Meeting INC’s Goals

One of INC’s 2012 goals is to strengthen INC’s voice and influence in City government decisions by ensuring INC Members have meaningful opportunities to actively participate in the decision-making processes of the City at all levels.

INC salutes the following individuals who are participating in decision-making processes with the City:

- Randle Loeb (CHUN), INC Secretary, Roger Armstrong (CHUN) and Michael Henry (CHUN) and INC Zoning & Planning Committee chair are appointed to the Mayor’s Commission on Homelessness.
- The Mayor has appointed Anthony Thomas (Civic Association of Clayton), INC Delegate-at-Large, to be a member of the Public Nuisance Abatement Task Force. Also appointed is Kathleen Wells, who is on the board of Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods.
- David Webster (Colfax on the Hill), a past Chair of INC, is a member of the Planning Board
- Roger Armstrong (CHUN) is a member of the Botanic Gardens Board of Trustees
- 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) were assigned to this committee and have completed their work.

INC Involved In City Selections

INC was a host for a community forum on April 19 giving the public a chance to meet the final three candidates for Denver’s Independent Monitor. The mission of the Office of the Independent Monitor is to provide fair and objective oversight of the Denver Police and Sheriff’s Departments. Coincidentally, all three finalists are all currently serving in public offices in California.

- Eddie J. Aubrey  Aubrey currently serves as Prosecuting Attorney in the Renton City Attorney’s Office in Renton, California.
- Julie M. Ruhlin  Ruhlin is the Deputy Chief Attorney in the Los Angeles County Office of Independent Review responsible for monitoring the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department to ensure that allegations of deputy misconduct, deputy-involved shootings, and force incidents are investigated and handled thoroughly, fairly, and objectively.
- Stephen J. Connolly  Connolly is the executive director of the Orange County Office of Independent Review in Orange County, California where he is responsible for monitoring critical incidents and allegations of misconduct involving the Orange County Sheriff’s Department.
From The President

Last November, the INC Executive Committee which consists of the nine member Board of Directors and the Chairs and Co-Chairs of INC committees, held a long overdue planning retreat to assess and discuss where the organization has been, where it should be going and how to get there. The six or so hours the group 17 people spent, we believe, resulted in a simple but meaningful mission statement (we never had one) and some long term and short term goals for the board, the committees and the delegation.

I want to thank you for your good faith in electing me President of INC. You have seen and will be seeing reminders of our mission and goals in publications and in meetings. I pledge to you to move the INC organization forward toward realizing its potential as we learn about our government, public institutions, policies and programs and advocate for the betterment of our community. Below is our new mission statement and our short term goals for the coming year.

Mission Statement

Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation’s mission is to advocate for Denver citizens by bringing together, informing and empowering Denver neighborhood organizations to actively engage in addressing City issues.

INC Goals for 2012-13

• To strengthen our voice and influence in City government decisions by ensuring INC Members have meaningful opportunities to actively participate in the decision-making processes of the City at all levels.
• To broaden the leadership skills of INC Members
• To proactively identify and address city-wide issues
• To conduct relevant, useful and efficient INC meetings
• To ensure ongoing fiscal sustainability of INC

I will be writing more about the outcomes of the 2011 planning retreat in future Newsletters. Please feel free to email or call me or any member of the Executive Committee anytime with your ideas about how INC can serve the needs of your neighborhood, or issues of concern with which we should be come involved or might be of help. You will find our contact information on the back page of this Newsletter.

Larry Ambrose
INC President

Minutes From The Delegates Meeting

April 14, 2012

President Larry Ambrose called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Broadway Cop Shop 407 S. Broadway. A quorum of delegates was present. Katie Fisher moved and, Marlene Johnson seconded to approve the minutes of the March 11 delegate Assembly. The motion passed by acclamation.

Treasurer’s Report Jennifer Tomeny told the delegation there is $30,078 in all INC accounts which includes approximately $13,000 for the Dollar Dictionary Drive.

Larry announced Ken Beaudrie is no longer handling membership. INC is looking for a new Membership Committee Chair. Please contact Larry Ambrose.

Executive Committee referred a Resolution to postpone the vote of the City Council on 12-0241 banning unauthorized public camping until there is time to inform INC members on the ordinance. The May 12 delegate meeting was proposed as a date to have a public assembly devoted to the ordinance with a balanced presentation as the only topic to be discussed other than INC business.

The proposed resolution from the INC Executive Committee was read to the assembly and then Randle Loeb moved and Dave Felice seconded the approval of the motion (See EC Committee Recap, Page 5). Discussion followed.

Councilman Albus Brooks made a presentation appealing to the delegates to support BR12-0241 Banning Unauthorized Camping in the City and County of Denver. He pointed out this was Brooks’ first time in front of INC. He said that City Attorney David Broadwell pointed out that thousands of municipalities have instituted this type of ordinance. Some quotes from the Councilman are: “We are engaged in creating a balanced attack on resolving this situation.” “Thousands of residents are asking us to institute this ordinance, citing sanitation, personal safety...” He said that Colorado Springs, Boulder and Greeley have not done enough on the compassionate side of this issue and that the City will develop a 24 hour center to have a place for homeless people to stay. He believes that by asking for this ordinance to be postponed INC is putting the burden on the people downtown. Instead, said Brooks, INC should move up its public forum meeting to coincide with the Council’s voting schedule because “this is an emergency situation in Denver.”

Comments from the delegates indicated the ordinance has roused a lot of emotions. “This ordinance has motivated a lot of people.” “There was someone sleeping in my garage.” “There are many people who are homeless who are scaring the neighbors, the tourists, the bystanders, the downtown community.”

In response to a question of what is the reason that he is instituting this now he responded that thousands of people are complaining from the business community and Denver Health is spending much too much money for the homeless. In response to a the question, “What do you want INC to do?” Councilman Brooks responded, “I want you to move up the meeting from May 12 before May 7 final vote on the ordinance.” He said that people on the Mall are using cardboard boxes, sleeping bags, in doorways and in the middle of the Mall. They do not have structures in the formal sense of this concept. Therefore, the ordinance includes defining a structure as a sleeping bag or blanket.

NEED HOSTING GROUPS FOR INC MONTHLY MEETINGS IN 2012 If your RNO or organization would like to host one of INC’s monthly meetings, please let us know! Click here for hosting guidelines and if you are interested, contact either Larry Ambrose, President at LDA@earthnet.net or Randle Loeb, Secretary, at randelleoeb@gmail.com. Meeting space should accommodate up to 60 people, have handicap access and parking.

> continued on PG 4
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.

Budget Committee will conduct an audit of INC’s financial matters on April 24. Findings will be presented to the Executive Committee, then to Delegates.

Communications Committee has added a feature to accommodate online membership payments from the www.denverinc.org website. Committee will submit ideas for INC brochures for budget 2012. Committee seeks added members to help with newsletter, web updating and community news.

Membership Committee Jane Lorimer is the interim membership person. There are plans to launch a new member campaign mid year.

ZAP Committee Minutes

By Michael Henry, Chair

The INC Zoning and Planning (ZAP) Committee met on April 28. Caryn Wenzara of the Community Planning and Development Department (CPD) outlined CPD’s tentative work program for 2012, although changes may be made when the Mayor appoints a new Manager for the Department.

CPD’s Planning Services Department will focus on:
1) planning for the west light-rail line and stations, including bus-stop enhancements;
2) a citywide strategic plan for transit-oriented developments;
3) planning for the South Platte River;
4) a Globeville Area Plan in parallel with an Elyria-Swansea Plan;
5) planning for the National Western Stock Show and its land;
6) planning for the east light-rail line to DIA;
7) planning for an airport city or aerotropolis near DIA;
8) finishing the Cherry Creek Area Plan and starting the Central Park and Golden Triangle Plans;
9) historic preservation. ZAP members stressed that citizens and neighborhood groups need to be involved from the beginning in all of these planning efforts. The committee plans to meet with the new CPD Manager, whenever he or she is appointed.

Tina Axelrad of CPD, Kim Kucera of CRL Associates (representing the National Western Stock Show) and Nathan Batchelder of Councilwoman Judy Montero’s office informed the committee of upcoming Zoning Code Text Amendment 12, regarding non-conforming signs, which will be considered by the Planning Board on May 16. Councilwoman Montero and CPD were motivated to support this amendment because the National Western Stock Show violated the current sign code (passed in 1971) by causing one of its large signs to have illegal electronic changing messages. The current sign code requires that if any change to a non-conforming sign is made, the sign loses its legal non-conforming status and the sign must be removed. If passed, the amendment would allow one corrective action to return the sign to its former status. Tina stressed that this amendment will not affect billboards or temporary signs. The committee urged Tina to request CPD to initiate an update, with citizen involvement, of the entire sign code. Although the sign code is part of the zoning code, it was not considered during the zoning code update process between 2005 and 2010. It will be a lengthy and expensive process to update the 1971 sign code.

Marcus Pachner updated the committee on the redevelopment of the 30-acre former University of Colorado Health Sciences campus at East 9th Avenue and Colorado Blvd., which is moving very slowly due to the economic downturn. Fuqua Development, the 3rd successive developer on the project, is now finalizing retail and restaurant leases and contracts for at least 450 residential apartments. A 9-12 month demolition process will begin later in 2012, with construction to begin in the 3rd quarter of 2013. Several new streets will be installed. An application for city landmark designation of the historic nurses’ dormitory and the quadrange will be filed as soon as the University transfers title to the developer.

continued on PG 6
Delegate Meeting Recap cont.

Cindy Johnstone stated that “this is not an emergency. Please be thoughtful and responsible and give us more than two and a half weeks. The INC mission is to inform its delegates, and I don’t think City Council is doing that.” Mr. Brooks said, “When there are 600 people sleeping outside that is an emergency. This has been a significant burden for years.” Mr. Brooks admitted that the ordinance was only solidified two and half weeks ago. He said “There was nothing to talk about in the community but we talked about this for the last year privately.

Other arguments in favor of the postponement made were: The Commission on the Homeless has not been able to meet on this subject; the new Executive Director, Bennie Miller, was appointed only two months ago; and whether or not the campers are being pushed from the central core of the Metro Region to the surrounding communities.

A motion to call the question was made and seconded. The motion passed with 20 members in favor and five opposed.

The vote on the Resolution was held with twenty in favor, four opposed and three abstentions.

Judy Schneider offered a tour for people to see what is going on in the Ballpark Neighborhood. She said. “We have been dealing with this since the beginning of time. If you want to have a realistic vote then you need public input.”

Larry announced that INC needs a Membership Committee Chair. He also gave a summary of the Executive Committee Meeting of April 9.

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Larry announced that he would be asking on regular basis at delegate meetings for member organizations to host INC meetings. He also will be asking the delegates for topics and issues of interest both for programs at monthly meeting and for INC to refer to committees for consideration.

Suggested issues and topic of interest mentioned include:
- Problems with inter-agency communication within the City
- How to help small businesses make opening easier Economic Development Office - Chris Martinez

Conflicts of neighborhood and small businesses having to do with impact of noise, parking in development, include neighborhoods in the development stage.

Transportation issues
- Bicycles in Denver/safety and bicycles, pedds and autos..
- Hydraulic Fracking in Denver.
- Long term planning for 300,000 more people in Denver
- Programs available neighbors in need
- Block by block planning.
- Public safety and open market drug dealing

Larry asked the members contact him any time they have other suggestions at lda@earthnet.net or call him at (720) 490-1991.

The Board will be looking at whether there is a need for new committees to address issues which are otherwise not been or are not being addressed now. Larry pointed out that any RNO member can be a member of an INC committee and there are thousands of members of INC RNOs with many talents and interests. He will be reminding delegates to make known INC’s committees and issues encourage their RNO members to get involved.

Committee Reports

The Parks and Recreation Committee will meet on the third Tuesday of every month at the. Heritage Club 2020 S. Monroe St. at 6 p.m. in the Crafts Room. Members of INC PARC attended the Parks Advisory Board and spoke Department rules and regulations. They also are involved in the issue of Admission Based events and the sale of alcohol at Ruby Hill Park.

Gil Gonzales said the Library Committee will meet on May 8 at Ross University Library at 6:30 p.m. They will raise questions about the upcoming bond issue even though, as of yet, there is no ballot issue proposed to either create a library district or to just ask the taxpayers for a dedicated mill levy.

Karen Taylor said the Education Committee will be keeping abreast of a survey concerning Denver Public Schools Mill Levy proposed for the fall ballot.

Brad Zeig announced the Transportation Committee will meet May 3 at the CHUN, Tears McFarlane House, 1290 Williams St from 6 to 8 p.m. They will review the mission statement and future of the Committee. Brad asked each RNO to send a representative for this Committee.

Judy Schneider will be planning the City-wide Inter-Neighborhood Conference on Saturday July 21 at Coors Field.

Annual Dinner Judy reported $4,500.00 was raised from the auction and silent auction at the Annual Dinner. A ton of sponsors were responsible for $2,500 in sponsorships. Visit Denver graciously paid the entire bill for food for all the guests.

Zoning and Planning Michael Henry introduced two motions published in the Newsletter from Zoning and Planning to make the voted upon by the delegation. The first advises the department of Excise and Licensing not to allow temporary patios permits for restaurants and bars. Moved by Michael Henry and seconded by Randle Loeb: The motion was approved 25 in favor with 2 abstentions.

The second motion asked Excise and Licenses to promptly comply with an ordinance passed in February, 2010 where medical marijuana facilities must comply with the requirement to notify RNO’s about issue. Moved by Michael Henry and seconded by Randle Loeb: Michael Sapp, the Mayor’s neighborhood liaison and staff met to discuss this. Sapp said “We hear you loud and clear. We are working on this we are meeting on this on Friday.” The motion passed 25 in favor none opposed.

Announcements
May 2 University Park is hosting a Home Tour.

Wear something ORANGE on April 23, 1:30 p.m. There will be a special event honoring the last Councilwoman, Carla Madison and on that day before City Council there will be a proclamation read honoring her service as a City Council member and a citizen.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 10:15 am.
Executive Committee Meeting Recap

April 9, 2012   Submitted by Randle Loeb

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m., 1201 Williams St., 19th Flr., by President Larry Ambrose Present: BOD: Larry Ambrose, Cindy Johnstone, Randle Loeb, Jennifer Tomeny, Cathy Donohue, Anthony Thomas, Judy Schneider, Katie Fisher. Committee Chairs: Steve Nissen, Michael Henry, Jane Lorimer, Merce Lea, Karen Taylor, Gilbert Gonzales.

Bradley Zieg amended the minutes to reflect the 7 lane transportation corridor of I-70 to say: “Realignment, I-70, Brighton Blvd to Colorado Blvd.” The March 12 minutes were approved by acclamation as amended.

Cindy Johnstone is making binders with tabs containing information for the Board and committee chairs. A motion was moved and seconded to expedite funds for the notebook binders. The motion was approved by acclamation.

The end of the current fiscal year Treasurer’s report presented. Total funds on hand including Dollar Dictionary funds were $30,098.60. The Report was approved by acclamation. Larry announced he has delegated responsibility for picking up checks at the post office and making deposits to Steve Nissen.

The membership lists will begin to be shared in an unencrypted form. Jane Lorimer will be doing the membership list as we search for a new Membership Committee Chair. There was discussion email list and website policies. INC’s email list contains more than 600 addresses. Jane was commended for her work on newsletter and weekly update email blasts.

Steve pointed out that INC needs to file a form with the IRS regarding changing our fiscal year. Jennifer will file the form. The Bylaws were changed in March to allow the fiscal year to correspond to the calendar year. This fiscal year will be only 9 months, from April 1 to December 31. Then a new fiscal year will begin.

Larry would like to see INC have space for an office and committee meetings. He will be proposing to make this part of the budget and we will look first for donated space. The Broadway Cop Shop was suggested as a location.

Committee structure and what committees are vital was discussed. Committees are being asked to develop mission statements and list current projects. The purposes of the committees is to inform, educate and study the issues and to recommend positions to the delegation. Dollar Dictionary is to become part of the Education Committee and Steve will be a Co-Chair with Karen. The Library Committee will be Co-chaired by Chris O’Connor, Gilbert Gonzales and Chris Citron will continue to be involved. It is likely that City Council will be asked to refer a ballot issue regarding a Library District to be voted on in November. The Education Committee will be working to study a school bond issue proposing a mill levy increase that will go on the ballot in November. These issues need to be studied and the delegation will weigh in on them as a part of our mission.

Ken Beaudrie has resigned as Membership Chair. We will be looking to find someone to replace Ken Beaudrie who has resigned as Membership Chair. Larry believes it is important to have that committee work closely with Jane and the Communications Committee.

Judy Schneider will talk to Visit Denver about picking a date and place for the Annual Dinner and a committee will begin working on this as well as the Citywide Neighborhood Conference on July 21 at Coors Field.

A Conflict of Interest motion was made at the March meeting. There was discussion regarding individual officers potential conflicts of interest.

The following resolution regarding the process for Council Bill 12-0241 banning camping was proposed to be referred to the delegate meeting on April 14. The motion to refer the Resolution was made by Randle Loeb and seconded by Jennifer Tomeny. It passed by acclamation.

“Whereas, The Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation (INC) believes that the City Council ordinance proposing to ban unauthorized camping has significant implications to the citizens and neighborhoods of Denver, and

Whereas, the impacts and ramifications of the ordinance on individuals and neighborhoods has not been fully explored by Denver citizens, and

Whereas, alternatives whereby individuals directly affected by the ordinance have not been developed or are not known to Denver citizens, Now therefore, be it resolved that INC respectfully asks Denver City Council to postpone a vote on the ordinance banning unauthorized camping on property in the City and County of Denver until such time as adequate, additional public meetings have been held to inform and educate Denver citizens including homeless people, as to the details of the ordinance being established. INC specifically proposes to hold a thorough forum on the subject at the May 12th delegate meeting, wherein all parties, including homeless people be invited, a balanced presentation will be made before all Registered Neighborhood Organizations present and where delegates will have the chance to learn and ask meaningful questions.”

As part of Executive Committee meetings, Larry will regularly ask for ideas regarding topics which should be addressed and/or to be presented at INC delegate meetings as well as for committees to address. Ideas expressed for exploration include: The Biennial of the Americas, 2013; Lobbying and City Council; The Open Air Marketing of Drugs throughout Denver; The new Director of Economic Development, Paul Washington; the Mayor’s appointment of a Housing Task Force and neighborhood representation; the Regional Transportation District ballot initiative for FastTracks; the new Public Works Director Jose Cornejo; sometimes having an opportunity to talk to one another and to network; the Bond mill levies for the School and Library Districts and the Election Forum. Topics which might be appropriate for committee consideration include: snow removal, finance issues, trash pick up, health and hospitals, bicycling, street maintenance, aging safe cities, traffic in neighborhoods and the crime vulnerability index. Additional ideas for topics will be sought from the delegation on an ongoing basis.
The committee noted the recent death of ZAP committee member Doug Pimpel of Historic Baker Neighborhood Association, a quiet hard-working volunteer for BHNA and the Broadway Cop Shop.

Charlie Bush and Charlotte Winzenberg of West Washington Park Neighborhood Association and Judy Schneider of ballpark informed the committee of a new phenomenon in those neighborhoods – “beer bikes” or “beer-trolleys” - that transport 10-12 patrons from bar to bar, while serving beer along the way and causing considerable noise, disruption and safety hazards. Committee members do not know if any agency regulates these vehicles. INC members should collect and share information with each other about this.

Brad Zeig, chair of INC’s new transportation committee, invited everyone to attend the first regular meeting of the committee on May 3, which will be co-hosted with Transportation Solutions, a transportation management organization that works in the area bounded by Colfax, Broadway, Hampden and Interstate 225.

The ZAP committee passed the following 2 motions, for consideration by the INC Delegation on May 12 (delegates should review and be prepared to vote):

I

Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation should communicate the following to the Manager of Community Planning and Development, the Planning Board, the Mayor and City Council. Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation is a network of approximately 100 registered neighborhood organizations in Denver. Since its founding in 1979, INC has been strongly committed to the idea that citizens and neighborhood organizations in Denver should be informed about and involved in significant public policy issues that affect neighborhoods, including zoning and land use planning.

Many INC delegates and hundreds of other citizens participated in the preparation of Denver’s Comprehensive Plan in 2000, Blueprint Denver in 2002 and the lengthy update of the Zoning Code and the Zoning Map which concluded in 2010. During the update of the Zoning Map, the Community Planning and Development staff, the Zoning Code Task Force, the Planning Board and City Council used 3 factors to determine which zone district to apply to parcels of land: 1) adopted plans for that area, including Comprehensive Plan 2000 and Blueprint Denver, 2) the existing zone district and 3) the existing neighborhood context. The 2010 Zoning Code and Zoning Map are form-based.

In 2012, a consultant for CPD and CPD staff have suggested that “inadequate return on investment” should be a motivating factor for increasing allowable density and height in future zonings, particularly in the update of the Cherry Creek Area Plan.

INC strongly opposes consideration of “inadequate return on investment” as a new factor in rezoning decisions or creation of new zone districts for the following reasons:

Broad-based citywide discussions should be held and consensus reached before such a significant change in zoning policies should be implemented.

Virtually every applicant for rezoning will attempt to argue that the existing zoning offers “inadequate return on investment.” In addition, applicants for zoning variances, liquor licenses and other types of regulated permits will attempt to argue that they need a greater return on investment as a justification.

“Inadequate return on investment” has never been a factor to be considered in rezoning decisions in any of the deliberations leading to the texts of Comprehensive Plan 2000, Blueprint Denver or the 1956 or the 2010 Zoning Code and Zoning Map.

For many years, the Zoning Code has indicated that rezoning decisions should only be based on an error in the original zoning or changing conditions.

Market values for land and property should already take into account the existing zoning. Such a factor would significantly disrupt the community collaboration and compromise that resulted in the 2010 form-based Zoning Code and Zoning Map.

II

The INC Sidewalk Position Statement that INC adopted in 2006 should be amended to include the following additions (the full statement will be available at the May 12 Delegation meeting):

INC strongly urges the City and County of Denver to implement a city-wide program of sidewalks for pedestrian safety and mobility, including:

Adopting measures to preserve and complete sidewalks that are consistent with established neighborhood character in layout, design, and materials, including flagstone sidewalks where that is part of the established character;

Providing more aggressive education and enforcement of the city’s snow shoveling regulations, and developing a program of volunteer assistance for residents who need help in shoveling;

Working with the city to find and implement a sensible solution to the problem of homeowners who are required to shovel walks to which they have no easy access;

Urging the city to modify snow plowing practices, which throw chunks of ice and snow onto already shoveled sidewalks, to strike a reasonable balance between the need to keep traffic moving and at the same time the need to provide a safe route for pedestrians and wheelchair.

NOTE: INC recognizes that there are also city-wide concerns regarding the city rights-of-way adjacent to sidewalks and will address these in a separate Right-of-Way Position Statement.

THE MAY INC ZAP meeting will be Sat, May 19th at 9:30 AM, a week earlier than usual due to Memorial Day the following weekend. Guests will be Tom Downey of Denver Excise and Licenses and Jose Cornejo, the new Manager of Public Works.

Committees Looking For Volunteers

Communications Committee – (Newsletter, eblasts, web updates) Contact Michael Smilanic for details: communications@denverinc.org

Transportation Committee – (Addresses traffic, roads, repairs) Contact Brad Zeig for details: bradleyzieg@msn.com

Neighborhood Conference – (Planning, execution) Contact Judy Schneider for details: judy.ballpark@gmail.com

Public Safety Committee – (Drug & crime education) Contact Merce Lea for details: meredithzn@aol.com

Membership Committee – (Recruit, track, retain) Chair position open: contact INC President: LDA@earthnet.net
INC Hosts Safety Expo

INC and the Broadway COP Shop presented a Community Safety Expo which immediately followed INC’s April meeting of Delegates. Participants included: SWAT Team Members, Community Fire, Police and Sheriff Teams, City, State and Federal Safety Organizations and Denver’s Mounted Police Patrol and K9.

Visitors had the opportunity to explore and ride in a variety of vehicles used by the City such as fire trucks, Sheriff Department Transfer Bus, a Humvee used with the SWAT group and Denver Photo Radar Vans and Radar Guns.

Information exhibits covered Denver Police COP Shops, Fire Safety, Graffiti reporting and cans of dumpster paint, Identity Thief and who to turn to for help and answers for safety concerns.

Children (and adults!) also got rides in the Humvee, and kids had fun at the Tricycle Safety Village course and learning about fingerprinting.

INC Financial Report
As Of March 31, 2012

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Photos From Delgates Meeting
Parks & Rec Committee Meeting Recap

April 17, 2012

The INC Parks and Recreation Committee (PARC) met at 6 p.m. April 17 at the Heritage Club, 2020 S. Monroe Street. Present were co-chairs Katie Fisher and Maggie Price, Steve Fisher, Cathy Donohue, Cindy Johnstone, Diana Helper, Larry Ambrose, Dave Felice, Ronnie Crawford, Ray Ehrenstein, James Sample, Marlene Johnson, Richard Schutz; and from Denver Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB), Florence Navarro; and from the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), Dody Erickson and Jay Clark.

Katie and Maggie hope to continue attempts for PARC to have a forum on water quality. Thus they wish to request $250.00 for PARC in the INC budget, the same as 2011. The unspent funds from 2011 will go into INC’s general budget. Cindy moved and Diana seconded a motion to request these funds, unanimous approval by committee.

Katie and Maggie presented a draft of a “mission statement” for PARC members to look over and comment on, compare with the INC PARC Platform, and the INC mission statement. This topic will be on the May agenda.

Maggie suggested PARC develop a library of our documents, projects, accomplishments, to be available on line.

Dody and Jay said they want to know how best to communicate with neighborhood organizations. They were unaware that there had been a “Public Notification and Civic Engagement” committee working on this with DPR in 2009-10. PARC members advised them that it is important to:

- Include the public at the earliest stage of a project or idea, not only after it has been developed
- Notify every group of every plan, project, change, as interest may be wide throughout town.
- Develop a Process for notification/engagement – time lines, maintaining a schedule
- Hold public meetings for inter change of comments, announced with a tone of openness, rather than a statement that implies DPR is really only there to hand out information already settled.
- Ask the public for its priorities: this includes those for Notification/Engagement Policy.
- Publish all e-mail comments on line, as they are part of the process for all to see.
- Post meeting info in appropriate parks, send it to INC for RNO newsletters to use.
- Treat park projects backed by private donations just like all projects, same public process.
- Provide accurate cost benefit analysis on projects, plans, to the public.
- Try to provide a phone number, email, address, even a name at DPR for RNOs to contact.
- Use Park Staff instead of hired consultants as much as possible.

Discussion of Alcohol Policy for Parks addressed the problems that arose at the April PRAB meeting regarding sponsorship and notification rules. Comments on Ruby Hill and Fleming Mansion are still being taken, for the May PRAB agenda. Rich said he believes no mandatory public meeting was held for Fleming. There has been no notice sent or posted. There is a prescribed process for public meetings on alcohol policy. He will check with Chris Nevitt. Some confusion was evident regarding alcohol policy, and PARC must get information.

Denver needs a Task Force to look at possible sites, etc., for a Festival Park, and a PARC member should be included. Task Force should be requested of Mayor. Diana suggested such task force should include Jeff Shoemaker, head of the Greenway Foundation who seems already to be eager to develop such a park (but let’s get it placed centrally, away from neighborhoods).

Park Fees: The more popular parks are over-used, hard on maintenance, so suggest higher fees for those sites, lower for parks not so often used. Question of who pays fees – the personal trainer? The masseuse? Any individual giving a paid lesson in a park? Florence will ask Darryll about this at PRAB. As for Gladiator Boot Camp, suggest DPR allow only two in Wash. Park, thus having a bidding war among the many GBCs.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m. Diana Helper, PARC member
Patron Level Members
Ball Park N.A.
Capitol Hill United Neighbors
Cherry Creek North N. A.
Country Club Historic District
Crestmoor Park HOA (2nd filing)
Downtown Denver Residents Org.
Golden Triangle Museum Dist.
 Hampden South N.A.
Lower Downtown N.A.
Overland Park N.A.
Southmoor Park East HOA
University Park Community Council
West Washington Park N.A.

RNO Members
ABC Streets Association
Alamo Placita N.A.
Baker Historic N.A.
Bellevue-Hale N.A.
Berkeley Regis United Neighbors
Bonnie Brae N.A.
Cherry Creek East Assn.
Cherry Creek North BID
Cherry Hills Vista Community Assn.
Civic Assn. of Clayton
Colfax on the Hill
College View N.A.
Congress Park Neighbors
Cook Park N.A.
Cory-Merrill N.A.
Crestmoor Park Homeowners Inc
( Filing 1)
Cultural Arts Residential Org.
Curtis Park Neighbors
Downtown Denver Partnership
East Cheesman N.A.
East Montclair N.A.
Elyria N.A.

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Colfax on the Hill
College View N.A.
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Cook Park N.A.
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Crestmoor Park Homeowners Inc
( Filing 1)
Cultural Arts Residential Org.
Curtis Park Neighbors
Downtown Denver Partnership
East Cheesman N.A.
East Montclair N.A.
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