

Next INC Meeting

Saturday, July 8, 1995

Emmanuel Baptist Church
366 Garfield Street
(Garden Level Entrance)

9:00 a.m.- Coffee and Donuts
9:15 a.m.- Around the City**
10:20 a.m.- Short Break
10:30 a.m.- Mayor Webb and
Andrew Wallach
11:30 a.m.- Committee meetings
Noon - Adjourn

** Please note the earlier time!

Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation

P.O. Box 300116
Denver, CO 80218
(303) 757-5000

Craig Eley, President
Southmoor Park East HOA
3800 S. Peach Way
Denver, CO 80237

INC Executive Committee

Officers

Janey Hanley
Chairwoman
Southmoor Park E. HOA
3809 S. Newport Way
Denver, CO 80237
759-2837

Stan McIntyre
Vice Chairman
Virginia Village/
Ellis Community Assn
1371 South Edison Way
Denver, CO 80222
757-0035

Meredith Anderson
Secretary
Bellevue-Hale NA
1287 Birch St.
Denver, CO 80220
(h) 355-7736; (w) 320-2364

Connie Mays
Treasurer
Beaumont Place HOA
2685 S. Dayton Way #114
Denver, CO 80231
(h) 696-0549; (w) 757-5000

Rich Maginn
Past Chairman
Curtis Park Block Council
821 27th St.
Denver, CO 80205
(h) 295-3128;
(w) 693-1700 ext. 5645
email -rmaginn@teal.csn.org

At-Large Delegates

Larry Bokar, M.D.
North City Park Civic Assn
2905 East 26th Ave.
Denver, CO 80205
322-2233

Dan du Bois
Downtown Denver
Residents Organization
2441 Broadway
Denver, CO 80205
291-0193

Norma Edelman
Park Forest HOA
662 S. Fulton
Denver, CO
80231
(h) 344-1616; (w) 692-2372

Lisa Willis
North City Park Civic Assn
2601 Clayton St.
Denver, CO 80205
377-1912

Cathee Fisher
Harkness Heights NA
4200 Grove St.
Denver, CO 80211
433-5221

Frank Lopez
Berkeley NA
5190 Tennyson St.
Denver, CO 80212
964-8780

INC Committee Chairs

Pat Ayd
Crime Committee Co-Chair
Whittier NA
2500 Vine
Denver, CO 80205
388-8522

Harold Brewer
Crime Committee Co-Chair
North City Park Civic Assn.
2856 Madison St.
Denver, CO 80205
322-7569

Marilyn Vaughn
Education Committee
Inspiration Point NA
5441 W. 50th Ave.
Denver, CO 80212
423-2616

Carter Ballinger
Health Committee
Mayfair Neighbors
1079 Kearney St.
Denver, CO 80220
(h) 321-4952; (w) 270-8275

Katherine Woods
Housing Committee
Greater Park Hill
Community Assn
2650 Dahlia,
Denver, CO 80207
399-3250

Connie Mays
Membership Committee
(see Treasurer, above)

Jeanne Robb
Parks Committee
Country Club
Improvement Assn.
160 Downing St.
Denver, CO 80218
744-7310

Milt Sommerfelt
Public Relations Committee
Washington Park E. NA
1090 S. York St.
Denver, CO 80209
778-7079

Rich Maginn
Transportation Committee
(see Past Chairman, above)

Jim Zavist
Zoning & Land Use Committee
West University
Community Assn
1900 S. Clarkson St.
Denver, CO 80210-4104
(h) 722-2639; (w) 733-3200



The Newsletter of Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation

Denver Neighborhood Connection

July 1995

Minutes of June 10 Meeting

By Connie Mays
Acting Secretary

The June 10 INC meeting was held at the Kirk of Bonnie Brae Church, 1201 South Steele Street.

Around the City

Jim Zavist, West University Community Assn. and INC Zoning Chair, spoke of possible changes in the zoning and sign codes. Rita Sokolowski of Cory-Merrill NA, host of today's meeting, welcomed everyone to her neighborhood. Rita and Chuck Michaels, also from Cory-Merrill, noted that they are working with the St. Thomas Seminary regarding enlargements and improvements to their property.

Tom Valdez and Jane Heaven represented Pine Valley NA, who have just joined INC for the first time. They expressed their appreciation to Vel Oliver, who got their neighborhood association going again. Gene Tepper, Upper Downtown Development Organization, informed the group that four downtown organizations are working together regarding a neighborhood plan for the downtown area. Diane Wolta, Virginia Village/Ellis, spoke of problems at Ash Grove School. Virginia Village/Ellis is also trying to put pressure on the City to move more quickly in its efforts to clean up a toxic gas leak in the neighborhood.

Vesta Giltner and Nancy Landauer of Greater Bible Park noted that the Goldsmith Gulch improvements have been delayed due to rain. Nancy also noted problems with the traffic on Yale Avenue. Gary Roll, West Highlands, praised the Highlands Lutheran Church for donating \$457 to their association. Representatives from RTD attended their last meeting to discuss possible changes in the bus service. The Highlands UMC Church is setting up a soup kitchen and operating pretty much as they wish, without neighborhood input. Gary also mentioned the upcoming Highland Square street fair on June 17.

Mike Henry, CHUN, said the People's Fair was a "moderate" success, considering the inclement weather. Mike is involved in working on a comprehensive plan for the homeless, and invited neighborhood groups to contact him if they are interested in having a presentation. Gloria LeFree, SWEAT, spoke of her involvement in the advisory

July is Denver Bike Month

The Bicycle Advisory Committee of the Department of Public Works has designated July as Denver Bike Month. A number of events have been planned which are designed to provide opportunities for Denver residents to use their bicycles, as well as to increase awareness of the role of bicycles in the urban environment.

Activities include Bike to the Ballfield (July 9), Bike to Elitch's (July 15-16), Bike to Work Day (July 19), "Where's Elvis?" Fun Ride (July 16) and many others.

For further information, contact James Mackay at 640-BIKE (640-2453).

Upcoming INC Events

August - No meeting

Saturday, September 9

Topic: Crime
Location: Colfax on the Hill

Saturday, October 14

Topic: Transportation or Mill levy increase discussion (if it's on the ballot)
Location: Denver Planning Office

October - President's Dinner & Celebration of INC's 20th Birthday!

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Chairwoman's Column

By Janey Hanley

The Board recently met with Andrew Wallach from the Mayor's office in an attempt to improve communication channels between neighborhoods and the city. Some very exciting ideas were discussed. We will share them with you at our July meeting. Both Andrew and Mayor Webb will be there.

As you will read in the article about The Neighborhood Resource Center, Doug Linkhart and I are about to become very busy working with communities throughout the metro area. We are very excited about the opportunity we have to work with neighborhoods on many levels. I hope we will hear from a lot of you!

Just a reminder! I know that having the Mayor come to our meeting this month is more exciting than the committee meetings we will have after his visit, but those meetings are very important to INC. With all that is happening in our city, the schools, and all around us, we need to work in our committees several times a year, so please count on staying.

For those of you who gave me your names, and wanted to be a part of the DRCOG task forces this summer, I have given your names, addresses, and phone numbers to Peter Kenney of The National Civic League. You should already have heard from them. If you haven't, let me know.

Oh yes, in case you forgot, we won't meet in August, and your next newsletter won't come until late August. Have a wonderful summer, and we will see you in September!

Education Committee Report

By Marilyn Vaughn
Chair, Education Committee

Bits and pieces re DPS:

HIGH SCHOOL GRAD REQUIREMENTS: Some tuning of graduation requirements has been done. Highlights: Language Arts: 4 units (1 unit = 10 semester hours) required including 1 unit of literature and composition. With permission, student may substitute up to 1 unit of Word Processing 1 and 2 or foreign language courses (3, 4 or advanced placement). Social Studies: 2.5 units required including 1 of American History and .5 of American Government.

Science: 2 units required including study of the nature of alcohol and narcotics, their effects upon the human system and environmental concerns.

Mathematics: 2 units. With permission, student may substitute Accounting 1 and 2 for 1 unit.

Physical Education: 1 unit.

Community-Based Experience: Students may substitute a maximum of 3 units of community-based experience toward grad requirements.

Attendance: 4 years or 8 semesters required with 2 exceptions: students with a 3.0 GPA who have completed requirements may graduate in 7 semesters; students with 3.5 may graduate in 6 semesters.

An individual school may not impose course requirements beyond those stated as a condition of graduation from high school.

INS/OUTS: Many students in DPS choose to attend schools other than their home schools. Some choose to attend magnet schools (cost noted in last edition).

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INC Members

(Patrons in Bold)

Agency for Human Rights & Community Relations • Alamo Placita NA • Athmar Park NA • Ballpark NA • Beaumont Place HOA • Belcaro Park HOA • Bellevue-Hale NA • Berkeley NA • Bonnie Brae NA • Brandy Chase at Eastmoor Park • Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods • Cherry Creek North NA • Clayton NA • Colfax on the Hill • College View Civic Assn • Congress Park Neighbors • Cook Park NA • Cory-Merrill NA • Country Club Improvement Assn • Cranmer Park/Hilltop Civic Assn • Crestmoor Park Homeowners • Curtis Park Block Council • Denargo Market Neighbors Coalition • Denver East Central Civic Assn • **Downtown Denver Residents Orgn** • East Montclair NA • Eastmoor Park Condominium Assn • Enterprise Hill HOA • Far Northeast Neighbors • **George Washington HOA** • Golden Triangle NA • Greater Bible Park Civic Assn • Greater Park Hill Community • Hampden Heights Civic Assn • Harkness Heights NA • Harman NA • Highland United Neighbors • Historic Denver • **Historic Montclair Community Assn** • Hunt Club HOA • **Hutchinson Hills Homeowners** • Indian Creek NA • Inspiration Point NA • Jefferson Park NA • Lower Downtown District • Marion Street Coalition • **Mayfair Neighbors** • Mayfair Park NA • Metro Denver Local Development Company • Morgan's Subdivision Historic District HOA • North City Park Civic Assn • Organized Baker Residents • Overland NA • Park Forest HOA • Pinecrest Village Improvement Assn • The Promontory • Sloan Lake Citizens Group • South Hilltop NA • South Jackson Street NA • South Washington/Emerson Action Team • South West Improvement Council • **Southmoor Park East HOA** • St. Charles Neighborhood Group • Sunnyside United Neighbors • University Park Community Council • University Place • Upper Downtown Development Orgn • Upper Larimer NA • Uptown on the Hill • Valverde Neighborhood Orgn • Virginia Village/Ellis Community Assn • Warren's University HOA • Washington Park East NA • West Highland NA • West University Community Assn • West Washington Park NA • Whittier NA • Woodside Village II Condominium Assn • Yale Avenue Safety Comm •

Associate Members

Keep Denver Beautiful • Denver Board of Realtors • Downtown Denver Partnership • Governor's Community Partnership Office • King & Associates • Mary DeGroot • Dan Oredsen • Tim Sandos • RTD •

Registration Ordinance Changed

by Michael Henry

On May 15, the Denver City Council passed, without discussion or debate, a significant revision of § 41-19 of the Revised Municipal Code, pertaining to registration and notification of neighborhood organizations.

When it was first passed in 1979, the ordinance was an extremely important milestone which, for the first time, recognized neighborhood organizations officially as being "players" in issues affecting neighborhoods. The official notices of proposed actions, which agencies are required to send to neighborhood organizations, enable neighborhood groups to learn about proposed changes, spread the word to residents of the area, discuss changes with city agencies and/or applicants and to testify at appropriate hearings. Prior to the passage of the ordinance, sometimes groups were lucky enough to learn about proposed actions in advance of a hearing and sometimes they were not.

The most important change in the ordinance is that the list of matters which neighborhood groups are required to receive notification has been expanded to include the following new items: 1) residential care uses; 2) major modification to premises and/or transfer of liquor and/or cabaret licenses; 3) hearings before the Board of Building Appeals for abatement of unsafe buildings; 4) proposals to change park land use; 5) proposals to change park traffic patterns; 6) reconstruction, widening or change in direction of streets and changes to or from one-way to two-way; and 7) identification of properties being processed through nuisance abatement procedures.

The revised ordinance also articulates a new policy: "The Council encourages neighborhood organizations to work cooperatively with any adjacent or overlapping neighborhood organizations to determine positions on issues affecting the neighborhood and to conduct business in an organized, representative and fair manner, which is designed to obtain informed participation from as many neighborhood citizens as possible. Registration of organizations with overlapping boundaries is allowed, but the formation of numerous overlapping neighborhood organizations is strongly discouraged."

The new ordinance also add a few items of information which will be required for the annual registration application in January of each year and also allows a neighborhood organization to "opt out" of receiving notification of certain matters.

Finally, the revised ordinance also slightly expands the information which needs to be given by any person testifying on behalf of a registered neighborhood organization to include the following: 1) the name of the organization; 2) the boundaries of the organization; 3) the number of people, households, institutions and businesses represented by the organization and the basis for determining membership; 4) the time and date of the meeting when the organization decided on its position; 5) the nature of the meeting, whether the same was a meeting of the board, of a membership subcommittee or the general membership; 6) the number of members present; 7) a description of the process for reaching the decision, including if and how neighborhood citizens were informed and if and how they were invited to participate; and 8) the votes cast for and against the proposed position.

These revisions were the product of a several-month process, coordinated by Harriet Hogue of the Denver Planning Office, which included solicitation of comments from all neighborhood groups, agency heads, City Council and a committee of Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation including Jim Zavist, Stan McIntyre and Michael Henry.

Neighborhood Connection Articles

Articles for *Denver Neighborhood Connection* must be submitted by the 20th of the month prior to publication to the Editor, Craig Eley, 3800 S. Peach Way, Denver, CO 80237. 758-9499 (hm); 757-5000 (wk); 689-9627 (fax).

Education Committee Report

(from page 2)

A question that has not been answered: What is the impact on the home schools of the magnet schools? In any case, here are "in and out" figures for the high schools for the 94-95 school year, the "in" figure representing students from another attendance area at that school and the "out" figure, students from that attendance area at another Denver school. Lincoln, 89 in; 292 out; East, 268 in, 287 out; George Washington, 810 in; 292 out (International Baccalaureate and Computer Magnet); Kennedy, 228 in, 83 out (Marine Biology program); Manual, 226 in, 313 out (School of the Arts Magnet); North, 14 in; 249 out; South, 364 in, 241 out; Thomas Jefferson, 154 in, 260 out; West, 300 in, 183 out (International Studies Magnet); Montbello, 8 in, 261 out. You might want to compare test scores. A district official has told me that most of the out-of-district high school students in DPS attend GW.

Projected enrollment for 95-96 is 62,154 with an increase of 129 Early Childhood Education (ECE) students. September 30, 1994, (official count day) enrollment was 62,771.

FTE: This stands for full-time equivalent in DPS budget. Children in ECE and Kindergarten are funded as .5 FTE.

Colorado At Risk Preschool Program: Preschoolers have not been traditionally part of the funding formula under the state financing system. However, under this program a limited number of ECE students are funded and DPS is projecting an increase of 400 students in the funded pupil count with additions to the program.

Next INC Meeting
Saturday
July 8, 1995

Around the City

(from page 1)

committee on traffic problems in the Wash Park area. Judy Kriss, Indian Creek, noted that redevelopment by the Highline Canal will be coming before City Council shortly. Councilwoman Polly Flobeck has been serving as chair of the land use planning committee. She noted that historic designation for the Parabola would be discussed at the next council meeting. Polly also praised the council for passing the Pavilions project, an entertainment and retail complex to be located at 16th and Glenarm.

Marilyn Vaughn of Inspiration Point, INC Education Chair, presented copies of the DPS budget, a public hearing on which will be held next week. Marilyn expressed her concern about the direction of DPS and decried the unwillingness of top officials to listen to meaningful input from the citizenry. Cathee Fisher, Harkness Heights, polled the attendees to determine interest in Make a Difference Day to be held nationally October 28. Cathee wants to organize neighborhood groups to clean up school grounds in their area.

Healthy Treasury

Debbie James, Mayfair Park, introduced herself to the group. Teresa Taylor and Ellen Van Ness Seymour, University Park, introduced their new president, Dick Bjurstrom. Construction has begun on the Buchtel Trail with money from Parks and Rec, and they are organizing a fund raiser to help with landscaping. Concerns exist about the traffic on Colorado Boulevard. Kaki Woods, Greater Park Hill, announced a June 27 hearing regarding the solid waste transfer project. Connie Mays, INC Treasurer and Membership Chair, announced that we have reached 80 regular members and nine associate members; Connie also noted that with contributions from Tim Sandos and the Governor's Partnership Office, we finally have a healthy treasury.

INC's newest member, Stokes Place/Green Bowers, sent three representatives to this meeting; Esther Palmer, Louise Rouse and Chuck Anderson. Their boundaries are Steele Street, Colorado Boulevard, Exposition and Cherry Creek Drive South. Kirby Ambler, HUNI, noted that each Denver school solicits funds for clean up individually rather than through DPS. He also noted that their Weed & Seed project is associated with the overall beautification plan. Ann Caples reported that Organized Baker has received a grant for a Weed & Seed project. She also spoke of their upcoming festival and garage sale.

Toxic Spill

Virginia McIntyre, Virginia Village/Ellis, expanded on

the toxic well spill, which is less than two blocks from her home. Virginia serves on the Keep Denver Beautiful advisory board, and her sign program has been accepted. Dorothy Wells of the Cook Park neighborhood added information about the Goldsmith Gulch project.

Walt Kembel, Harmon/Cherry Creek NA, told about ground breaking on a 54-unit (very expensive) townhouse project in that neighborhood. Walt was delighted to read in the Denver Post that there is virtually "no growth problem" in Cherry Creek. Jerry Burns, Yale Avenue Safety Committee, happily reported the disappearance of graffiti in his neighborhood, and noted the zoning overlay which will soon come before City Council. Harry Nier of Hunt Club praised Polly Flobeck and Mayor Webb and his staff for their efforts concerning the development of highrises in Indian Creek. Anne Callison, George Washington Homeowners Association, also praised the mayor for offering to amend the inter-governmental agreement of the Lowry Redevelopment Authority to add voting representatives from adjacent neighborhoods.

Various Thank Yous

Sandy Adams, former candidate for Auditor, thanked those who supported and voted for her, and offered kudos to INC for its work in support of neighborhoods. Stan McIntyre, Virginia Village/Ellis and INC Vice Chair, reminded everyone of the Mayor's quarterly meeting to be held at the new library on the 14th. Stan thanked all who supported him in his run for the school board; excess money from his campaign will be donated to the Southeast Denver Youth Council. Stan also noted that six neighborhoods in his area are performing a transportation analysis. Ken Strohson of Whittier Neighborhood spoke of continuing efforts to wipe out abandoned buildings. Kathleen Brooker of the Denver Landmark Commission talked about preservation efforts regarding the Zeckendorf Plaza on the 16th Street Mall.

Ginny Westin and Dot Sobol of the League of Women Voters expounded on their efforts to make revisions in the sign code and especially in the ethics code. Efforts in this regard have been stepped up partly due to the negativism in the recent mayoral race. Jennifer Moulton (Planning & Development) and Dick Farley (Urban Design) made a short presentation on the Stapleton Redevelopment plan. The meeting concluded with a presentation by representatives from the Lowry Redevelopment Authority.

Chair Janey Hanley adjourned the meeting at 12:00.

Major Improvements Made in Liquor License Law

By Michael Henry

On April 27, 1995, Governor Roy Romer signed House Bill 1145, which contains two significant improvements (from the point of view of neighborhood organizations) in the liquor licensing process.

The pertinent sections of the bill amend Colorado Revised Statutes §§ 12-46-103 and 12-47-103 to provide that:

"Good cause" for the purposes of refusing or denying a license renewal or initial license issuance, means:

a) the licensee or applicant has violated, does not meet or has failed to comply with any of the terms, conditions or provisions of this article or any rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to this article;

b) the licensee or applicant has failed to comply with any special terms or conditions placed on its license in prior disciplinary proceedings or by agreement between the licensee and licensing authority;

c) in the case of a new license, the applicant has not established the reasonable requirements of the neighborhood or the desires of its adult inhabitants. . . or;

d) evidence that the licensee has conducted its licensed premises in a manner that adversely affects the health, welfare or safety of the neighborhood in which the licensed establishment is located.

The first major improvement of this bill is that it defines "good cause," which should avoid the legal problems which caused the Colorado Court of Appeals in 1994 to reverse the Denver Department of Excise and License's non-renewal of the liquor license of the Squire Lounge at East Colfax and Williams. Although the evidence at the Department's hearing showed significant problems with the Squire Lounge's operation, the Court of Appeals determined that the phrase "good cause" in the statute lacked any definition and was, therefore, too vague to be the basis for non-renewal of a liquor license. Now, with the newly enacted definition, both neighborhood organizations and the Department of Excise and Licenses should have a firmer basis to use against problem-causing liquor licenses.

The second major advantage of the new legislation is that, for the first time, it specifically authorizes a local liquor licensing authority to impose "special terms or conditions. . . by agreement between the licensee and the licensing authority" and, in addition, to refuse a license renewal if the licensee fails to comply with such special terms or conditions.

In the past, many neighborhood organizations have been reluctant to support a new liquor license application, even

though the applicant might promise certain things, such as a limitation of hours or a limitation of sales (such as wine only), because the neighborhood organizations doubted that such limitations could be legally enforced. Other groups have sometimes been willing to sign contracts with applicants to establish such limitations; however, in the event that the applicant would violate the contract, the enforcement obligations and legal expenses would fall upon neighborhood organizations. Under House Bill 1145, such conditions are specifically permitted and can be enforced by the city.

Thanks should be given to Tom Knorr and Margot Hartmann of Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods for successfully lobbying for the changes and to Senator Pat Pascoe and Representatives Nolbert Chavez and Doug Linkhart for supporting the bill.

(These provisions of House Bill 1145 became effective on the date of the Governor's signature, April 27, 1995.)

Grant Received for Training, Strengthening Neighborhoods

A program to strengthen metro Denver neighborhoods is beginning soon under the direction of the Neighborhood Resource Center of Metropolitan Denver. The program will include workshops, technical assistance and written materials.

NRC recently signed a contract with the Governor's Community Partnership Office to conduct a year-long community mobilization effort. Activities under the contract will be funded by a federal grant aimed at reducing and preventing crime.

Under the contract, NRC will open an office in mid-July to begin providing services to neighborhood groups in the six-county metro Denver area. NRC, which was founded by executive director Doug Linkhart two years ago, will offer a variety of assistance programs to neighborhood groups.

Technical assistance will be provided to neighborhood groups requesting such aid by a group of community consultants hired and trained by NRC. These consultants will be appointed by a community advisory board after a search process.

NRC will also conduct workshops on neighborhood organizing skills in different parts of the metro area. In some cases, NRC will work with individual neighborhoods or coalitions to produce workshops tailored to their needs.

NRC will produce a newsletter, workbooks and resource guides for neighborhood use. This information will also be made available through the Internet.

More details on these services will be distributed in the near future. In the meantime, please call Doug Linkhart, 733-3569, or Janey Hanley, 759-2837, for more information.