

Dollar Dictionary Drive

Steve Nissen, Co-Chair

The dictionaries and thesauruses for the current school year have been labeled and are now in the schools. We encourage RNOs and neighbors of DPS Elementary Schools to contact their local school and arrange for a time to help distribute the books to the students. This is a great opportunity to express your support and meet the staff of your local school.

The labeling event was held at Morey Middle School again this year. Over 50 supportive volunteers responded to help with this task; our thank-you is extended to each and every one of them. Our sincere appreciation is extended to the staff and particularly the custodians who were so proficient in accommodating us. We could not have asked for a more cooperative staff.



Volunteers label DDD books.

Photo by Fran Rew

We are particularly excited about the new, hot-off-the-press thesaurus that has strong Colorado roots. We were fortunate in getting the first shipment of the initial run of 10,000 books. The author is Sarah Hilgendorf of Colorado Springs. The design of the book is the result of information provided to The Dictionary Project, our book source, from our own Cathee Fisher, long time Co-Chair of the Dollar Dictionary Drive. Cathee wrote the fore-

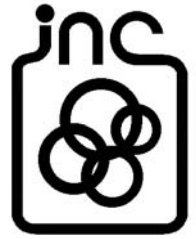
word in the book that corresponds to a presentation-practice she uses when presenting the book to students. Many students have referred to the thesaurus as 'the dinosaur book' because thesaurus sounds much like some kind of dinosaur and that resulted in the inspiration for the new cover design of the book.

We are still faced with a major shortfall in funding this year's project. We need the help of all who can give to help make up that shortfall; please consider us if you have not all ready done so. Our grateful appreciation is extended to all who have helped so far. INC is a 501(c) (3) non-profit and therefore all donations are fully tax deductible. Donations can be sent to Dollar Dictionary Drive, P.O. Box 18347, Denver, CO 80218 or can be made on our secure website at

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The Newsletter of Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation



September
2009

www.
neighborhoodlink.
com/denver/inc

Denver Neighborhood
Connection

INC Member and Associate Organizations (Patrons in Bold)

Member Organizations

ABC Streets Assn
 Alamo Placita Neighbors Assn
 Athmar Park Neighborhood Assn
 Baker Historic Neighborhood Assn
Ball Park Neighborhood Assn
 Belcaro Park Homeowners Assn
 Bellevue-Hale Neighborhood Assn
 Berkeley Neighborhood Assn
 Berkeley-Regis United Neighbors
 Bonnie Brae Neighborhood Assn
Broadway Partnership / MDLDC
Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods Inc
 Cherry Creek East Assn
 Cherry Creek North Neighborhood Assn
 Cherry Hills Vista Community Assn.
 Cherry Point Homeowners Assn
 Civic Association of Clayton
 Colfax on the Hill, Inc
 College View Neighborhood Assn
 Congress Park Neighbors
 Cook Park Neighborhood Assn
Cory-Merrill Neighborhood Assn
 Cranmer Park Hilltop Civic Assn
Crestmoor Park Homeowners Assn 2nd filing
 Crestmoor Park Homeowners Inc
 Filing One
 Curtis Park Neighbors
 East Montclair Neighborhood Assn
 Elyria Neighborhood Assn
 Elyria Swansea/Globeville Business Assn.
 FAX Partnership
 Far Northeast Neighbors, Inc
 George Washington Homeowner's Assn. Inc.
 Globeville Civic Assn #1
 Golden Triangle Assn. of Denver
Golden Triangle Museum District
 Greater Mar-Lee Community Org
Greater Park Hill Community, Inc.
 Green Valley Ranch Citizen's Advisory Board
 Hampden Heights Civic Assn
 Harkness Heights Neighborhood Assn
 Highland United Neighbors Inc.
 Hilltop Heritage Assn LLC
 Historic Montclair Community Association, Inc.

Humboldt Street Neighborhood Assn
 Hutchinson Hills/Willow Point HOA
 Inspiration Point Neighborhood Assn
 Ivy Street Neighbors Assn
 Lighthouse at the Breakers
 Homeowners Assn
Lower Downtown Neighborhood Assn (LoDoNA)
Lowry Community Master Assn
 Lowry United Neighborhoods
Mayfair Neighbors, Inc
 Mayfair Park Neighborhood Assn
 North City Park Civic Assn
Old San Rafael Neighborhood Assn
 Overland Park Neighborhood Assn
 Park Forest Homeowner's Assn
 Platt Park Peoples Assn
 Plaza III Townhomes Association
 Rangeview Neighborhood Assn
 Ruby Hill Neighborhood Assn - RHINO
SWIC Southwest Improvement Council/Westwood
 Sloan's Lake Neighborhood Assn
 South City Park Neighborhood Assn
 South Hilltop Neighborhood Assn
 South Jackson Street Registered Neighborhood
Southmoor Park East Homeowners Assn
 Stapleton Master Community Assn
 Stapleton United Neighbors
 Stokes Place Green Bowers HOA
 The Unsinkables
 University Neighbors
University Park Community Council
Upper Downtown Development Org
Virginia Vale Community Assn
 Virginia Village/Ellis Community Assn
 West University Community Assn (WUCA)
West Washington Park Neighborhood Assn
 Whittier Neighborhood Assn
Associates
 Bernie Jones PhD
 Bill Johnston
 Bonna Gayhart
 Cathee Fisher
City Council Pres/Dist 10 Councilwoman Jeanne Robb

Councilman Doug Linkhart
Councilman Paul Lopez
Councilman Rick Garcia
 Councilwoman Carla Madison
Councilwoman Carol Boigon
Councilwoman Marcia Johnson
Councilwoman Peggy Lehmann
Dennis Gallagher, Auditor
 Denver Community Group
Denver Health Medical Center
Denver Mayor's Office
Denver Water
 Downtown Denver Partnership, Inc.
 FRESC
Gertie Grant
 Historic Denver Inc.
 League of Women Voters of Denver
 Leedsdale Cop Shop
 Morrison Road Business Association of Denver
 Rosy Griffiths
 Sandra D. Shreve
 Stephen Griffin
 Vicki Gritters
Xcel Energy



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INC organizations should send changes to their president and delegate data to the membership chair at kbeaudrie@totalspeed.net or 303-798-9306.

INC Delegates' Meetings are held on the second Saturday of each month at 9:00 a.m. See this issue for location.
 The INC Executive Committee meets monthly at 1201 Williams Street in the 19th floor meeting room.
 RNOs are welcome to reprint the articles in their own newsletters.

www.neighborhoodlink.com/denver/inc (click on 'Dollar Dictionary Drive'). Join the hundreds of individuals who have made a donation as well as the RNO donors: ABC Streets Association, Alamo Placita, Baker Historic, Ballpark, Bear Valley Improvement Association, Bellevue-Hale, CHUN, Cherry Creek North, Cherry Point, Civic Association of Clayton, Country Club Historic District, Crestmoor Park HOA 2nd filing, East Montclair, George Washington H.O.A., Greater Park Hill, Harkness Heights, Hilltop, Historic Montclair Community Association, Hutchinson Hills/Willow Point, Inspiration Point, Mayfair Neighbors, North City Park Civic Association, Overland, Sloan's, Stapleton Master Community Association, University Neighbors, University Park Community Council, Virginia Vale Community Association, and West Washington Park.

ZAP Committee Report

By Diana Helper

A record crowd of 55 attendees attended the August 15th meeting of the INC Zoning and Planning (ZAP) committee. The entire three-plus hours were devoted to the current draft of the Zoning Code. Present from the department of Community Planning and Development (CPD) were Manager Peter Park and senior planners Caryn Wenzara and Tina Axelrad.

Mr. Park spoke in general about the continuing changes being made in the draft and urged citizens to go to the second round of City Council District meetings to get questions answered and submit requests for changes. This is everyone's opportunity to find out how CPD has answered previously submitted questions and comments. Many ZAP members are concerned that they have had no replies to such submissions. Park also hoped knowledgeable neighbors, such as those present, would help to create an attentive and civil atmosphere at these meetings. He said a number of people come expressing anger as do a number of e-mail authors. This is not productive, nor often warranted, as the "problem" is usually solved with an explanation of the Code.

The second drafts of the text and of the maps are online now at www.newcodedenver.org. Changes from Draft One to Two are indicated in red. Considerable changes were described in many residential sections so please study them carefully. Where choices between two new zones are shown, let the planners know which your neighborhood prefers. The present timetable for the Zoning Code is to have Draft Three ready about mid-September with meetings in October. It is hoped the Code can be completed so there can be public hearings before City Council and the Planning Board and with final Council vote by the end of February of 2010.

The parking text is still incomplete. Requirements are

related to context. A consultant has been hired to assist in figuring out parking needs with the goal of making Denver a pedestrian city. The new Campus Zone is still being worked out. Open Space requirements are comparable to the present ones. Transitions between areas of high and low density, business and residential, etcetera, including step-backs as a design element component, also are still being worked out. In revision as well is information regarding attached and detached accessory dwelling units. Solar access text is still being written and will be determined by studying models of building sizes.

The Park Zone is not yet complete. A definite need is development of a well-defined and organized public process for park use decisions. It was noted that if the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board should be expected to be the public's only representation, its members need much more time to do notification, outreach, study, discussion, and reporting to and from citizens. This process is yet to be described.

ZAP members asked a variety of zoning questions and made many follow-up comments to the CPD presentation. It was stated that, by City Charter, the Manager of Parks and Recreation may decide about park facilities but not park land. The new Open Space Zone for Parks eliminates City Councilpersons from their current important status in Parks and Recreation decision-making.

There were numerous expressions of appreciation for all of the time and effort the planning staff is giving to this project. The next ZAP meeting will be September 26th at which one topic will be a discussion about liquor and cabaret license issues with Penny May, the new Director of the Department of Excise and Licenses.

Executive Committee Recap

By Fran Rew

Karen Cuthbertson, INC Chair, called the meeting to order on Monday, August 10th, 7:00 p.m., at 1201 Williams Street. Other Executive Committee (EC) members present were Larry Ambrose, Ray Ehrenstein, Steve Nissen, Anthony Thomas, and Brad Zieg. Also present were Zoning and Planning Committee Chair Mike Henry, Membership Chair and Editor of the INC Newsletter Ken Beaudrie, and Assistant to the Secretary Fran Rew.

A motion to approve the minutes of the July EC meeting was passed by acclamation.

Steven Nissen, Treasurer, reported the July 31st ending balance for all accounts was \$31,289.90 with \$11,915.69 of this in the Dollar Dictionary Drive account. A motion to approve the July Treasurer's report was passed by acclamation.

Al Habercorn, on the Audit Committee, reviewed the INC bank records from March 2008 through March 2009 and reported that he "found the records to be in good order and balanced the accounts against the records."

A motion to reimburse Steve for \$122.59 for the refreshments for the July INC Delegates meeting was passed with Steve's abstention.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Dollar Dictionary Drive (DDD): Steve Nissen, Co-Chair of the DDD Committee, reported that 5,300 third-grade dictionary and thesaurus books were successfully labeled and packed for distribution by INC volunteers working over 16 hours before the July INC Delegates meeting.

Karen Cuthbertson, INC Chair, said that she is trying to get on the DPS school agenda to request dates for a special collaborative distribution event for these books at each of the DPS elementary schools. Invitations to famous local authors and other local celebrities for each book distribution event were discussed.

Steve got the expense report information today around 4 p.m. before this EC meeting. He estimates that the DDD budget is currently about \$6,000 in the red. In addition to the expected donations coming in before the end of the year, further fundraising is needed to fill this year's budget gap. Cathie Fisher is a local author who contributed a forward to the nationally published Thesaurus. Creation of an INC press release was discussed.

Education: No new updates.

Membership: Committee Chair Ken Beaudrie reported that there are 79 regular members, 17 of which are patrons and 27 associates, 12 of which are patrons.

Newsletter: No new updates.

Parks and Recreation (P&R): Co-chair Larry Ambrose reported that Diana Helper was concerned that fish caught at City Park's Ferril Lake during the "Huck Finn Fishing Contest" might be radioactive. After the INC P&R presentation on the lake's water quality, Scot Gilmore of the Division of Wildlife, who is in charge of this event and on the parks advisory board with Councilman Hancock, said he had no idea that this was going on, was very concerned, and wants to investigate. *Washington Park Profile* has an article about the water issue this month.

For the past seven to eight years, Mary Ewing has been encouraging neighborhood groups to donate their plastic bags to keep the doggie pooh-bag dispensers full. This year, Ambrose recommended that an INC email reminder be sent to INC members.

The Denver City Council is considering charging between \$25 and \$50 on top of the licensing fee for dog parks. Any INC Parks and Recreation proposal needs to go to INC delegates.

Denver Parks and Recreation is considering off-leash dog hours. Currently there is an \$80 fine for allowing dogs to go off-leash in park areas not so designated. No connections exist between dog control and wild animal control in the parks.

Zoning and Planning: Chair Mike Henry reported that Captain Judy Will is now in charge of nuisance abatement. She was unaware that the neighborhood notification ordi-

nance (section 12-96) requires nuisance abatement notices to be sent to neighbors. In the past, these notices have been sent to City Council members who do not always have time to inform neighbors.

Per an action item assigned to Cuthbertson at the July executive committee meeting, she contacted Jan Tilden to ask if there was a way that RNOs could be notified in a manner more consistent with section 12-96 of the City ordinance. Karen mentioned that the response was a little confusing and that she would be following up, perhaps face-to-face, in conjunction with a hearing that she would be attending the following week. Karen noted that a line item indicating an application had been filed appeared on the Board of Adjustment website long before the notice went out to neighborhoods. She would inquire whether or not the line item could include a hyperlink to the PDF of the application or if a notifying email that the application had been filed could be sent to the applicable RNOs at the same time as the posting on the website.

Transportation: No new update.

Public Safety: Anthony Thomas, on the H.A.L.O. Committee, reported that Denver is holding the International Chief of Police Conference in Denver in September.

OLD BUSINESS:

Although we voted to join Neighborhoods USA, Steve has not seen an application or address at this point.

Economic Stimulus Oversight Committee: Brad Zieg sits on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (AARA) meetings led by Amy Mueller, Denver's Deputy Chief of Staff. Zieg reported that Denver is doing a great job in getting money through competitive grants from the Federal stimulus funds.

NEW BUSINESS:

Metro Denver Homeless Initiative needs an INC representative. A "Point in Time Survey" is coming out next week that will include statistics on the current number of homeless persons, age groupings, a count of newly homeless, and the length of time of homelessness.

Neighborhood Conference debriefing: Nissen said they had about 230 people registered and thought it was well done. Meeting rooms were intimate enough to feel a part of the presentation. The venue was especially fun because people had a rare opportunity to meet in a Coors Field club box. Zieg thought everyone there was professional.

Cuthbertson said that in the past years, 50% of the planning difficulty was finding a place. Because Coors Field is already approved for next year, more time and effort can be spent on making the next conference even better.

Ambrose asked that, for next year, the INC be a recognized sponsor and be more a part of the Denver Mayor's annual Neighborhood Conference planning committee so that the issues are a part of the grass roots instead of the top down.

Nissen recommended that for next year, INC members wear INC T-shirts to the annual Neighborhood Conference. Presidents and Delegates Committee: Karen will have Ken send out an email seeking volunteers to form a Dinner Committee. Karen will contact the Visitors Bureau to see if they are again able to sponsor the event.

INC Bylaws: The INC Bylaws have been revised as of July 20th, 2009.

Neighborhood Handbook: Mike Henry recommended that INC develop a new Neighborhood Handbook. We do not have any left. As soon as the new code passes, a lot of the old INC handbook information will be out of date. Brad Zeig and Mike Henry offered to work on a major rewrite of the handbook.

A new INC-like organization is starting in Pueblo. Ambrose went to Pueblo to address a new neighborhood coalition; they are looking for samples of relevant bylaws and ordinances. They found out about Denver's INC through Ambrose.

Speakers: The speakers considered for future INC meetings included Christine Benero (was scheduled for August), Tom Boasberg and Alvin LaCabe (scheduled for September), Ashley DeLaup, and possibly Jeff Shoemaker (scheduled for October). Zeig recommended Kelly Brough to speak on the dominant current topic of Federal stimulus money obtained through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). Rew recommended that Cheryl Clark's presentation on neighborhood collaboration be repeated at an INC Delegate meeting. Cuthbertson recommended this would be better as an INC workshop rather than an INC presentation.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 PM.

From the Chair **By Karen Cuthbertson**

The Board of Adjustment for Zoning Appeals (BOA) is changing their procedure for notifying Registered Neighborhood Organizations (RNOs) of cases filed with the BOA. This change means that RNOs will have considerably more time to respond to applications and aligns the BOA procedures with the Neighborhood Registration Ordinance. RNOs can expect to receive an email notification of an appeal within 10 days of the applicant filing that appeal. This initial email will contain basic information, such as the applicant's name, address, subject of the appeal, hearing date, and etcetera. RNOs will continue to receive an email containing the PDF of the scanned application approxi-

mately 30 days before the hearing. This change will enable RNOs to be far more responsible and responsive in their handling of BOA cases and the BOA, especially Janice Tilden, is to be commended for their attention to the provisions of the ordinance and its importance to neighborhood vitality.

Did you attend the Mayor's Neighborhood Conference on August 1st? If so, please let us know how we did. Go to www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=i6xcsoTrinSDyzVv75eaRA_3d_3d

and complete the survey. The above two lines should be entered together without a break into your browser.

Recycler's Corner **By Tom Strickland**

The service guidelines below help ensure that we provide the best, efficient service.

- Set your cart out by 7 a.m. on your collection day. Returning to collect late set-outs is very inefficient and results in extra time, fuel, and money wasted. In cases where we cannot return, waiting two weeks for your next collection can be burdensome to you. If you are late in setting out your cart, look to see if the opposite side of your street has been collected. If not, set your cart out on that side.
- Do not leave your cart in the alley or on the street after your collection day. By bringing your cart back onto your property you can help to prevent cart loss, cart damage, recycling contamination, and scavengers in your neighborhood. This helps save time and money from having to be used to replace damaged or lost carts. And burglars may interpret this as a sign that the home owners are away!
- Ensure that your cart is placed at least four feet away from trash barrels, dumpsters, other purple carts, automobiles, poles, or other obstructions. Clearance space around your cart is necessary for the automated collection arm on the recycling truck to empty your cart safely. Less than adequate clearance space can decrease collection efficiencies and increase the chances of damage to nearby property.
- Maximize space in your cart by flattening all boxes and crushing plastic bottles. Boxes that are not flattened can clog up the truck mechanisms and prevent the trucks from being able to hold a full load resulting in trucks needing to be emptied more frequently thus wasting time and fuel.

Data Corrections

Keep INC informed of changes in your organization's president and delegates. Notify the membership chair at 303-798-9306 or kbeaudrie@totalspeed.net.

Organizations and persons not affiliated with INC should also communicate their desire to obtain this newsletter or submit address changes to the editor at 303-798-9306 or kbeaudrie@totalspeed.net.

- Do not leave cardboard or other recyclables outside your cart. Materials left outside the carts will not get recycled and can blow away increasing the amount of litter in your neighborhood.
- Empty all cans, bottles, and boxes before putting them in your purple cart.
- Make sure your cart's front faces out towards the street or alley. Carts facing backwards may not fully empty when lifted into the recycling truck.
- Only place items in your cart that are on the list of acceptable recyclable items. Contaminated loads increase the processing costs and energy used to separate recyclables from non-recyclables.
- Make an effort to set out your recycling cart on every scheduled recycling collection day and challenge yourself to recycle even more!

Following these guidelines will help us efficiently collect recyclables allowing us to do more with less thus saving time and money. For more information on recycling cart service guidelines or what items are accepted for recycling, please call 311 or visit denvergov.org/denverrecycles.

Recycling myth busters: Learn the Truth.

There are many myths about recycling passed along from person to person. We are here to explain one of those myths, so you can be the best recycler possible.

Myth: Recycling is the only way to make less trash.

False: Recycling is a great way to keep material out of the landfill, however there are lots of other ways to reduce the amount of waste going into your trash that are also good for the environment and your wallet. A great way to make less trash in the first place is to look at the products you are purchasing. By selecting products with less packaging or products with no packaging at all, you can significantly reduce your waste. The U.S. EPA estimates that \$1 out of every \$10 dollars spent on products goes toward the costs of packaging. So if you can purchase products with less packaging you can save yourself money and help the environment. For example, in stores that sell items in bulk or by the pound, bring in your own reusable containers to fill them up and eliminate packaging waste all together.

Purchasing reusable goods and durable products is another great way to keep materials out of your trash. This will not only reduce your waste but will also likely save you money in the end. For example, avoid spending money repeatedly on disposable tableware such as paper plates and plastic cups. Reusable tableware will last longer, creates less waste, and will cost substantially less over time.

When spring-cleaning or moving, donate unwanted furniture, clothing, and other items to local charities instead of throwing them away. Old clothes and linens can be recycled by most charities. Many charities will even take clothes no longer wearable or in bad shape and recycle them as textiles or otherwise. Also, think about giving old books to nursing homes, hospitals, schools, or other chari-

ties. Items that are no longer useful to you can be used again by others.

Do not forget that composting and grasscycling are two other ways to reduce your trash output. Here in Denver, as much as 57% of what residents put in the trash is organic waste. Backyard composting is a great way to reduce organic waste and save money by producing your own compost for your home garden, lawn, or for around the base of trees and plants. Do not forget that some food scraps and kitchen waste can also be composted. Grasscycling is the natural way to recycle grass clippings, provide your lawn with the valuable nutrients, and water that it needs. By grasscycling there is no need to pile bags of grass clippings out on your trash day. For more information on reducing your waste, please visit us online at denvergov.org/denverrecycles.

Delegate Meeting Recap

The Delegates' meeting was called to order by INC Chair Karen Cuthbertson at 9:00 a.m. She reported that all the books had been packed for the Dollar Dictionary distribution and the thesaurus introduction was written by Cathee Fisher of East Montclair Neighborhood. Dave Walstrom of Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods (CHUN) welcomed delegates to Morey Middle School. The school was built in 1921 and named for pioneer merchant Chester Morey. Walstrom said the school "is doing well as an inner-city school." He invited everyone to attend the CHUN 40th anniversary observance on October 1st. Councilwoman Jeanne Robb also welcomed the delegates. Because of her personal experience with a kitchen fire, she advised everyone to have a fire extinguisher. Parks and Recreation Administrative Assistant Angela Casias is the new "community outreach representative." She mentioned the Admission Based Special Events Policy (ABSEP) Task Force would meet August 12th to hear recommendations. According to Casias, the recommendations that would be included in the policy would then be "vetted through the community process." Angela also reported on the Denver Digs Trees new shade tree program. The Interim Director of Excises and Licenses, Penny May, was introduced to the delegates. She replaces Awilda Marquez who is going to work in the Labor Department in Washington, D.C. May said she "has no new plans" for the agency. The Mayor's City Council Liaison, R.D. Sewald, represented Neighborhood Representative Heather Barry. Sewald and Robb said a process-notice on the new zoning code would be mailed to property owners even though there is no legal requirement. Robb said consideration of the zoning proposal has already been lengthened and there will be at least one more draft.

Police Captain Judy Will spoke of her work as head of the Nuisance Abatement Squad. Her work now covers 22 criminal codes relating to unlawful activity in buildings

and vehicles. She said the squad's objective is to take property away from criminals and restore it to the community. "We're not the barking dogs or junk cars police," she said. She explained that nuisance abatement cases "have a lower burden of proof" because they are part of civil law enforcement, adding, "neighborhoods sometimes expect a stronger response than is possible." She also said the squad is "totally reliant on the willingness of neighborhood residents to file complaints." Will said she wants to reactivate the citizen's nuisance abatement board.

In committee reports, Karen Cuthbertson said the neighborhood conference was a success and she thanked the sponsors. For Dollar Dictionary, Steve Nissen said there were 13,000 dictionary and thesaurus books packed for all third-grade Denver classrooms. He said more contributions are still needed. Both Nissen and Cathee Fisher urged members of all RNOs to contact their neighborhood elementary school principals and to be involved with handing out the books.

Michael Henry said the August meeting of the Zoning and Planning Committee would focus solely on the zoning code revisions. Karen reported for Billie Bramhall of the Education Committee and said all delegates should have received a message on the disposal of surplus school property. Karen said Urban Land Institute recommended selling the properties and neighborhoods suggested community uses might be more appropriate. Katie Fisher reported the Parks and Recreation Committee (PRINC) is closely involved in the issues of advertising-signs and ticketed events along with how zoning affects parks. The committee distributed a list of members of the Parks Advisory Board. Katie invited everyone, member or not, to attend the PRINC meetings on the third Tuesdays. Anthony Thomas reported Police District 6 (central Denver) is getting eight HALO surveillance cameras while the other districts get three each. Each camera will stay in one location for three years. Jennifer Tomeny said the Census Committee has not met.

The second scheduled guest speaker, Christine Benero of Mile High United Way, was unable to attend the delegates' meeting. Karen adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

Newborn Baby Shower By Carol Boigon



Come to Carol's house for a Baby Shower for Denver Health's Newborns in Need!

Please join Councilwoman Carol Boigon in her backyard for a baby shower to help thousands of at-risk babies at Denver Health this year. Your gift of one or more **new** baby essentials will help at-risk moms and babies with a good start home. The Denver Brass quintet

will play while we enjoy iced tea and popcorn on Sunday, September 13th, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., at 2001 Ivy Street (Corner of Ivy Street and Montview Boulevard).

Please reply to Rachel or Paige at 720-865-8100 or boigonatlange@ci.denver.co.us.

The wish list of **NEW** items of baby essentials for Denver's new babies is:

- Disposable diapers (size 1 or 2)
- Wipes
- Diaper bags
- Onesies, Undershirts
- Sleepers, Sweaters
- Blankets
- Bibs
- Socks, Booties
- Baby wash/Baby shampoo
- Nursing supplies (pumps, pads, cream, etc.)
- Baby ear thermometers
- Baby picture books
- Infant toys
- Car seats
- Umbrella strollers
- Cribs and Crib sheets

Remember, the gifts must be unused.

Four thousand babies are born each year at Denver Health. Ninety-two percent of their families are living below the poverty line and 42% of Denver Health's patients are uninsured.



Athmar Park N.A. – Cruising around Huston Lake Park has quieted down (from 600 cars per hour) since turning two border streets one-way. Cruising on Federal Boulevard has increased – surprise! Construction on the Lowes going into the Alameda Square Shopping Center is progressing nicely.

Baker Historic N.A. – Daly Park Improvement Plan is progressing but still needs funding. Our annual Baker Bargains Neighborhood Garage Sale was very successful and was great in letting neighbors meet new people.

George Washington H.O.A – Fallis re-use committee is working hard to bring a green-school into our neighbor-

hood. We are having an ice cream social on August 30th from 1 to 3 p.m. We have divided our neighborhood into areas and are assigning block-captains to network with neighbors about issues for our H.O.A. and to increase membership – thanks for that idea at the last INC meeting. The street flooding at South Quebec between East Exposition and Leetsdale Drive is finally getting resolution from the City. No more Lake Quebec.

LODO – Garage sales on August 30th from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. followed by a block-party beginning at 1 p.m.

Lowry – Zoning approved the development of Hangar Two behind the Albertsons. Small stores and restaurants will join doggie-day-care centers. We also held an all-Lowry electronic recycle on the 22nd to get rid of those old T.V.s. We can help your neighborhood get a pick-up.

Platt Park – The annual picnic was held in July and was a great success. The Denver Municipal Band played and food and fun were provided. Platt Park has a great Green Team that is doing great work. Old South Pearl is holding Brew Grass on August 8th. North Platt Park is going through changes with the Mc Stasor properties and redevelopment of South Broadway. Park People will be renovating and moving into the Fleming Mansion at the corner of Florida and Grant, that is located in the Park itself, next to the Senior Center.

Stapleton United Neighbors – Three-hundred residents met with D.P.S. regarding plans for new schools in Stapleton to meet the growing school age population. Our newly designed and easy-to-navigate website www.stapletonunitedneighbors.com is now up – take a look.

Virginia Village (VV) – VV now has a green team! The team's first project will be the "Virginia Village Family Fest – Saving Energy, Saving Money." A collaboration between neighbors, Ellis Elementary School, and Green-Print Denver, it will take place on October 24th, Climate Action Day. It will be a part of the worldwide350.org effort to reduce carbon emissions to 350 parts per million. The location is to be determined.

Booklover's Ball

The Denver Public Library Friends Foundation, in partnership with the Denver Public Library (DPL), will host its 12th Annual Booklovers' Ball on Saturday, October 10th, from 6:30 p.m. to midnight at the Central Library located at 10 West 14th Avenue Parkway.

This year's fete, that continues its mission of raising much-needed funds to support the collections purchases of the Library, will expose the DPL's collections, programs, resources, and services used by the people of Denver. More people than ever are using the library system. Last year, the branch libraries were averaging 145,555 customer visits with the central library alone getting 1,204,000 visits.

Additionally, because of the economic downturn, more people are using the library to learn computer skills because most jobs and even unemployment benefits require online applications. And many parents are taking their children to the library's reading programs and activities.

"Exposed" offers pure fun -- the Booklovers' Ball tradition boasts an evening free from auctions, speeches, and other alternative sells; attendees are guaranteed only great ambiance, great food, and great entertainment for hours of dancing and pure fun -- among the stacks.

Online ticket sales are ongoing via www.dplfriends.org or by phone at (720) 865-2051. Tickets:

\$275 Patron, \$225 Junior Patron (age 35 and under)

\$195 Individual, \$150 Junior (age 35 and under)

For more details about the supporting the Denver Public Library, please call (720) 865-2050.

Wildlife Learning to Hunt Parks and Recreation

The Denver Parks and Recreation Department (DPR) is reminding citizens that this is the time of year when young, wild animals (coyotes, foxes) are leaving their dens and learning to hunt alongside their parents.

Unattended outdoor cats and small dogs are at higher risk because, unlike a typical prey animal, they are not accustomed to the potential dangers. Although attacks can happen at any time of the day, predatory animals typically hunt during the late night and early morning hours. DPR suggests keeping cats indoors, especially after dark. Other recommendations include:

- Keep outdoor pets safe in an enclosed kennel.
- Lock dog-doors at night to keep pets inside and foxes outside.
- If you let an animal out after dark, turn on outdoor lights, visually inspect the yard for potential danger, and accompany your pet outside.
- If you see a wild animal, aggressively chase it (or them) out of your yard before letting your pet out and stay with your pet.

Coyotes, foxes, and owls are all ambush-predators and may lay-in-wait in yards especially if your pet is let outside on a regular schedule. You can deter wild animals from hanging out in your yard by hazing them -- aggressively responding with noisemakers and yelling when they are spotted. Other things to make yards less appealing include making sure fences are maintained close to the ground (but foxes can leap a tall fence as well as a cat), trimming thick vegetation so animals cannot hide underneath, and removing potential food attractants such as bird seed, bird baths, pet food, and water dishes. If there are coyotes, foxes, or other wildlife spotted in your neighborhood that do not seem afraid of people, residents are encouraged to communicate with neighbors so their pets are also protected.

Presidents Dinner

By Karen Cuthbertson

Planning for the next Presidents and Delegates Dinner is starting and needs your help. If you could spare a few hours over the next four months, please think about volunteering for this committee. This is neither a difficult nor a time-consuming job; especially if there are 3 or so folks who can tackle the tasks. Contact Karen Cuthbertson if you can assist to make this year's Dinner the best yet.

Nuisance Abatement

By Denver Police Department

The purpose of the Nuisance Abatement Ordinance (Denver Revised Municipal Code, Section 37-50c and d) is to take away the location from which illegal activity is occurring and to deny criminals their base of illegal operations. We wish to obtain the property owner's cooperation in removing the person(s) responsible from the premises and return the use of real property to acceptable neighborhood standards. It is intended also to interrupt the most common method of delivery of criminal activity – vehicles – and to return the use of those vehicles to legitimate transportation needs. The Public Nuisance Abatement Unit is focused on helping property owners be successful and we offer support and resources in accomplishing what is needed to achieve success.

The following list falls under the group of class one public nuisance offenses that are predicates for a nuisance abatement case:

- * Prostitution
- * Gambling
- * Controlled substances (manufacture, production, cultivation, use, transportation, possession)
- * Theft by receiving
- * Drug paraphernalia
- * Child prostitution
- * Sexual exploitation of children
- * Weapons (discharge, possession, flourishing, concealment, use, unlawful sale, storage)
- * Gang-related criminal activity
- * Drive-by crime
- * Sale of alcohol beverage to a minor or an intoxicated person
- * Sale of an alcoholic beverage without a valid license
- * Transportation or storage of stolen goods
- * Storage or concealment of a weapon used in a criminal act
- * Vehicular eluding of police
- * Vehicular speed contests
- * Habitual traffic offenders
- * Sexual assaults or attempted sexual assaults
- * Indecent exposure

- * Matters relating to the distribution or production of controlled substances (addresses methamphetamine laboratories)
- * Criminal mischief (where the damage exceeds \$1,000)
- * Disturbing the peace (real property only,) two or more offenses of disturbing the peace, D.R.M.C. 38-89 within any 180-day period from two different unrelated complainants.

Class Two Public Nuisances:

- * Possession of injection devices

Admission Based Events

By Parks and Recreation Committee

The following Resolution has been referred to the General Membership for consideration by the INC Parks and Recreation Committee at its September 12 meeting.

Resolution on Admission Based Events

WHEREAS: Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation (INC) supports the long held principle of free and open access to named Denver urban public parks, and

WHEREAS: City Charter prohibits leasing public park land for commercial purposes without a vote of the general electorate; and,

WHEREAS: Allowing, in named Denver urban public parks, fenced off commercial events where admission is charged and only those with the price of admission can enter, is a major shift of public policy and park management which should not be effected without a vote of the general electorate;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that

(A) The membership of Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation (INC) opposes the closure of public park space from the public for the purpose of commercial admission-based events in named Denver urban parks; and,

(B) INC believes that any proposal to allow exclusive commercial use of park space for special events must be referred to the general electorate of Denver by Denver City Council.

(C) INC supports the development of a year around special events park in a central location of the City where both admission and non-admission based events can take place.

Graffiti Questions

By Suzette Reed, Graffiti Fellow

The following are frequently asked questions and answers regarding graffiti in Denver:

1. How are the Graffiti Task Force's Recommendations being implemented?

The Graffiti Task Force created a position for a Graffiti Fellow. The Graffiti Fellow's duties include assisting with the implementation of the Graffiti Task Force Recommendations. Councilwoman Judy Montero, Amber Callender (Mayor's Liaison), and Regina

Huerter (Executive Director of the Crime Prevention and Control Commission) ensure implementation and have been involved with the development of anti-graffiti programs since the inception of the Graffiti Task Force in 2004.

2. How is the City combating graffiti vandalism?

The City is addressing graffiti vandalism by attacking the problem from three different angles: prevention, abatement, and enforcement.

Prevention: In 2009, funds obtained via grants from the Cultural Affairs Urban Art Grant Fund were set aside to implement prevention programs. Denver Public Library created a public display addressing the impact of graffiti vandalism on children participating in library Programs, after-school art-enrichment programs are being planned with various stakeholders to provide alternate positive alternatives to unsupervised free time for local youth, and educational programs are being coordinated between City and private agencies.

Abatement: Public works continues to respond to reports of graffiti vandalism removing over 1.4 million square feet to date this year.

Enforcement: Multiple agencies came together to create a coordinated, streamlined approach to graffiti reporting, enforcement, and abatement. Once implemented, citizens can call “311” to report graffiti and request abatement services. Neighborhood Inspection Service issuance of Notices of Violation implementation will increase the enforcement of Denver’s current Graffiti Ordinance. Police graffiti-detectives and district officers have increased efforts to identify and apprehend offenders.

3. What can citizens do if they are victims of graffiti vandalism?

As a Denver resident, you may obtain free paint from your local COP Shop or City Council office to remove the graffiti. You should remove the graffiti as soon as possible. Proactive abatement, especially along major thoroughfares, will reduce the overall impact of graffiti vandalism in hard-hit communities. City has the ability to remove reported graffiti if you are unable to remove the graffiti yourself. You will need to have a signed release form on file with the City to receive graffiti removal services. Again, call “311” to obtain a release or go online to Denver Partners Against Graffiti (www.denvergov.org/graffiti, click on “Authorization Forms”). You may want to document the graffiti before you remove it by taking a photo.

The City is able to provide some assistance but the most effective deterrent to graffiti vandalism is immediate removal. This can be accomplished through the “Adopt a Spot” programs and the “Brush Off Campaign.” These programs can assist your community to reclaim highly vandalized areas. Contact “Keep Denver Beautiful” for more information.

4. Should citizens report graffiti if they are removing it themselves?

You should call “311” or go online (www.denvergov.org/graffiti, click on “Report graffiti for free removal”) and report graffiti even if you are removing it. Reporting will assist the City’s data retention and documentation efforts.

Turn into the parking lot from Iowa





**2009
Executive
Committee
Members**

Chair

Karen Cuthbertson

Vice-Chair

Bradley Zieg

Treasurer

Steve Nissen

Secretary

Dave Felice

***Delegates-
At-Large***

Larry Ambrose
Anthony Thomas
Don Tressler
Penelope Zeller

Mission

INC believes neighborhood organizations deserve a greater role in participating in city government, as well as a shared vision that neighborhoods are stronger when they work together and learn from one another.

***31 Years of
Service, and
counting***

August 3, 2009

Mayor John Hickenlooper
City and County of Denver
1437 Bannock Street, Suite 350
Denver, CO 80202

Dear Mayor Hickenlooper,

On behalf of Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation, I would like to extend my thanks to your office for your generous support of INC's sponsorship of the 2009 Mayor's Neighborhood Conference. In particular, I would like to commend Heather Barry's contribution. I'm sure the members of the planning committee heard only a fraction of what Heather, her interns, et al., had to do to implement this year's conference.

I would also like to recognize the City Facilities staff who delivered and set up equipment on July 31st and who worked the day of the event; August 1st. They were highly efficient, courteous, and accommodating, and responded to last minute changes quickly and with good humor.

There were too many members from various City departments who conducted workshops and otherwise participated to thank individually, but their contribution was a major factor in the success of the event.

I have received nothing but positive feedback from those who attended the Conference. I hope you post this letter where those who made this event such a success can read how much their efforts were appreciated or otherwise distribute it so they are aware that we thank them.

Lastly, we are all very grateful for your attendance and words of encouragement. We appreciate your taking the time to speak with us and answer questions (and regale us with show tunes).

Thank you again,

Karen Cuthbertson
Chair - Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation, Inc.

cc: City Council
Heather Barry, Mayor's Neighborhood Liaison
INC Executive Committee

Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation, Inc.
www.neighborhoodlink.com/denver/inc

P.O. Box 181009
Denver, CO 80218

**Meeting Saturday
September 12th**
The public
is welcome to attend.

**Dist. 3 Police Station
1625 S. University
Blvd.**

See map on page 11

8:30 a.m.

Coffee and chat

9:00 a.m.

Welcome from Dan Chapman,
President of Cory-Merrill N.A.
and Councilman Charlie Brown

9:10 a.m.

Around the City

10:00 a.m.

Break

10:15 a.m.

Tom Boasberg, Superintendent of
Denver Public Schools

10:45 a.m.

Alvin LaCabe
Manager of Safety

11:50 a.m.

Committee Reports

Noon Adjournment

You can always view upcoming
INC meeting locations and get
information about presentations
on our website. Click on the
“meetings & more” link.
[www.neighborhoodlink.com/
denver/inc](http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/denver/inc)

Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation

P.O. Box 181009
Denver, CO 80218-1009

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