

Washington Park East Neighborhood Association

DATE: February 14, 2017

Board Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present: Tim McHugh, Lance Musselman, Joanne Asher, Ryan Schulz

The Board meeting was brought order by Tim at 6:50 p.m. at St. John's

The minutes for the January 10,2017 meeting were approved.

Board members, guests and speakers were introduced.

Presenter: John Hersey, Walk Denver.

Vision Zero is a coalition of organizations that support adoption of the goal of zero traffic fatalities through safer roadway design and enforcement. The focus in 2017 is on recognizing safe speed limits. The coalition urges the C & C of Denver to fund and test safer roadway designs with the goal of adopting a formal plan in 2018. A petition to the city to that effect was also circulated for individuals to sign, and WPENA was urged to write a letter of support.

Paul Kashmann, City Councilman.

Paul covered the latest information on proposed drainage for the I-70 expansion, including CDOT's proposed mitigation solutions for noise and dust and the status of ventilation in the proposed underground section.

Another issue is the creation of a mobility department to replace the current transportation department, which would cover all forms of transportation and coordinate with RTD.

The fall bond issue will provide funding for needed maintenance and construction, which gets shortchanged in annual budgets.

Treasurer's Report:

The report, which was submitted to the Board electronically before the meeting, was reviewed. Bill Tracy's report noted that expenses have exceeded revenues the last few months, resulting in a bank balance of \$8352.41. Lance noted that additional revenues were expected this month for advertising in the newsletter.

Bill's report also analyzed the cost benefits of providing membership envelopes in the winter newsletter. We spent \$638.00 to print and insert 3,500 envelopes. So far we have had 107 envelopes returned containing \$1.955 in dues and contributions. The report was accepted.

## **Committee Reports:**

### **Website:**

Monica Brisnehan reported that she is ready to launch the new website. Once it is up and running, we can test it and make needed changes. After that, Board members will be trained to post to the website in order to keep it current.

### **Crime and Safety:**

Joanne Asher noted that April's speaker for the meeting will be Officer Jim Lopez from District 3. Crime reports show that property crimes are dropping but motor vehicle thefts have increased.

### **Zoning:**

Discussion centered around what the WPENA can do about contractors who do not meet zoning regulations, including failing to get permits and failing to meet building codes. One recent example is a variance request that involved a garage that was built two feet too wide.

A recent conversation with Tiffany Crank at Contractor Licensing resulted in a request for a letter of complaint from WPENA against the contractor. That raised questions about WPENA liability and whether the association should obtain liability insurance for the Board. INC pays \$800 per year for such insurance; while WPENA would probably pay less, it is still a substantial financial obligation. Tim suggested that we not investigate further at this time, but can in the future. Tim announced that the current Board policy will remain in place and a letter of complaint will not be sent. There were no objections.

Further discussion involved whether Denver's Zoning commission is communicating with Contractor Licensing about violations. City Councilman Paul Kashmann will follow up with those departments. In the meantime, it was decided that the best advice for people wanting to follow up on these issues is to urge them to call 311, which then provides a case number for follow up.

Another suggestion was to provide examples of these problems with suggestions for avoiding and solving them in the quarterly zoning articles in the newsletter.

### **Park/FANS:**

Tim McHugh reported that the next speaker at FANS will be from the Butterfly Pavilion, speaking about bee pollination.

### **INC:**

INC voted to oppose Denver Zoning Code Text Amendment #11 and urge the city council to extend the moratorium for permits for Small Lot Parking Exemptions while it studies the issue. Amendment # 11 would determine the number of parking spaces required based on the distance of the lot from public transportation lines.

### **Traffic:**

Tim McHugh said that West Washington Park Neighborhood Association, in association with WPENA, is requesting a traffic study for the intersection of Alameda and Downing.

Future Speakers:

March: Grace Lopez Ramirez, The Great Candy Run

April: Officer Jim Lopez, DPD District 3

WPENA Survey

Lance Musselman reported that he, Bill Tracy, Monica Bresnehan and Ann Shively will be finalizing the survey soon and submitting it to the Board for review and approval. The tentative deadline is to have it online by mid-March, with announcements in the newsletter, monthly emailer and Next Door.

Happy Hour:

Lance Musselman provided a revised form for signing up for Happy Hour sponsorships, and one was immediately submitted by Jeanette Neubiser, from Denver Homes and Properties, for the fall happy hour. We do not yet have either a sponsor or location for the March event. Charcoal Bistro has not returned calls.

New Business:

Tim McHugh discussed a proposal from the Colorado Mammoths for fundraising. CM would provide tickets to the March 3<sup>rd</sup> game for \$20 each, which WPENA could sell for more. It was decided that there was not enough time before the event to coordinate this.

There being no more business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 by Tim McHugh.

Lance Musselman

Secretary

Washington Park East Neighborhood Association