



DENVER
INC

CONNECTION

INC Salutes Its New Officers for 2012-13

Larry Ambrose is elected as President INC for 2012-13

INC changed its bylaws at its 2012 Annual Meeting to define its governing body as a Board of Directors who are the elected officials of the organization. Bylaw revisions also changed the titles of the officers from Chair and Vice Chair to President and Vice President respectively. The Board of Directors have voting authority for INC business decisions.

The Executive Committee includes the Board of Directors and committee chairs. Committee chairs are non-voting members of the Executive Committee.



President Larry Ambrose addresses the throngs

Officers

- President -Larry Ambrose – Sloan’s Lake Neighborhood Association
- Vice President, Cindy Johnstone – Friends & Neighbors of Washington Park (FANS)
- Secretary, Randle Loeb – Capitol Hill United Neighbors
- Treasurer, Jennifer Tomeny – Rosedale-Harvard Gulch Neighborhood Association

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Delegates-At-Large

- Cathy Donohue – Neighbors & Friends for Cheeseman Park
- Rafael Espinoza - Federal Blvd. Corridor Improvement Partnership
- Katie Fisher – University Neighbors
- Judy Schneider – Ballpark Neighborhood Assn.
- Anthony Thomas – Civic Association of Clayton



Jane Lorimer and Ken Beaudrie count the ballots

Executive Committee

- Board of Directors as cited above.
- Committee Chairs as follows:
- Budget – Jane Lorimer
- Communications – Michael Smilanic
- Education – Karen Taylor and Steve Nissen
- Library – Christiane Citron and Chris O’Connor
- Membership – Ken Beaudrie
- Safety – Merce Lea and Anthony Thomas
- Transportation – Bradley Zieg
- Zoning & Planning – Michael Henry

April 2012

www.denverINC.org

Seeking Newsletter Contributions *INC Connection is looking for newsletter contributions relating to how neighborhoods band together to resolve problems and make positive things happen. Please send contributions and photos if available to DenverINCNews@aol.com. We reserve the right to edit for clarity, space.*

March Speakers

Submitted by INC Team

Manager of Safety, Alex Martinez who was a judge in the Colorado Supreme Court Justice for thirty years; Deputy Chief of Denver Fire Department, Todd Bower who also serves as a director for Fire and Police Pension Association of Colorado; and Department of Safety's Director of Corrections and Undersheriff, Gary Wilson.

Department of Corrections

Denver had a successful bond initiative in 2005 for the construction of a new Justice Center to update a facility originally built for 2400 inmates. The bond also included money to make improvements at the current County Jail Facility. In 2011, over 37,000 persons were processed (booked in). The Denver jails hold the distinction for being the first local detention facilities in the United States to be accredited by the American Correctional Association (ACA). Both facilities also hold accreditation by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC).

The two biggest challenges for inmates are to find meaningful employment and shelter once released.

Officers at the jails are silent heroes and a majority work in the jail facilities to handle bookings, detention and releases. The goal is to return prisoners back to the community in better condition than when they entered the process. Programs in the jail are meeting goals and those include:

- Addictions Unit- Recovery in a Secure Environment/ R.I.S.E. - counselors and case managers assigned to inmates and those on probation.
- Mental Health: mental Health unit, diversion, if they stay on track, once they return to the community.
- Denver Homeless Transition Program: State Dept of Corrections, paroling to street 6 to 9 months



L-R: Undersheriff Wilson, Manager of Safety, Alex Martinez, and Deputy Chief DFD, Todd Bower

early and help parolees find jobs. Until they are able, they are allowed to return to the jail overnight so they are not homeless.

- Prison Industries Program/ PIECP was created by Congress in 1979 to encourage states and units of local government to establish employment opportunities for inmates that approximate private-sector work opportunities. The program is designed to place inmates in a realistic work environment, pay them the prevailing local wage for similar work, and enable them to acquire marketable skills to increase their potential for successful rehabilitation and meaningful employment upon release. In 2009 Denver was granted certification for this program. PIECP exempts certified state and local departments of corrections from normal restrictions on the sale of inmate-made goods in interstate commerce.
- The Denver County Jail system also has available work crews who can support miscellaneous community labor needs such as clean up tasks. Crews are generally misdemeanor inmates and are accompanied by Sheriff's staff at all times. It's a popular resource and schedules fill up quickly.

Fire Department

DFD protects more than 600,000 people in the cities of Denver, Glendale and Skyline as well as the millions of travelers who pass through Denver International Airport each year. The department provides dispatch services for the city of Sheridan and emergency services throughout the Denver metro area when called upon. Members of the department also belong to urban search and rescue and wildland firefighting teams that assist in emergencies across the state and nation.

The department operates 33 fire stations in six districts and DIA. Working in partnership with other emergency services in the area, Denver's firefighters respond to structure fires, vehicle fires, auto accidents, hazardous conditions calls and medical calls among many other services and rescues.

Community involvement is encouraged through Friends of the Denver Fire Department whose mission is to support Denver's Fire Department by providing public education, through efforts to improve firefighter safety and quality of life, and with direct resources to meet firefighter needs thereby improving public safety in the City and County of

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APRIL DELEGATE MEETING AGENDA

8:30am Coffee & networking

9:00am Welcome and housekeeping

10:00am Broadway Cop Shop Safety Expo - we invite you to stay for this informative event.

Committee Corner

INC has many special interest committees who meet to address areas of specific importance to the Denver community. The following reports were submitted for recent activities. Please see www.denverinc.org for committee postings and the calendar of meetings.

President's Dinner The President's Dinner was a great success. The work that was accomplished by Judy Schneider was exceptional. Visit Denver covered audio/visual and extra meals as additional sponsorship. Many thanks were expressed to Visit Denver. Silent auction revenue was \$4,585.00. Sponsorship dollars gained: \$2500.00.

Membership Survey questions for the members are being reviewed by EC and Committee Chairs.

There are 67 members who have rejoined. Ken is waiting for the information from the committees about what they have accomplished. This was due March 13. We are expecting more membership renewals at the annual meeting.

Communications The web site is being worked on to clarify the process by which one makes an application for membership, the location of current newsletters, the use of Paypal. Cindy is contacting Michael Smilaniac about these issues.

Dollar Dictionary Dollar Dictionary funds to date are \$8,800.00. Two grant applications are pending. Solicitations to members and friends have been distributed.

Parks and Recreation Parks and Recreation Policies have not been updated since 1994.

Swallow Hill and the Greenway Foundation are planning an admission based event at Ruby Hill for which they are seeking to approve the Park for the sales of alcohol. The event anticipates 7,500 people attending. A letter is being sent to the Parks Department and Parks Advisory Board reminding them of INC's Parks Platform advocating a dedicated centrally located festival park.

Bicycle stations are being proposed on several sites in parks. The community has not been engaged in the decision making process. As a result, a letter was sent to GOCO requesting the funding be withheld pending community involvement in decision making.

A DPS school abutting Schaffer Park is doing work on a parking lot next to the area of the park.

Larry was told by DPR's Angela Casias that no park land is being used for what will be a drop off circle. The park rangers are going to have

increased ability to issue citations for permit violations related to the use of the space.

Public Safety Public Safety is having a major event Saturday, April 14 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Broadway Cop Shop. Major set up of agencies and events will cover the range of activities for all citizens. The location has a 4,400 square foot indoor location if the weather turns bad.

The Deputy Chiefs are being changed and the Public Safety Committee is waiting until mid-April to address concerns about the open market drug sales along major thoroughfares. Nuisance Abatement office is a source of support regarding open market drug dealing.

Excise and Licensing is interested in listening to the issues raised by the citizens and being more responsive to questions. This is a shift that looks hopeful for public input and remedies to community matters.

Transportation reported that CDOT the Colorado Department of Transportation has been working toward a final proposal this month on what to do with the development of a 7 land corridor on a earth supported bridge. You can go to <http://170.com> to learn more about what is being done to develop this project. Fifty-four homes will be removed. The number of homes is less than previously considered. Brad Zieg believes the new design in the best opportunity to develop the transit corridor.

The Transportation Committee soliciting members. All interested delegates and RNO members are invited to participate. Monthly meetings will be scheduled shortly. Please contact Committee Chair, bradleyzieg@msn.com

Zoning and Planning Advised re: snow removal and the issues faced by pedestrians using the sidewalks throughout the city where snow was left to become ice, be piled up and interfere with use of the right of way. A report was handed out on Emergency Snow Response from Denver Public Works.

March 24 there is a meeting with the new person in charge of Landmark Preservation.

Education DPS is planning asking voters for a mill levy increase.

Karen Taylor pointed out that Denver residents pay low property taxes compared to other communities.

Neighborhood Conference The Neighborhood Conference will take place at Coors Field on July 21 at 10 a.m. A committee is being formed to make plans for this event. It will be chaired by Judy Schneider.

INC CALENDAR

DELEGATE MEETING

Saturday April 14

Broadway Cop Shop
407 S. Broadway

Enter Broadway Marketplace from S. Broadway and go to West side of the shopping center. Cop Shop is located next to ACE Hardware and West of Blue Bonnet Restaurant.

April EC Meeting

Monday, April 9, 2012 7:00PM

1201 Williams St.

COMING UP

Mayor Hancock

Cabinet In The Community

June 30, Rude Recreation Center

2855 W. Holden Place

9AM - noon

INC monthly meetings are hosted by member organizations. INC needs hosts for several months in 2012.

Contact communicationscomm@denverinc.org if interested. Hosting guidelines can be found under Events>Meetings on our website

May Delegate Meeting
Saturday, May 12 TBD

May EC Meeting
Monday, May 14 7:00PM

Also see www.denverinc.org for committee calendar of events

Annual Meeting Recap

March 17, 2012 - Broadway Cop Shop Broadway-copshop@aol.com 407 S. Broadway, Unit #500. 46 voting delegates were present.

Steve Nissen Chair of INC called the meeting to order.

Remembering Those We Have Lost

Sarah Foster, a longtime INC member from Ivy Street Neighbors, recently died. Al Rue, former president of North City Park Neighborhood Association, Al's service was held March 17 at 1750 Colorado Blvd. Art Branscombe Park Hill also died recently. He and his late former wife Bea were among the founders of Greater Park Hill Community.

Welcome/Introductions

Mercede Lea, West Washington Park Neighborhood Association and Doug Pimple, Baker Neighborhood welcomed INC members and talked about Cop Shops. There are seven Cop Shops in Denver. What Cop Shops do: Fill out non-emergency police reports; provide a place for the police to work in the community and provide resources to residents regarding safety and how DPD operates. These shops are totally staffed by community volunteers.

Steve Nissen, introduced new INC members Stacie Gilmore of Montebello 20-20 and her husband, Scott who is Deputy Manager of Parks; Amy Harmon from Ball Park N.A.; Todd McGuire from Colfax on the Hill; and Rob Price from Curtis Park Neighbors.

Announcements

- DPD Chief White formed a citizen committee to help make recommendations for DPD Commanders. Karen Cuthbertson (Athmar Park) Don Tressler (Cory-Merrill NA) and Roger Armstrong (Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods) are assigned to this committee.
- Bradley Zieg, Michael Henry and Steve Nissen met regarding up-coming forums for the elections primary in June and general elections November 6. Details will follow in a future newsletter.

Old Business Minutes for February were approved without exception.

New Business

Bylaw Changes

Larry Ambrose, chair of a special bylaws committee explained several changes



Remembering Al Rue > For more photos on The Annual Meeting go to page 5

being presented for approval. Committee members included Michael Henry and Anthony Thomas. The following amendments were passed by a majority vote. Please see www.denverinc.org website for updated bylaws to be posted by April 15.

Highlights of changes:

- Changed from a fiscal year April 1- March 31 to coincide with the calendar year January 1- December 31.
- Bylaw changes may be presented at any time during the year for change rather than only be presented at the annual meeting for change; added a phrase to clarify what constitutes a majority vote of delegates. "two-thirds (2/3) of the delegation in attendance". Note: a quorum of 20 must be present as well.
- Added a conflict of interest policy: The steps are to disclose any conflict of interest including existence of financial interests or employment; have the Board of Directors determine whether or not there is a conflict, and, if so, what might be appropriate action.
- Changed the name of the elected officers of "chair" and "vice chair" of INC to be "president" and "vice president" respectively.
- Defined the name of the collective body of elected officers to be "Board of Directors" and defined the name of the collective body of the Board of Directors and the Committee Chairs as the "Executive Committee"; clarified that Committee Chairs are non-voting members of the Executive Committee.

Election of officers – see special feature on our new officers in this issue. The following people ran unopposed and were elected by acclamation: Larry Ambrose, President; Cindy Johnstone, Vice President; Randle Loeb, Secretary; Jennifer Tomeny, Treasurer. Seven people were nominated and approved as a 'slate' to be presented for election (Cathy Donohue, Katie Fisher, Michael Guiet, Thad Jacobs, Judy Schneider, Anthony Thomas and Brad Zieg) and two people, Raphael Espinoza and Ray Ehrenstein, were nominated from the floor. Ray withdrew his nomination. Those elected as Delegates-at-Large: Cathy Donohue, Ralph Espinoza, Katie Fisher, Judy Schneider and Anthony Thomas.

Guest speakers Manager of Safety, Alex Martinez who was a judge in the Colorado Supreme Court Justice for thirty years; Deputy Chief of Denver Fire Department, Todd Bower who also serves as a director for Fire and Police Pension Association of Colorado; and Department of Safety's Director of Corrections and Undersheriff, Gary Wilson. See separate story on presentations.

Salute to departing Steve Nissen

Sally Kurtzman from Lowry United Neighbors offered a very nice tribute to Steve J. Nissen, outgoing Chair of INC, and noted that Steve is the 'last' official Chair of INC now that bylaws changed the title to president. Steve will continue to serve as Chair of the Dollar Dictionary Drive.

Executive Committee Meeting Recap

Executive Committee Meeting Recap
Submitted by Randle Loeb, Secretary
March 12, 2012

Executive Committee: Chair – Steve Nissen, Vice-Chair – Larry Ambrose, Secretary – Randle Loeb and Treasurer – Jennifer Tomeny, Cathy Donohue, Andrew Schurger, Cindy Johnstone. Quorum present.

Committee Chairs: Public Safety – Anthony Thomas and Merce Lea, Transportation – Bradley Zieg, Education – Karen Taylor, Judy Schneider, Michael Henry – Zoning and Planning, Parks and Recreation – Katie Fisher, Membership – Ken Beaudrie

Motions

Minutes: Minutes for January and February meetings were approved without exception.

Treasurer Treasurer's reports for both January and February were approved without exception.

A motion was made by Andrew Schurger and seconded by Randle Loeb to take the net profits from the auction and apply them to the account of the Dollar Dictionary. The motion went on to apply the proceeds from the dinner to the account of INC. This motion passed on a 5 for, 1 against and 1 abstaining.

Annual Meeting of Delegates

The Annual Meeting will provide a very brief time for candidates to explain why they are running for office.

Bylaw revisions will be presented first. The Bylaws will be available at the meeting.

EC decided to meet at Broadway Cop shop in March and April.

November Elections

EC felt that a major forum should be held in the fall before the November elections with all candidates and issues represented. The League of Women Voters will be engaged in the process. It was also suggested that the Colorado Social Legislative Committee, which hosts these events may want to be involved. Mark Turner is the President of the Committee from the Colorado Non Profit Organization. Letters to the City will be sent requesting that Chanel 8 will receive funding in order to televise this event.

Mayor's Meeting March 10

At the Saturday forum of the Mayor's Cabinet three looming issues were presented: 1) Trash, 2) libraries and 3) parks. It was suggested that INC explore the issues in depth and assign a committee to work on trash.

March Speakers cont.

Denver. Go to www.fdfd.org for more information.

Bower asked what DFD can do to help in your community and indicated they sincerely want to hear from residents and neighborhood groups. Amy Harmon, Ball Park NA, suggested that to break down barriers that DFD could help by providing input to better understand the needs, how can we contribute, and who are the appropriate persons to be involved?

Dave Felice, ABC Streets Assn., asked about the status of the proposal to base Denver Health Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) at fire stations. Background: Both firefighters and EMTs think this is a good idea and are supportive. Denver apparently doesn't want to take the responsibility and Denver Health doesn't want to give up perceived "ownership" of EMTs. The answer was that the matter is still being negotiated between the city and the hospital. Everyone says the highest level of advanced life support is the highest priority, but there are inter-governmental organizational issues to be worked out, e.g. "how do we get everyone on the same page." This change would also have to be written into the fire-fighters labor contract.

Brad Zieg, Bellevue-Hale NA, raised an issue of 9-1-1 Dispatch. Background: The 911 Dispatch Center is currently located in Congress Park. Although the facility has been remodeled many times, it is now too small, and could be relocated, if funding permitted. Today, there is also a backup facility in downtown Denver in a secure location. In an emergency, the dispatch staff could quickly relocate to this secondary location.

GO GREEN: INC provides newsletters and weekly updates by email. If you would like to be added to this distribution via email (blind copy privacy), please notify DenverINCNews@aol.com with email, name, name of RNO or organization and which publications you want to receive electronically (Newsletter, weekly Community News).

Randle Loeb, CHUN, asked what the infra-structure is for enforcement of the ban on camping out in downtown Denver and to set in motion a response of notice alternatives which go beyond police enforcement. Response was that currently, the individual officer, doing enforcement action is making the decisions.

Photos From The March Annual Meeting



*Rafael Espinoza, new Delegate-at-large -above
Judy Schneider, new Delegate-at-large -below*



ZAP Committee Meeting Recap

Committee Minutes – March 24, 2012
By Michael Henry, Committee Chair

The INC Zoning and Planning (ZAP) Committee met on March 24. The committee agreed that, in the future, we will continue to meet at 9:30am on the 4th Saturday of each month; however, we will make our best efforts to adjourn by 11:30am (instead of noon). Michael Henry advised the committee that at last month's committee meeting on February 25, Jose Cornejo, the newly appointed Manager of the Public Works Department had attended incognito to listen to the discussion about snow removal between city staff and neighborhood representatives. He will not be sworn in until mid-April. He has expressed a real interest in listening to citizens about Public Works issues.

Dana Crawford, representing the Union Station Alliance, discussed **the plan for reuse of Denver Union Station as a hotel**. Dana has been a historic preservation activist and practitioner since the mid-1960s when she saved Larimer Square. Through Urban Neighborhoods, Inc., she is partnering with several other organizations, including Tryba Architects and Sage Hospitality Resources, to invest \$48 million to establish 22,000 square feet of retail uses and 130 hotel rooms to be operated in conjunction with the nearby Oxford Hotel. The current Union Station building, a designated Denver landmark, including the Great Hall, was built in 1914. Dana described the Great Hall as "Denver's living room." INC had a Delegation meeting in the Great Hall several years ago and Dana said that we would be welcome to return for a meeting when the renovations are complete in 2 years.

The committee had a get-acquainted discussion with **Barbara Stocklin-Steely, the new Principal City Planner for Historic Preservation**, who previously served in similar capacities in Austin for 4 years and Phoenix for 8 years. She can be contacted at 720-865-2944 and Barbara.stocklin-steely@denvergov.org. She is currently working with the Community Planning and Development Department to prepare a work plan and budget for historic preservation. One needed task is to update the design guidelines for proposed alterations or additions to historic structures, which will be energy-effective. She said that in Phoenix, there was a coalition of historic-district neighborhoods that met regularly to advise the city about

various issues and that she would welcome the formation of such a group in Denver, perhaps in conjunction with Historic Denver and INC. Rich Maginn and Joel Noble of Curtis Park Neighbors encouraged the city to develop policies and programs to protect flagstone sidewalks, which are part of the historic streetscape in many older neighborhoods, and also to consider ways to encourage historic street-lighting.

The committee discussed the request for neighborhood comment by Tom Downey, Director of Excise and Licenses, regarding **the possibility of eliminating the requirement that new hotel and liquor licenses may not be given to locations within 500 feet of a school**. Note that the proposal will not change the 500-foot limit from schools for tavern and liquor store licenses. Curtis Park Neighbors and Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods have both supported this proposal. The committee decided not to take a position this month, but to encourage all registered neighborhood organizations to take their own positions and submit them to tom.downey@denvergov.org. The committee also discussed the practice by Excise and Licenses in the past few months of issuing "temporary" patio permits to liquor-serving establishments. The committee voted by a vote of 13 in favor, none opposed and 1 abstention to recommend the following motion to the INC Delegation meeting in April:

Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation should advise the Director of the Department of Excise and Licenses, the Mayor's Office and City Council that it opposes the recent practice of the Director to allow "temporary" establishment or enlargement of patios for liquor-serving establishments for a period up to 6 months without any notification to registered neighborhood organizations, without allowing any opportunity for neighborhood groups or the public to comment and without any process to obtain approval from the Board of Adjustment-Zoning if close to a residential neighborhood.

The committee also discussed **medical marijuana facilities**, including the fact that many facilities are now transferring from one location to another. Since February 2010, the Department of Excise and Licenses has been required to notify registered neighborhood organizations of new applications and transfers of medical marijuana facilities; however, the Department sometimes fails to do so. The committee voted

by 14 in favor and none opposed to urge the INC Delegation to pass the following motion:

Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation should advise the Director of the Department of Excise and Licenses, the Mayor's Office and City Council that Excise and Licenses should promptly comply with the ordinance passed in February 2010 which requires it to notify registered neighborhood organizations of new applications and transfers of medical marijuana facilities.

Michael Sapp from the Mayor's Office informed the committee that Public Works, Parks and Recreation, Neighborhood Inspection Services and the Sheriff Department are working with residents of Hutchinson Hills Neighborhood Association and George Washington Homeowners' Association to find a way to resolve the impossible situation by which those homeowners must remove snow from "their" sidewalks; however, they do not have access to the sidewalks on Hampden or Quebec.

The Committee also discussed and passed a few proposed amendments to INC's 2006 Sidewalk Policy. These will be published in the May INC newsletter for discussion at the May Delegation meeting.

The next ZAP Committee meeting will be on Saturday April 28 at 9:30am at 1201 Williams Street in the 19th-floor party room. All INC members are welcome to attend.

Parks & Recreation Committee Minutes

March 20, 2012 by Diana Helper

INC PARC members met at 6:00 p.m. March 20 at the Heritage Club. Present were: Co-Chairs Larry Ambrose and Katie Fisher, Steve Fisher, Cindy Johnstone, Kathleen and Jay Rust, Marlene Johnson, Maggie Price, Cathy Donohue, and Diana Helper.

Cindy read aloud the PARC letter regarding Alcohol and Activation of Public Parks, which she planned to read to those present at the meeting on this topic tonight at the Ruby Hill neighborhood. There was brief discussion, and general consensus that this not be confrontational, but a matter of information and consid-

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Parks & Recreation Committee Minutes cont.

ered opinion from a committee representing city-wide input.

The letter is based upon the PARC position paper which has been endorsed officially by INC delegates. PARC members voted unanimously in support of this letter, and hope to have it printed in the INC newsletter, to inform readers of its content. Kathleen Rust said that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) will have a public hearing at its meeting April 12 on whether to add Ruby Hill Park to the list of festival parks that allow the sale and serving of alcohol. Currently Ruby Hill is the only festival park that does not allow alcohol sales. PARC members and others are urged to contact PRAB members and City Councilpersons before that time, and to attend the meeting. The abovementioned letter also is to be read at the April PRAB meeting. Katie announced that Larry wished to resign at co-chair of PARC. Maggie Price volunteered to be co-chair with Katie. PARC members voted unanimously in favor. Larry was sincerely thanked for his work founding and co-chairing PARC.

There were suggestions for future PARC meeting topics. These included a presentation on the Community District plan proposed for the Ballpark Neighborhood, reports from Stapleton and from Green Valley about their parks, a DPR speaker about park playgrounds- budget, needs, notification and RNO input, etc. The Rusts reported that they have studied the DPR changes in Rules and Regulations, presented by Bob Finch at the PARC February meeting. They found not only typing errors but omissions of much-needed definitions and explanations. There needs to be clarification that some parks have pedestrian-only trails, that not every park has an off-leash dog area, a definition of "social gambling," etc. They will email their findings to PARC members who are encouraged to re-read the Rules and Regs and send them further comments.

There was some discussion of an e-mail system, Mail Chimp, for the PARC, which Maggie agreed to look into. Mail could be sent to a large list, or a single person.

Because Angela Casias of Denver Parks and Recreation (DPR) is on vacation, she did not attend this meeting, nor anyone from PRAB, or other guests. A few PARC members attended the Ruby Hill meeting, as listeners, this same evening.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m. Next meeting is April 17.

INC Board of Directors Planning Meeting

March 25, 2012

The meeting was called to order by President, Larry Ambrose at 1750 Meade Street at 7:15 p.m.

Also, present were Cindy Johnstone, Randle Loeb, Cathy Donohue, Rafael Espinoza, Judy Schneider, Anthony Thomas and Katie Fisher and Jennifer Tomeny.

The meeting began with a discussion about INC committees, both standing committees under the Bylaws and ad hoc. Larry would like to see a new committee which would eventually become standing, that would address issues which are not apropos for existing committees. He would like to include in the new committee areas of interest such as transportation, neighborhood inspection, building permits, right-way and parking issues, trash and street maintenance, snow removal, budget and finance, etc. Larry is looking for individuals who would be willing to Co-chair such a committee.

Each Committee will be asked to develop and provide a Mission Statement.

There was a discussion of the long-term need for meeting space. The Board was asked to begin thinking about where such dedicated space might be found and whether it might be donated. CHUN is willing to work with INC in providing space at an attractive rate. Criteria for space should include, parking, disabled accessibility, convenience of location and availability at times when it is needed.

On a regular basis, Larry will begin to put on the Executive Committee (EC) Agenda a period of time to discuss ideas for upcoming meeting locations, topics/guest speakers and/or field trips. Such suggestions could also come from the delegation, however, it was suggested that 3 x 5 index cards be provided at delegate meetings for such purposes. Katie, Judy and Cindy volunteered to help Larry in the meeting planning process.

The Board will ask any Committee Chairs and Board member to voluntarily divulge any actual or potential conflict of interests based on the

policy now included in the Bylaws. The Board will discuss any such disclosures and advise the parties as to its decisions and guidance.

Larry will work with Steve Nissen and Jennifer Tomeny, Treasurer to streamline bank processing and account reporting. There was a consensus of the Board that Budget Reports should be made quarterly, however, attendance of the Budget Chair will be requested at the EC meetings. Budget requests from committees will be due in April.

Cindy Johnstone volunteered to provide INC Notebooks to the EC containing Bylaws and other relevant documents.

The INC Mission and Goals were reviewed and importance of using them as benchmarks for activities and decisions were discussed.

Members of the Board will work with the Communications Committee updating and improving Email and Internet Communication policies. The Board is not opposed to considering charging for inclusion of certain promotional items in both the Newsletter and on the INC website. There was discussion regarding the need have more EC members receive training for website postings.

The Board discussed policy regarding membership list dissemination and privacy issues. As a result of motions made and approved by the delegation, a membership directory should be made available and EC members should be able to utilize membership information in various manners if used only for INC business.

The Secretary was instructed to forward all meeting minutes first to the President who will edit and then forward for final comments from the EC.

The INC Board will request a meeting with the Hancock Administration Community Outreach officials in order to discuss, a number of citizen and RNO communications issues. The meeting will be scheduled and those EC members wishing to attend may do so.

Larry asked that Board and EC members develop a vision for the Neighborhood Conference program scheduled for July 21. After INC has developed a draft of this program it will be presented to the City for discussion.

Message From Outgoing Chair Steve Nissen

For 34 years, INC has been a network of neighborhood organizations from across the city, sharing common concerns. Our mission statement is as strong a conviction today as were our convictions three decades ago. "To advocate for Denver citizens by bringing together, informing and empowering Denver neighborhood organizations to actively engage in addressing city issues." INC may have had its ups and downs over the years depending upon, by whom and by what measure one may wish to assess. The Neighborhood Registration Ordinance was established thanks to our credit and it is to this day a useful tool for all of us. We are all aware that notification, and useful timing thereof, is imperative to fair administration of services affecting our neighborhoods. There have been instances of timing that come into question but it is up to all of us to be diligent in monitoring this in our respective neighborhoods. We can be an influence in creating or updating other ordinances as well, so that they reflect the needs of the 21st century and justly serve the citizenry.

I will say that I am proud to have met many wonderful people during my 25 or so years with INC, both within INC and within City agencies. Sometimes it is serendipitous how we meet our common comrades. A few years ago, I was driving by an intersection in my neighborhood and there was a well-dressed lady reaching high on a lamp post as she removed posted bills etc. I realized she was too short to reach her targets, and since I am 5 foot 17, I decided to pull over and give her a hand. I had a good sharp scraper in my truck and offered my assistance. There was an instant bonding as we shared a common concern, not for ourselves, but for a cause we believed in which affected my neighborhood. She was on duty, and I was a passing citizen. That lady was Nedra Niblet who has made great commitments to her responsibilities and even as she may appear to be a one-woman army for the cause.

We all need to remain cognizant of our relationship with INC so as to be aware of the

value of our contributions. The past year has presented many challenges for me as Chair. I will be honest with you and say that some of those challenges I could have done without. I'm confident INC will be stronger and more effective in representing neighborhoods in



the coming year. Since July there has been a noticeable warming in relations between the City and its citizens which we haven't experienced for several years. Now is the time to stay strongly united and not be afraid to address concerns affecting our quality-of-life. We can be, and we must be, the eyes

and ears of our service provider, The City of Denver. You and I have often heard "I'm just doing what I was told". We also know that our neighborhoods look very different to us than they do on the monitors of the folk in the brick and mortar edifices around Civic Center Park. That is the disconnect that we need to focus on. I'm pleased to say that we have seen some great improvement in that area on the part of some City agencies. I was greatly disappointed to hear that one of the agencies that we greatly depend upon for quality-of-live issues, was not aware of the 'Broken Windows' philosophy. We all have some work to do.

When you look around this room today, or at events such as our annual dinner, you see many folk who have the same concerns that you experience in your neighborhood. That's the beauty of INC. As a single meek soul we may feel helpless, but our spirits can be bolstered when we realize there are comrades waiting to work with us on an issue, and then we in turn will support them with their concerns. 'No man is an island'. What better human experience is there then working together on an issue that not only benefits yourself but other persons as well? That is the positive spirit of INC. Let's keep it alive and magnify it.

I want to believe that all of us came here to give, as opposed to receive. Gosh how we hate clichés but, 'tis better to give then to receive'. If our giving is done in concert with our INC friends, and in cooperation with City agencies, we can truly make a difference in our neighborhoods. Our image will be assessed not on the energy we put into logos, banners and catchy phrases but rather on our actions and true commitments, as we work with others in making a better quality of life in our neighborhoods. That is a challenge I would leave with this organization for the coming year.

It has been my pleasure, and sometimes heart-ache, to serve as your chair for the past year, but I do depart with a level of satisfaction. I am grateful for the experience. Thank you

INC MEMBERS This list evolves so if you paid your dues and don't see your RNO listed this month, be sure to check it next month!

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Crestmoor Park HOA 2nd filing
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