The meeting was called to order at 9:15 a.m. by Chairman Stan McI arty. The meeting was held at the Denver Police Academy.

INC Business:
(1) Treasurer's report (dated November 1997) was handed out in written form.
(2) City Auditor Don Mares gave a quick overview of the City's 1998 Budget and an explanation of the status of his office, which is to hold the City to living within the Budget. Don later volunteered that the Auditor's Office would put the Citizen's Handbook to the City's web site as soon as INC is ready for it.
(3) Tina Sardina from the Mayor's Neighborhood Response Office gave an update regarding the status of the Neighborhood Partnership Initiatives: a Citizen's Handbook - committee has had one meeting; needs volunteers to work on this; Mike Henry and Ken Brewer (neighborhood planner) are making a rough draft, to include three principle parts - "City Services", "Know Your City Government" and "City Processes"; b) Neighborhood Coordination - Stan and Tina have had a couple of meetings and need more volunteers to get involved with this; may have found funding; expect it to be held in Spring 1998; c) Neighborhood Plan Process - at least for now, this is to be folded into the city's assessment of the Comprehensive Plan; d) Tina's Neighborhood Response Office - has received some funding; is beginning to gear up with the new mediation consultant, who could be ready to begin in a month or so; they are down, at a minimum, 1/2 of a full time position and could use another person; she expects to have the vacant secretary position filled by the end of November; and e) Boards and Commissions - is the initiative with the weakest support from the Mayor's office; still working on getting a complete list of boards, commissions and task forces and who is on them (it's been very slow going), perhaps by year end.

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued on page 7)
Chairman's Column

By Stan McIntyre

INC's Executive Board has added another meeting to its agenda. The purpose of these meetings is to become more effective in serving our neighborhood. Stay in touch with the purpose of INC, and be flexible enough to address city-wide issues that impact our neighborhoods.

A special notice to the INC Delegates: March is just around the corner, start thinking about your annual election of officers, all seats are up for election. Just a reminder, to run for office of INC, you must be a delegate from your neighborhood association. Your input and willingness to participate will assure that INC will be vital to our membership and to the city.

We as delegates to INC must remember the purpose of INC, follow our bylaws, and keep ourselves up to date on issues of city-wide interest. Our Around the City Program can be productive if we keep our purpose in mind and stick with issues that we can act upon, or give assistance to your group. Remember, time is needed for all delegates to make their reports. We try to put an agenda together to make the meetings interesting and meaningful. With all our help we can become more effective working with city government. If each delegate would become active with one of the INC committees, and help the chairperson, we could cover more issues that could impact our neighborhoods. A well structured, informed, INC would offer all of us more voice in the community.

Police Outline

By Lieutenant Call ROWE
Deaver Police Department

Recently I was speaking to a group of people attending the Citizen's Academy which is sponsored by the Denver Police Department.

The topic was Community Policing. We were discussing the idea that Community Policing means both police officers and citizens have responsibility in solving problems. This burden is not on any one agency or group. And, the teams that are created in partnerships become very strong when they work together.

Many of the group had visited the combined police, fire and ambulance communications center as part of their curriculum. They were amazed at how busy the 911 operators were.

Did you know the 911 system is often bogged down with calls that do not constitute an emergency? One lady told me that she called 911 and had to listen to a recorded message before she was able to talk to a real person and ask for medical help for a shooting victim.

Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation

Membership Application

My organization would like to register as: [ ] Member (enclose $30) [ ] Patron (enclose $60)

Name of Organization: ___________________________

President: ___________________________

Home phone: ___________________________

INC Delegate #1: ___________________________

Home phone: ___________________________

INC Delegate #2: ___________________________

Home phone: ___________________________

Please complete the above information, enclose dues, and send to: Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation, P.O. Box 300116, Denver, CO 80218

Vision, Future of INC Examined

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Make our current and new programs/issues more successful and visible in the community.

Clarify the responsibilities of the board, delegates and committees, and strengthen existing committees.

Increase our representation on boards, commissions and task forces, and clarify the duties of the representatives that serve on them.

Additional Goals:

* Paid staff:
  Administrator
  Grant Writer
  Lawyer
  Public Relations/newsletter

* Explore additional ways INC can/needs to educate.

* Create a board and youth leadership development program.

* Develop a Speakers Bureau.

* Raise $125,000 per year within five years.

Using 911 Correctly Helps System Work Well for All

Continued from page 2

Now, that means one of two things was happening. The 911 operators were all busy because the extreme emergencies in our city were occurring at the same time. Or, the operators were handling their everyday workload by talking to people calling because of barking dogs, leaking pipes, asking for directions, fallen stop signs, broken tree limbs, smashed windows - the list is endless.

Certainly, you need to call for assistance for these events - call the non-emergency number. Better yet, call the city office that handles that type of situation.

I know... you don't remember any other number by heart, except 911. Your neighborhood group office has lists of city resources to help solving any problem that occurs. The city offices are listed in the telephone book. The telephone information operator can assist you. If all else fails, the clerks at the district police stations have telephone listings. Don't call 911 to ask questions or request help that hasn't an immediacy to it.

I know you wouldn't want it on your conscience that you were talking on 911 while a mother with a badly injured child was unable to get her baby medical help.

Let's work together on this. Get the message out. 911 is for life threatening cases and crimes that are happening right now. We can do this. We can un-clog the 911 system by creating a team. We are powerful together.

Tell everyone you speak with: Use 911 the right way!
Letters to INC

Thanks, INC

Dear INC:

You did it again! On behalf of the students, families, and staff of Denver Public Schools, let me offer my sincere thanks to your organization and its members for your support of the Dollar Dictionary Drive. What a wonderful program this is, not only providing the dictionaries to each of our third grade students, but perhaps, even more importantly, letting the students know that the community is interested in and concerned about their education.

It was my joyous opportunity to attend many of the dictionary distributions and to see the eyes of the children light up as they were given their very own dictionaries. Let me close by simply saying thank you to each and every one of you for all that you did to make this possible for the children of Denver Public Schools.

Sue Edwards
President
Denver Public Schools
Board of Education

Correction

Dear INC:

Regarding Lisa Ferreira's report on the Denver Police Nuisance Abatement Unit report to the Advisory Committee, the figure of 85% voluntary compliance is inaccurate. I did give this figure in error, relying on my memory when I should have looked at my notes. I then corrected it, but apparently not sufficiently. The current rate of voluntary compliance to Public Nuisance Abatement Plans remains at 98%. I apologize for the incorrect information which I provided.

I would also like to clarify the range of options on cars seized as public nuisances. Most of these cars are closed for a period of time, ranging from 30 days to 2 years. Only in the most severe cases is the vehicle destroyed.

David L. Michaud, Chief
Denver Police Department

Congratulations

Dear INC:

Greetings attendees of the Eleventh Annual Neighborhood Presidents Dinner. Though unable to attend, I am with you in spirit. I offer my heartiest congratulations to the Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation for their eleven years of dedicated service to the community.

May all who have worked so hard know that they have truly made a difference in the lives of many.

I wish you the best of luck as you embark on the next eleven years!

Donald J. Mares
Auditor

We’re on Record

Dear INC:

We have been receiving your fine publication in the City Librarian’s Office at the Denver Public Library and have been forwarding it to our Western History Department for the public and eventually, our archives. Thank you very much.

Ginny Nichols
Administrative Assistant to the City Librarian

Christmas Tree Recycling Scheduled in Denver

Dec. 29 thru Jan. 9

Denver Recycles will repeat its popular annual Christmas tree recycling program, Treecycle, this year. Anyone whose trash is collected by Denver Public Works/Solid Waste Management, is encouraged to participate. This year, Christmas trees will be collected during a two week period between December 29th and January 9th the same day as your trash day.

To Treecycle, simply remove all decorations, tinsel, nails and stands from your tree and set it out for collection by 7 a.m. on your trash day. Residents with dumpster service should leave their trees just behind their property facing the alley (not next to the dumpster, please).

Treecycle helps Denver avoid using landfill space and paying disposal fees for a valuable, recyclable resource. It’s an excellent way to give new life to your Christmas tree and feel good about protecting the environment.

All Christmas trees will be around into March. Which will be available free to Denver residents at the Treecycle Mulch giveaway next spring. Call 640-1678 after March 1st for more information.

Minutes and Around the City

(Continued from page 1)

(4) Stan noted that City Council is gearing up to start the process of having nine separate task forces look at different areas of the City’s Comprehensive Plan. If you want to be on a task force contact your councilperson or Susan Barnes-Gill. INC expects this to be an important process; your neighborhood needs to take the initiative to get involved NOW! Right now Stan, Janny Hanley, Mike Henry and Jim Zavist appear to be on a task force.

Jim Zavist (Zoning Chair) handed out information on the two proposed amendments to the current city code concerning recreational vehicles. The first will eliminate the current requirement that all such vehicles over 22 feet in length be enclosed (i.e. garage). The second seeks a compromise position which would require the owner to file for a permit, that, upon administrative review from the zoning department (and with the support of adjacent and nearby neighbors) would then eliminate the requirement of enclosure.

This issue has a public hearing in front of city council December 1. Get your input out to your councilperson and the at-large councilpersons, and show up at the public hearing.

Around the City

Virginia Village/Ellis noted that R-1 zoning issues need to be looked at closely -- anyone wanting to work on this should contact Stan. N City Park has a liquor store issue coming up. Mayfair Park has continuing Lowry problems. Sunnyside United is concerned about the high density (and other issues) at the old Elitch Gardens redevelopment site.

Neighborhood Resource Center has rescheduled its “blazzard-out” neighborhood motivation program and speaker for December 13, 6:30 p.m. (after our December INC meeting), at the United Way building off of I-25. Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Response is watching how the new pilot program “Re-engineering Inspections” is working and will report back to us.

There’ll Be Trucks Out On The Four-Lane

E. Montclair, based on last week’s INC quarterly meeting with the Mayor, is hoping for a change to Quebec street being a truck route, and they don’t want the medians on Montview that the city is suggesting because they are afraid it will become a barrier and divide their neighborhood. George Washington, also per the meeting with the Mayor, hopes that the Mayor now sees the problems that making Quebec a four lane street will cause.

CHUN will be dispersing $42,000 in People’s Fair grants this month.

Organized Baker Residents is providing encouragement and thanks to their Weed & Seed police officers, the program is working and is making a difference! However, they notice traffic is coming back, but merchants are finally interested in jumping on it and getting cleaned up. A. U. E. O. S. says that if anyone is interested in getting a committee together to work on the issues related to new medians going in you are contact Tom Tayon. Ballpark will have a curbside including workshop/discussion (looking for solutions to this problem) on November 19. Ruby Hill has a cabaret license fight coming up (it first went in as “just a restaurant and bar” because it backs up too close to residential) to be a night club.

W. Highlands notes the Elitch Gardens plan is coming up before the city Planning Committee this month. Cherry Pointe wants to know what can we do with traffic city-wide? Should INC take a position? Downtown Denver Residents is finding out that the Palace Loft is bigger than anyone thought, and out-of-scale for the area. Neighborhood Planning Office is now up to full staff (so put them to work in your area!).

Mayfair Neighbors will do their annual distribution of Thanksgiving baskets in their area; the stop light on Hale Pkwy. will have a memorial in the median (to the child who died), and one of their school teachers put together a wonderful notebook on the historic Smoky Hill Trail (which runs through their neighborhood park), which can be used as a teaching resource -- call Tom Horn in Parks, 964-2551, if you want a copy.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Next Mayor’s Quarterly Meeting will be February 4, 1998

Watch for Location in January’s newsletter

Neighborhood Code Assembly Scheduled

The third Neighborhood Code Enforcement Assembly will take place on January 7, 1998 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Denver Board of Realtors, 4300 East Warren Avenue.

The assembly, sponsored by INC and Neighborhood Support Services, is for the purpose of hearing concerns and suggestions from neighborhoods regarding the enforcement of provisions of the Denver Municipal Code which pertain to exterior property maintenance standards and rubbish handling guidelines. All citizens of Denver are invited to attend.

NOTICE
To contact the Office of Neighborhood Response, please call 640-5827
“Good Neighbors” Sought for INC Award
By Kathe Cheever

In an effort to recognize good neighboring and expose “bad”
neighboring, INC delegates proposed the Good Neighbor Award
and the Golden Screw Award. Good neighbors would be lauded
for their efforts in support of the community; slumlords,
nuisance property owners and other less-than-desirable
neighbors would be spotlighted for the error of their ways (a
spin-off of former Senator Proxmier’s Golden Fleece Awards).

We were never able to agree on the most appropriate
description of a Golden Screw Award recipient. Public scrutiny
did not seem to improve property upkeep or shoddy business
practices. Therefore, the Gold Screw Award was dropped.

The Good Neighbor Award has had a much brighter history.
Denver’s neighborhoods harbor a vast supply of good neighbors
who:
1. tirelessly serve their neighbors and work to improve their
   neighborhoods in a wide variety of ways; and
2. receive little or no other recognition for all of their good
   works.

As 1998 approaches we urge you to search out those hard
workers in your community who are “always there” to help get
the job done; who go “the extra mile” to assist their neighbors;
who lead and complete tasks for the joy of serving without
expectation of great accolades. Nominate these “unsung heroes”
for the 1998 Good Neighbor Award.

INC and all of our neighborhoods benefit from the diligent
work of these kind and giving people. Let us give back through
public recognition of these exceptional Denver residents.

Report from Comprehensive
Plan Update Subcommittee
By Jim Zavist
INC Zoning Chair

The City Council Comprehensive Plan Update Subcommittee
continues to meet and to make slow progress defining its scope
of work and its process.

The Subcommittee is soliciting requests from individuals to
work under contract as a facilitator for the process. INC has been
attending all of the Subcommittee’s meetings. INC has been
identified as a group whose input is needed, and as a group with
members willing to play an active role in the process.

One interesting comment from a meeting came from Jennifer
Moulton, Denver’s Planning Director, who said that it is a goal
within the Department to move away from separating individual
uses to encouraging more joint uses. Individual neighborhood
groups need to discuss the implications of this goal, and whether
they wish to support or oppose it. In traditional single-family
areas, this could mean higher densities, might allow the
introduction of some multi-family housing units, and/or allow
the introduction of appropriate non-residential uses within an
existing neighborhood.

The theory behind allowing joint uses is that it would allow a
wider range of housing types, such as mother-in-law apartments,
which would both increase the amount of affordable housing in
the city and allow empty-nesters to stay in the parts of town
where they raised their kids. It would also reduce the need for
commuter trips if needed services (7-11, dry cleaners, day care)
could be provided closer to where people live. It would also, in
the long run, make it easier for people to work closer to home if
office and/or manufacturing uses were allowed closer to or mixed
in with residential areas.

The arguments against joint uses include "if it ain’t broke, don’t
fix it," and that allowing multiple uses would result in lower
property values, greater undesirable impacts, higher densities,
more traffic, and will make neighborhoods less safe.

City Park Partnership
Task Force Meeting Set

A public meeting of the City Park Partnership Task Force has
been scheduled for December 3, 1997 from 7 to 9 p.m. The
meeting will be held at the Ricketson Auditorium at the Denver
Museum of Natural History. Attendance should enter on the west
side of the museum.

The Task Force will present highlights of its final report and
action plans for 1998. Citizens will learn how they can stay
involved in the process.

For further information, contact Susan Baird at Denver Parks
and Recreation at 964-2523.

Water Department Offers
Cold Weather Pipe Tips

Property owners who hope to escape the expense and
inconvenience of broken water pipes in their homes and
businesses should prepare now for the season’s inevitable
onslaught of freezing and subfreezing temperatures, Denver
Water service personnel suggest.

To help customers get ahead of cold-weather plumbing breaks,
Denver Water is offering a checklist of preventive measures
based on the experience of its water control and customer service
employees. The brochure is also available in Spanish. For free
copies, call 268-6000.

Articles for the January issue of Denver Neighborhood
Connection should be sent to INC,
P.O. Box 300116, Denver, CO 80218. They must
be received by December 19.