added to the next newsletter and emailer. Ana wants to organize a membership drive, and discussed what drives people to join the association. Several ideas for organizing member drives at the Steele PTA meetings, at the park and during the House Tour (in return for a free ad?) were also presented.

INC: Tim McHugh and Susan Payne, INC Representatives

Special presentation Sat. January 13th at PD Station 3 on homelessness. Presented by Denver Homeless Out Loud.

Feb 10th meeting on housing problems

Traffic: Bill Tracy, Chair

Bill announced that INC's Traffic Committee will have a meeting January 11th.

Old Business:

Liability insurance:

Lance: contacts. No offers yet. Issues include our 504 – c – 4 designation (some companies only insure 501 –c- 3 nonprofits, our membership dues are not mandatory (we're not an HOA), and many companies require a basic liability policy before they will issue a Directors and Officers policy (which adds cost).

Future Speakers:

February: State Rep. Chris Hansen

March: Grace Lopez Ramirez

Others (not confirmed): Ken Hopper, Lawn Bowling; Tim O'Brien, City Auditor; Tom Boas, DPS.

Happy Hour:

No January sponsor yet. Wash Park Grille is reserved for Thursday, January 18th. Barb Perruccio could not commit to sponsorship; Lance will check with Jeannette.

Fourth of July event: Tim McHugh, Chair

One new volunteer – Sandy Sauer (from last year).

New Business:

Several ideas for new WPENA sponsored events were discussed, including a hayride.

Training opportunity – Emergency Management Coordinator/Community Preparedness, Denver's OEM at Carolyn.bluhm@denvergov.org.

- 1/20/18 Emergency Preparedness and Planning Program
- surviving an active shooter
- emergency preparedness program for people with disabilities and caregivers

There being no more business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 by Tim McHugh.

Lance Musselman

Secretary

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