

Washington Park East Neighborhood Association

DATE: April 12, 2016

Board Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present: Joanne Asher, Neil Jorgenson ,Tim McHugh, Susan Payne  
Lance Musselman, William Tracy

The Board meeting was brought order by Tim McHugh at \_6:47 p.m. at St. John's

The minutes for the March 8, 2016 meeting were reviewed. Neil made a motion to approve, seconded by Joanne, all approved.

Board members introduced themselves and approved the agenda.

**Presenters:**

Kenneth Boyd, candidate for Denver District Attorney, wants to create new ways to measure success in the DA's Office. He wants to reduce calls for service, reduce recidivism and increase the public perception of safety. He would modernize the office with greater use of DNA evidence and the way it treats people with mental health issues.

Rachael Schaff, from RTD, updated the meeting with information about the new A Line from Union Station to DIA, which opens April 22nd. The new line uses commuter rail (not light rail) and has platforms that are level with the doors for easier loading. The trip is 23 miles, takes 37 minutes and will cost \$9 each way. It is the result of a private-public partnership that cost 2.2 billion dollars.

**In Memoriam**

Lance Clem, a former Board member from 2013-14 and 2014-15, died Wednesday, April 6th, after a long battle with cancer. Lance was a resident of WPE since the 1970's and retired from the State of Colorado in November, 2015.

**Reports:**

Treasurer's Report: Bill Tracy presented the report on revenues and expenses for the past month. We have \$10,854 in checking; last month's major expenses were the newsletter and the attorneys who helped us restore our nonprofit status and deal with the IRS. We will hear within 30 days whether the IRS accepts our filing.

Communications: Neil Jorgenson announced that he is moving to Windsor, and will be stepping down from the Board. Neil will be wrapping up his work for the WPENA, including the website and monthly emailer.

Newsletter: Lance Musselman distributed the new schedule, which gives Board members more time to submit articles and review drafts,, and meets the restrictions of Yankee Peddler on distributions during the first week of any month. Lance also distributed the list showing where the extra copies are left, and discussed plans for reestablishing distribution to the condos on S. Marion.

Susan suggested an article in the summer edition about alley art, and the city program that encourages it and provides grants.

Darrell Oliver provided a cartoon for the summer edition.

Crime and Safety: Joanne Asher reported that crime is down about 8.55% in the district that includes WPE. The police department is urging residents to create low barriers around their houses, including shrubs, bushes, short fences, that deter criminals but still provide visibility. Neighborhood Watch programs are encouraged; the new Community Resource Officers are highly visible and deeply involved in the community.

Zoning: Tim reported that the zoning committee met on one variance request during the last month, involving a property that had no direct access to the street. The committee recommended approval of the variance and the Board of Adjustment agreed.

Park/FANS: Tim McHugh reported that he is now the President of FANS, and will continue with WPENA.

Membership: Susan Payne reported that we have about 200 paying members. She mailed notices to about 50 people for whom she does not have email addresses, and another 100 people were mailed notices. She has received about 15 responses, and is planning to send another 150 notices.

INC: Susan Payne and Tim McHugh discussed the shakeup at INC, during which the former president was voted out. INC is asking all RNO's to support their position on Short Term Rentals, and asking them to urge their members to email their city council people in support of Text Amendment 8, which limits STR's to primary residences.

Old Business:

Emerald Ash Borers continue to be a problem and the city is taking steps to identify affected ash trees and treat them.

The next happy hour is May 26th, in coordination with Jiminy Wicket. Bill received a check from Anna Quintana to sponsor the event.

New Business:

Old South Gaylord will host a Memorial Day weekend block party again, complete with bands. Cherry Creek Sneak is April 24th, and First Avenue will be close for the race.

The Road Ahead is an organization that is coordinating transportation with housing, trying to make it easier for millennials without cars to find affordable housing near public transportation and finding alternatives, such as ride sharing.

Fourth of July: Tim will check who is organizing this from the West Wash Park side, and urged Board members to get involved.

Yard Sale: Lori Poole is still coordinating this, and Ryan Schulz offered to assist. Neil will check with Lori and see what she needs help with.

Future Speakers.

May: Grace Lopez Ramirez, Denver Office of Special Events.

June: Tim O'Brien, City Auditor.

July: COPIRG?

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 by Tim McHugh.

Lance Musselman

Board Secretary

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