Have You Renewed Your Membership?

Please remember to renew your memberships by March 1 so that you can vote for the new Board of Directors and especially if you RNO plans to have someone run for an office. A mailing was sent out about this in December! If you need a membership application form go to: http://www.denverinc.org/assets/2013_Membership_Form_RNO.pdf

It is important to fill out the application form each year. Some individuals have complained that we have the wrong people listed on the delegate list at our monthly meetings. We use what you put on the application form so make sure it is accurate. Turn it in with your check THIS MONTH if you have not done so already.

INC Meeting This Month

When: Saturday, March 8, 2014
Where: Denver Health Medical Center
       Rita Bass Trauma Institute Auditorium
       190 W. 6th Ave
       Public Parking 6th
       and Acoma parking free

Agenda: 8:30am - Networking
         9:00am - Business Meeting
         INC Year in Review and 2014 INC Board Elections
         10:15am Topic: Dr. Bill Burman-
         Affordable Care Act

This is an important meeting so hope to see all RNO’s represented.

Become An INC Board Member for 2014

INC is seeking members to run for its Board of Directors for the term starting in 2014. To be eligible, you must be a delegate from your member RNO. The election will take place at the Delegate Meeting on March 8th. Make sure your RNO renews its INC membership so that you can vote at the March meeting. Terms are for two years (2) with a three (3) year term limit: March 2014-March 2015. All nine positions on the Board of Directors are up for election. Those offices are: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and five Delegates-at-Large. (The terms and term limits for this upcoming election will be staggered to introduce the recently approved term limit changes.)

If you are interested, please reach out to Larry Ambrose at: president@denverinc.org

For up-to-the-minute news, please visit INC’S website: www.denverinc.org
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.

Education Committee Report
Karen Taylor- co-chair of committee

The Bond Oversight committee met on 2/5/14. DPS representatives walked the committee through the “strategic regional analysis” -- with emphasis on growth in the Far NE and SW Denver. (There are three decisions before the Board of Education, two related to Far NE and SW capacity issues; and special needs program space. All three are new requests, not previously identified in the 2012 bond program package.) Overall, student population in DPS has increased by 15,000 students since 2005. In the FNE, a combination of residential development and greater number of students (approximately 21%) are staying in the FNE since 2011 regional reform efforts were implemented in this region. In the 2012 Bond, 21.2 M was approved for the construction of an additional High School that will open for the ’15-’16 school year, adjacent to the Evie Dennis Campus. In addition, many of the SW Elementary Schools are at or above 100% capacity.

DPS administration will be asking the Board for approval to issue the remaining $20 million under the 2012 Bond authorization, instead of accessing the reserves of the initial issuance (December 2012) at this time. This remaining portion of the 2012 Bond authorization will fund two additional projects that will address the growth in student population in these two areas. Both of the school programs address capacity needs and were previously approved by the Board, but were not assigned a school location.

1) Renovation/addition at the Montbello Campus to make room for an expansion of three school programs that will be co-located there for school year 2014-2015. STRIVE Middle School, currently sharing the Samsonite building with High Tech Middle College Middle School, will move to Montbello, so High Tech Early College Middle School can expand to accommodate a new high school program. The Montbello Campus will then be the home of three programs: Noel Community Arts, Denver Center International Studies at Montbello, and STRIVE. The new addition design will involve the schools’ community in advising on the needs and plans for the space.

2) In the SW, the building at 2626 W. Evans will be purchased to house STRIVE currently housed at College View. The school will eventually serve ECE-5th grade (75 students per grade) and is expected to relieve the overcrowding at Johnson, Schmitt, Gust and College View. There is also a commitment to build an indoor soccer field with private funds on property adjacent to the building. Plans for the indoor soccer arena are only preliminary at this time.

Dollar Dictionary Drive
In reference to education, we wish to report that the Dollar Dictionary Drive of INC is now in full swing for the coming year. The DDD raises funds from any and all, to provide a free dictionary and thesaurus to every third-grader in Denver Public Schools.

The project received a generous boost at the Annual Awards Dinner and Silent Auction, and will receive a benefit of more than $2,000 from that event. There’s a long way to go to meet our goal and we ask for the support of all with this great project. Contributions can be made to: Dollar Dictionary Drive, PO. Box 300684, Denver, CO 80218. For information please contact Blake DiMeo, DDD Chair at blakedimeo@yahoo.com.

Parks and Recreation Committee Minutes
Diana Helper, PARC member

INC PARC (Parks And Recreation Committee) met Feb. 18 at the Heritage Club, 2020 S. Monroe St. Present were co-chairs Maggie Price and Katie Fisher, Diana Helper, Marlene Johnson, Brad Cameron, Kathleen and Jay Rust, Renee Lewis, David Hill, George Mayl, Hank Bootz, Nancy Francis, Ray Ehrenstein, James Sample, Linda Dowlen, Ronnie Crawford, Bridget Walsh, and Louis Plachowski. No one was present from DPR.

Katie distributed copies of “Park Rules” in 18 categories, fines of $100 or $150, some including Summons. She also distributed “Impacts of Trash on the Park System.” Washington Park and Cheesman Park will serve as a pilot program with colored bins for various trash types.

George Mayl said all should plan to attend SEAP (Special Events And Planning) public meetings Feb. 19 at Botanic Gardens and Feb. 24 at Dist. 3 Police Station. SEAP has made no plans and wants the public to help write Policy. The city wants more special events in the existing public parks and sees no need for an official Festival Park as other cities provide. PARC suggests limits on size, density allowed, with an ample percent preserved at all times for free neighborhood use of its parks. Permit fees must cover funds for proper staff help in set-ups and maintenance for all special events.

Renee and David ask all who support Friends of Denver Parks to don their green t-shirts and march in the St. Patrick’s Day Parade, AND to be at the Trial before Judge Stern May 19. Democratic, Republican and Green Party support has been given to the resolution that major changes in public parkland must go to a vote of the people. Support is growing, a fundraiser will be held, TBA. Jay moved and Marlene seconded that PARC take $25.00 from its budget for membership in Friends of Denver Parks. Unanimous vote to do so. Urge RNOs to do likewise.

Katie reported PRAB discussed gates that keep out cars- also keep out strollers and bikes from clogs at events. PRAB acknowledged Brad and Jay’s good work on park designation committee. Prairie Park study is in next round. Parkway studies are a long way off.

Nancy and Hank said DEAP plan at City Park stopped fund-raising, looking at maintenance issues, etc. CFPAN (City Park Friends and Neighbors) has formed, cohesive group of many RNOs and schools, requesting open records on DEAP. Presented photos of new ugly Zoo walls in park. There is great concern that event noise levels’ could harm animals. Distributed draft copies of CFPAN Focus Areas. PARC agreed these could apply to all Denver parks. DPR has a DEAP meeting Feb. 26 at 6 p.m. at 26th & York; no notification had been sent to date. All welcome but only some may speak.

Ronnie said March 4 at 7 PM at Skylark, Catherine Sandy will present an oral history of the Shattuck site, and Michael Bouchard of DPR will talk about the Plate project. This waterway is not DPR’s but DPR does major work on it, and it is a Parkway. Michael is now manager for the City Park Loop project also. PARC will invite him to a future meeting.

Other notes: Angela Casias has a new position in Forestry, no new community contact person named yet. The DPR Notification committee was told the policy is complete. A new park in Westwood was established and neighbors informed DPR that they wish to keep it simple and they will decide what amenities they want it to have. It was noted often by PARC that there is much that needs its attention, and a productive course is to set an example by working toward positive solutions, presented with thoughtful and determined perseverance. Election time is already on the horizon.

Next PARC meeting is March 18.

Zoning And Planning Committee Minutes
February 22, 2014
Michael Henry, Committee Chair

Approximately 30 members participated in this meeting and sampled Voodoo Doughnuts, purchased by committee member Suzanne Gilbert from the new hipster-oriented store on East Colfax between Humboldt and Franklin

Michael Henry updated the committee on the fact that House Bill 1132 (which would have allowed cities and counties to permit nightclubs, bars and restaurants to serve alcohol to 4:30 am, instead of 2:00 am) was killed on February 17, at the request of the sponsor, State Representative Crisanta Duran. However, committee member Margie Valdez attended a town meeting held by
From The President

When in 2007 NW Denver activist, Bill Johnston, decided to leave the INC Board, he called me and asked if I would be willing to take his place. Telling him that some current INC board members might not readily welcome my brand of neighborhood advocacy, he insisted I allow him to submit my name, saying my ideas would be needed to move INC forward.

As I suspected, there were some on the Board who were not exactly excited by my candidacy. But, no one was willing to be the Secretary, and, after I agreed, they reluctantly relented. It can probably be said, these particular individuals are still sorry, but I’m not! And, I hope the majority of INC delegates and RNO organization members are not disappointed either.

Since 2007, I have served as Secretary, Co-founder and Co-chair of the Parks & Recreation Committee, Vice Chair and, since 2012, President. With the help of an increasingly active and engaged Board and Executive Committee, the organization has taken bold positions, established directions, developed and matured. INC now has momentum and is poised to be what it has always had the potential to become: The Denver citizens’ forum promoting transparency and open government, discussion, debate and advocacy of important City policies issues and programs. As I have mentioned here previously, our major political parties play little or no role in municipal political and government affairs. It is the responsibility of the Neighborhood Movement and the Registered Neighborhood Organizations (RNOs) to fill this sometimes supportive and sometimes critical role.

The day will come when Denver government officials, employees, elected and appointed, will look forward to listening to and working with INC and a far-reaching number of RNO representatives. INC and the City have the responsibility to reach out to minority communities, to encourage and promote their participation in the Neighborhood Movement. However, it is not fair that our elected officials use the excuse that INC and, RNOs in general, are not diverse enough for them to give credence to our concerns. City officials themselves have a greater responsibility to promote and make worthwhile their involvement of Denver citizens of all ages, races, incomes, genders and sexual orientation in the Neighborhood Movement. They must do this by giving credibility, listening and responding to RNO ideas and concerns.

It is with this in mind that I have decided to run for re-election as INC President for a two-year term and I am asking for your support, encouragement and ideas. My sincere thank you to all the fine people who I have had the privilege to know and to work with over the past 7 years. I am enriched by the friendships I have made in this wonderful organization and rewarded by the progress we have made together.

Membership Musings

By Jane Lorimer

Did you know that our monthly meetings are open to the public? You are encouraged to invite members and neighbors within your RNO to attend our meetings during the year.

Committee Meetings Are Open to Denver RNO Residents

Your RNO members and neighbors are also welcome to participate within our organization through task forces and committees. We have several standing committees that meet regularly: Zoning & Planning, Parks & Recreation, Public Safety and Transportation. In addition, the Dollar Dictionary Drive committee is also seeking volunteers. Our meetings calendar is online at http://www.denverinc.org/category/events/

Who Can Vote – per bylaws

1. Any paid INC member organization representative shall be recognized as a “Delegate”.

2. Each Member Organization (RNO level) shall have no more than two (2) Delegates, who shall be designated on the annual application. An RNO member may change Delegate names by submitting such change in writing to INC prior to the start of a meeting.

3. Each Delegate shall have one (1) vote, regardless of how many Member RNO’s a Delegate represents.

4. Each Delegate’s term shall be determined by their RNO.

What this says is that you can have alternating/rotating voting delegates who attend INC’s meetings. This means that each RNO member group has two votes per issue and if your “regular” delegate(s) cannot attend all meetings, that you can send a substitute of your choice to represent your neighborhood. The “in writing prior to the start of a meeting” includes email notices or when you sign in upon arrival at the meeting. We hope this clarification makes it easier for your RNO to be represented more often at our meetings.

Where Your Dues Go

INC dues help us cover operating costs such as supplies, website, newsletter publication, temporary staff, organization and committee meetings as well as partnering with the Denver League of Women Voters to sponsor candidate forums and much more. Our 2014 goal is to raise funds to cover the cost of hiring our first-ever staff person.

Membership Chair Needed

Our current chair is Jane Lorimer who is retiring from this position at the end of her Board term with INC this spring. She says the system is in place and easy to take over now. Primary duties include keeping a spreadsheet of members, providing the sign-in sheets monthly and sending renewal notices each December (INC covers costs). Jane will train the person and be available for support help. The person taking over would need to know Excel or other spreadsheet.

Please contact either membership@denverinc.org or president@denverinc.org if you are interested (or call Jane at 303.388.9224).
Committee Corner - continued on PG 2

Rep. Duran on February 22 at the same time as our committee meeting and reported:

I will say she is relentless and her efforts to get legislation on the extension of alcohol sales does not dampen. She had a couple of “experts” in attendance to support her efforts . The bill is not dead. It is on life support… They are working on putting together legislation (this session) to allow an extended permit provision. Right now the State law provides that on-premises alcohol can be served from 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. Consistent with her argument for local control the legislation would allow the liquor establishments to apply for an extended permit period from 2:00 a.m. until 4:00 a.m. So the establishments would have two permits or licenses. No needs and desires hearings. The extended periods would be for any establishment that applies for the extended permit or license.

Michael Henry reported that newly-appointed Excise and Licenses Director Stacie Loucks, who had tentatively agreed to attend this committee meeting to get acquainted with INC members concerned about liquor and marijuana licensing issues, is unable to attend because she had a baby on Wednesday and will be on maternity leave until mid-May. We will invite the Deputy Director, Judy Steele, who will be the acting director, to meet with the committee next month. In addition the committee agreed to establish a working group to develop specific ideas for improvement of licensing matters. Anyone interested in participating, please contact Steve Kite (skite@ares.csd.net. or 303-480-1981) or Michael Henry (michaelhenry824@comcast.net or 303-377-6609).

The committee discussed the fact that Community Planning and Development Executive Director Rocky Piro recently resigned and that the Mayor has appointed Brad Buchanan in his place. The committee will work to communicate with and educate him about the needs of neighborhoods as soon as possible. Committee members were informed that the terms of at least 2 Planning Board members will expire in June and that we should encourage the Mayor to appoint members who understand and care about neighborhoods.

The committee discussed a proposed ordinance to be sponsored by Councilwoman-at-Large Robin Kniech, which would allow the sale of homegrown food, and food from urban gardens, out of homes. Feven Netsanet (Councilwoman Kniech’s aide), Sustainable Food Policy Council member Dana Miller, and Tina Axelrad and Sarah Showalter from the Community Planning and Development Department described the bill. They have already met with some neighborhood groups and will be glad to meet with others. The bill would amend the zoning code and would require that a home-occupation zoning permit be obtained and that hours of sales be limited to 7am to dusk. The committee expressed appreciation for hearing and being able to comment on this before the last minute. The proposal will be presented to the Planning Board as an informational item on March 5.

Committee member Cindy Sestrich summarized an interesting study on Health Effects Associated with Indoor Marijuana Grow Operations conducted by members of the Division of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences of the Department of Medicine at National Jewish Health. Anyone wishing to see the study and/or a 1-hour webinar, may contact michaelhenry824@comcast.net.

INC President Larry Ambrose announced that INC is a $1,000 Neighborhood Sponsor of Doors Open Denver. This year’s free event, the theme of which is Celebrating Neighborhood Architecture, will occur on April 12-13. Information is at www.doorsopendenver.com. They need more groups and individuals to donate.

Rosemary Stoffel reported that Tina Axelrad of the Community Planning and Development Department recently made a clear and beneficial presentation of “Zoning 101” to University Park Community Council.

The next ZAP Committee meeting will be on Saturday March 22 at 9:30am at 1201 Williams Street in the 19th-floor party room.

Transportation Committee Meetings

Joel Noble, Committee Chair
Thu. Mar. 13th, 6pm. The speakers included: Crissy Fanganello, Denver Director of Transportation, introducing her in her new expanded role.
Robert Ferrin, Parking & Planning Program Administrator, on the revised Parking Permit Programs rules and regulations.
Emily Snyder, Senior City Planner, on the 2014 Work Plan for citywide bicycle infrastructure improvements.

The INC Transportation Committee’s meeting schedule for the remainder of the year will be (all at 1201 Williams St., 19th Floor):
Thu. May 8th, 6pm, Thu. July 10th, 6pm
Thu. Sept. 11th, 6pm, Thu. Nov. 13th, 6pm

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

2/10/2014

Present: Larry Ambrose, Gayle Rodgers, Randle Loeb, Joel Noble, Steve Nissen, Jane Lorimer, Katie Fisher, Thad Jacobs, Michael Henry, Meg Schomp (new Co-chair Education), Geneva Hooten (new Co-chair Transportation)

Quorum established Call to order: 7:03pm

Approval of INC January Exec Committee Meeting Minutes: Motion made to approve by Katie Fisher, 2nd by Gayle Rodgers - approved as submitted

Financial Treasurer’s Report

Motion to approve by Katie, 2nd by Gayle – motion passed

CDs: $11,882.08
Savings: $7,813.88
Dollar Dictionary: $2,198.62
Checking: $6,190.63
Balance: $28,085.21 all accounts through end of 01/31/14 * Numbers do not include revenues from the INC Dinner ** Note: Bylaws only require us to report the financials to the delegation once a quarter

RNO Membership Statistics follow up

• INC represents about 42K Denver residents/ RNO members based on last year’s member organizations for which we have counts.
• City is helping to provide the household count in area
• Need to make sure we represent the number of members in an organization vs. households in an area of an RNO.
• Need to make sure that the representation is a better cross-section of the total population in an area of that is being represented by the RNO. More inclusive of those in poverty, homeless, minorities, etc.
• Once Jane receives the information from the City we need to look at how we want to word the information that the data represents, what the data means, how we as INC should represent it.
• Should look to utilize and partner with the Piton Foundation to help make the discussion more meaningful

Co-chair for Transportation Committee

Geneva Hooten
• Transportation planner by trade, Capitol Hill United Neighbors, getting more involved
• CHUN neighborhood delegate
• Looking to get more involved with INC and help more with Transportation Committee
• Motion made to approve Geneva to be placed as Co-Chair of Transportation Committee by Randle, 2nd by Steve – motion passed

Action Item – need to look at possibly changing our Bylaws to be less restrictive with committee chairs and co-chairs needing to be delegates to INC, and look at changing to be any member of an RNO, or Denver resident

Audit Report

• Improvements were made in 2013 on how revenues are tracked via Pay Pal
• Need to track PayPal even closer in 2014
• Need to see accountability, scope of work, of budgets, PR goals, attendance goals for big ticket items and events (Annual Dinner, Dollar Dictionary, Membership)
• We need to look at more measurable goals and accountability for Committees
Motion to approve the audit report mad by Randle, 2nd by Gayle - 8 for, 0 against, 1 abstain

Membership Report

• 60 member RNO’s have renewed
• Jane sending notices to non-member and
February Delegate Meeting

2/8/2014 Heritage Club, Hosted by: University Park Community Council
Submitted by: Thad Jacobs, Secretary
Quorum established: 45 members present
Call to order: 9:03 am

Welcome Remarks: Janet Bardwell gave opening remarks and welcome, introduced Donna from Produce for Pantries
PF formed by 16 organizations around the City, connecting the dots for school gardens, home gardens to take excess produce to a local food pantry. All pantries need fresh produce, through donation of excess community, home, school gardens.

Melissa Clifford – Heritage Club: gave some welcoming remarks and talked about Brookdale Senior Living and the Heritage Club and what the community offers. They have over 650 communities around the country.

Approval of INC January Delegate Meeting Minutes: Motion made to approve by Katie Fisher, 2nd by Jane Lorimer - approved as submitted

Treasurer’s Report
CDs: $11,882.08
Savings: $7,813.88
Dollar Dictionary: $2,198.62
Checking: $6,190.63
Balance: $28,085.21 all accounts through end of 01/31/14
** Numbers do not include revenues from the INC Dinner

Proposed Bylaw Change Motions
Cindy introduced the changes and provided some information around the proposed changes. Need to allow for more time to get familiar with the position, people, etc. Reviewed with the executive board and did support the changes to the bylaws.

Note: Bylaw changes require a 2/3 majority vote of the voting delegates present to change, based on quorum of 45, changes would require 30 votes in favor “For” to pass.

Motion #1
Motion made by Kathleen Rust, 2nd by Bonita Lahay
For: 45 – Against: 0 - Abstain: 0 – Motion passed

Motion to amend INC bylaw language to implement overlapping/staggered Officer Terms with the language in the bylaws to reflect the below (changes in BOLD)

Article VI. Officers
A. Officers. The body of officers shall be called the Board of Directors
• Officers of INC shall be: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and five (5) Delegates-at-Large.
• Officers shall be elected for overlapping terms at the Annual Meeting by the Delegation for no more than three (3) two year terms or until their successor is elected.
• To implement this change, the president and secretary shall be elected for a two-year term in 2014. The vice-president and treasurer will be elected for a one-year term in 2014. Following the 2014 election, the president and secretary will be elected for two-year terms on odd numbered years and the vice-president and treasurer will be elected for two-year terms on even numbered years.
• Officers shall assume their duties at the close of the Annual Meeting at which elected.

Motion #2
Motion made by Dave Felice, 2nd by Jay Rust
For: 37 - Against: 7 - Abstain: 0 - No Vote: 1 – Motion passed

Motion to amend INC bylaw language to revise term limits for Officers with the language in the bylaws to reflect the below (changes in BOLD): B. Qualifications. Only a Delegate shall be eligible to serve as an Officer. No Officer shall serve more than three (3) consecutive two-year terms in the same office. An Officer who has served more than half a term is considered to have served a full term in office. An Officer who accumulates three (3) unexcused absences from meetings during a term in office may be removed from office by the Delegation. An Officer may be removed for cause.

** Friendly Amendment was accepted: Include language that current terms served prior to the bylaw changes do count toward the three (3) consecutive terms that can be served

ZAP Motion/Resolutions

Motion#1
Motion made by Michael Henry, 2nd by Joel Noble
For: 40 - Against: 3 - Abstain:0 - No Vote: 2 – Motion passed

Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation opposes House Bill 1132, as it is written, during the 2014 legislative session. The bill, if passed, would allow cities and counties to have the option to allow bars, restaurants and nightclubs to serve liquor 24 hours a day, instead of being required to stop serving alcohol at 2:00am. INC believes that the reasoning and the language of the bill needs much more analysis to consider the bill’s benefits and harmful impacts for citizens, including safety, parking and noise problems for those residing near liquor-serving establishments. The Legislature needs to include explicit authority for local jurisdictions to place controls on liquor-serving establishments based upon specific conditions, needs and desires in individual neighborhoods. INC believes that there will be safety, parking and noise problems caused by allowing bars, restaurants and nightclubs to serve liquor after 2:00am and that the establishments that cause such problems should be penalized and not rewarded for such problems. INC encourages the legislature, the Mayor and City Council to do more research and to engage with neighborhoods in a meaningful discussion.

**Friendly Amendment was accepted: Include language that it is a bad idea to restrict local government from being able to shorten hours of operations.

Resolution #1
Motion made by Jeff Archambeau, 2nd by Joe Mauro
For: 42 - Against: 0 - Abstain: 0 - No Votes: 3 – Resolution passed

Resolution Advocating a Public Meeting Process for GDPs
Inter Neighborhood Cooperation (INC) has taken a strong position and is dedicated to an open and democratic processes in City land use decision-making. Therefore INC resolves that:

Whereas, under the Denver Zoning Code’s language for General Development Plans (GDPs), private applicants for GDPs control the public meeting process, and

Whereas, with the adoption of the 2010 Denver Zoning Code, GDPs have new status to guide future zoning decisions, which previously had been reserved for adopted plans such as the Comprehensive Plan and small-area or “neighborhood” plans which are developed with substantial community input;

Now therefore, INC advocates that clear language amendments to the Denver Zoning Code be made shifting control of the GDP public meeting process to the government through the Community Planning and Development department, that such meetings be conducted in the manner of public hearings where public comments can be made and heard by those in attendance and where an official record of such hearings are made publicly available in a timely manner.

Resolution #2
Motion made by Jeff Archambeau, 2nd by Diana Helper
For: 40 - Against: 0 - Abstain: 1 - No Votes: 3 – Resolution passed

Resolution on Advocating Adequate Open Space for GDPs
Inter Neighborhood Cooperation (INC) has taken a strong position on the importance of open space in all new development in Denver. Therefore, INC resolves that:

Whereas, a reasonable amount of open space is absolutely necessary in large, higher-density
February Delegate Meeting > continued from PG 5

developments to ensure the long term health of our communities, and

Whereas open space, in various forms such as green space, plazas, esplanades and paseos, is essential to Denver’s livability and its identity as a culture which honors our outdoor environment, and

Whereas, in current Rules and Regulations for General Development Plans publicly-accessible aggregated open space may substitute for dedication of new parkland which may otherwise be required, and

Whereas, right-of-ways (streets, sidewalks, parkways) do not totally substitute for open space, and

Now, therefore, INC reaffirms its Resolution of November 9, 2013 on General Development Plan Open Space Requirements, and cites clear historical precedent for having GDP requirements for open space be adequate for the population and density of all new developments, whether 10 acres or less, and,

INC reaffirms its position that a 10% net area calculation for open space may not lead to the provision of adequate open space.

INC calls upon City Council to immediately implement a public process to develop language to amend the Denver Zoning Code, which will provide a method of determining open space requirements based on the size and density of the developments.

The requirements will include public accessibility and guidelines that assure adequate sunlight, fresh air and gathering spaces for the new residents, the neighborhood visitors.

Resolution #3
Motion made by Joe Mauro, 2nd by George Mayl For: 42 - Against: 0 - Abstain: 1 - No Votes: 2 – Resolution passed

Resolution Advocating Approval of GDPs by City Council
Inter Neighborhood Cooperation (INC) has taken a strong position and is dedicated to open and democratic processes in City land use decision-making. Therefore INC resolves that:

Whereas, with the adoption of the 2010 Denver Zoning Code, General Development Plans (GDPs) have new status to guide future zoning decisions, which previously had been reserved for adopted plans such as the Comprehensive Plan and small-area or “neighborhood” plans which are developed with substantial community input, and

Whereas, the new GDP process has significant influence over future zoning, and as such has shifted power from the Legislative City Council branch to the Mayor’s Executive Branch, as the Mayor directs the GDP approval process through Community Planning and Development,

the Denver Planning Board and the Development Review Committee and to a large degree determines land use, building height and open space, and

Whereas, appeals of GDPs recommended by the Mayor’s appointed boards does not ensure a democratically accountable process, and

Whereas, changing the process of appeals of the Development Review Committee from District Court to the Board of Adjustment for Zoning Appeals, further places power over GDPs in the hands of a Mayoral appointed Board, and

Whereas, the current GDP process with its new influence over future zoning decisions has the appearance of “backdoor zoning,” where key decisions are not made with appropriate public and legislative input and approval,

Now therefore, INC advocates that clear language amendments to the Denver Zoning Code should be made shifting final approval of all GDP recommendations from the Development Review Committee to the Denver City Council after a full and open public hearing process.

** Friendly Amendment was accepted: Add language that appeals should go to City Council for a final vote

Committee Overviews and Updates:
Due to the length of time the delegation took to discuss the multiple motions on the table for discussion and voting, committee reports and updates were not given during the meeting

New Business
• Silent auction items left over from Dinner, please bid at break
• Solid waste coming up with new waste plan, formed committee that includes INC delegate, Council, others
• SEAP Meetings – check INC Website for dates, time, locations
• Recognition and Thank You for INC Dinner!!

Guest Speaker Panel – High time in the Neighborhoods (Marijuana in Denver)
Ashley Kilroy – Executive Director Marijuana Policy, Mayors Office
Chief White – Denver Police
Debbie Ortega – City Councilwoman At-Large
Kevin Mahmalji – Political Director Pink House Blooms
Dan Douglas – Denver City Attorney
Opening remarks and some Q&A responses

Ashley Kilroy:
• State, tourism, Federal banking issues, how to move forward with the implementation based on Amendment 64 passage, still listen and watch public health, safety, youth, quality of life, protection of quality of life and schools
• Youth using drugs is a high concern for the Mayor and City Council
• Need to do public education campaigns that are effective

Dan Douglas:
• Hearing officers may make the recommendation to approve even if there is information from the public that may show proximity to school is an issue, but Department still has to finalize determination of proximity before final license if granted
• 2016 the public hearing will convert to a needs and desires hearing
• Medical Marijuana Cards, City does not have access to the database or list, the State maintains that and it is a confidential database

Chief White:
• 39 Medical dispensaries now have retail licenses
• Vigilant on watching how things are going, no major issues
• 23 arrests since Jan for Amendment 64 violations, 21 of 23 were smoking in public citations
• 130 arrests in violation of Amendment 64, more than an ounce, impaired driving 9-DUID (Jan 2014), etc.
• 16 burglaries at dispensaries since Jan, comparable to burglaries prior to retail Marijuana and last year’s statistics for Medical locations
• DPD will enforce the law on violators on 4/20, meetings are ongoing to discuss the plan with the organizer and to educate the public who will be in attendance

Councilwoman Debbie Ortega:
• City Council created the framework for regulation on Marijuana regulations
• Universal LOGO for edibles
• THC stronger in edibles than smoked product
• CC will continue to meet on ongoing changes as the industry grows, pushed to start off slower
• Looking at potential social costs on the back-end, enforcement, additional resources on how this impacts neighborhoods
• Revenue generated has not surpassed the cost yet
• Some neighborhood groups have been able to create neighborhood agreements with the operators, good neighbor agreements (Michael Henry has examples)
• Capping of # stores, City only allowed existing Medical stores to apply for Retail license, 2 year moratorium on new Retail facilities applications
• City working close with State on applications

Kevin Mahmalji:
• One of the issues is security
• Security (cameras all limited access areas, ingress/erruss, POS areas, inside and out), video must be held for 40 days and easily accessible
• Hours 8am-12am cannot open before 8am, but state allows to be open to 12am, City of Denver has put 7pm closure time in place
• Tracking of Marijuana (MED Program), plant, batch, product, room location, in transit, when in transit must have a route defined
• Cash only operations – public safety concerns, HR2652 Congressman Perlmutter to address banking issues in progress and discussion

> continued on PG 7
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes cont. from pg 4

Election Process & Candidates
Need to determine how we will elect the Delegate positions since we are electing 2 delegates
• Delegates – 3, 2 year terms 1st
• Delegate – 2, 1 year terms 2nd
Order of elections
• President – 2 year term
• Vice President – 1 year term
• Treasurer – 1 year term
• Secretary – 2 year term
Delegate positions (above)
• Need to determine who is willing to run for positions
• Need to have names previously announced on ballot and then allow for write-ins from the floor

Silent Auction & Dinner
• $4000 in sponsorships
• Approx. $3670 in silent & live auctions
• Overall gains approx. $5,510
• Will finalize split of proceeds from the dinner and auctions based 60/40 split INC/DDD
• Gayle talked about ideas for improvements to the dinner
• Need better auction checkout process
• Need more help with various aspects of the dinner
• As it is too much for one or two people to pull off without things falling through
• Defined roles for each of the functional areas needed to pull off the dinner
• Need to improve acoustics, lighting, stage area for this year
• 234 of 250 reservations showed up in the snow, which was great turnout.
• Logistics of last minute items, look at what can do ahead of time
• Larry will get a thank-you card and a $25 I-Tune card for Blake’s daughter for helping so much with the dinner

Municipal Candidate Workshop
• Cindy had the idea to run municipal election candidate workshop
• Do we have the right resources to do this correctly
• Help get neighborhoods better involved in the political process
• Who would the experts be that would present to the workshop attendee’s
• Need to be cautious to promote solely educational purpose of doing workshop like this
RNO Workshop on Excise and Licensing hearings
We did have one of these in September 2013
Maybe should be part of a Neighborhood conference vs. a workshop
Maybe more than one workshop, ongoing, guidelines, tool-kit item, etc.

Past EC Retreats, Outcomes and Goals need for follow up 2014 Retreat
Suggestion to list the goals that have not been complete, prioritize, and maybe pick top 2-3 to work on this year
Need to get the list of goals outstanding
Need to get list of open action items and the status

We never talk about them and need to keep in mind our goals, etc. Not be only reactive
We need to get a better handle on our operations and perpetual churn before we can go forward with some of our larger goals
Need to work on getting City to collaborate better, include RNOs in process so that antipathy between RNOs and City official can be avoided
Some discussion and disagreement around how City works with INC, not on an equal playing field
Suggestions to discuss with the new board in March convene to discuss how we take action on these goals and action items

Committee Reports
ZAP
• Diane Barrett, interim Planning & Zoning Director
• Rocky Piro resigned
Tentative next agenda – New Interim Excise and License Director
Transportation
• Meeting in March
• Review final revision to residential parking program (3 programs)
• Hope to get new Public Works manager-in-charge to attend
• Gayle asked for short blurf for off month for newsletter
Park & Rec
• Working on issues around who can and cannot serve on City committees
• Questions about whether the PRAB be an elected board rather than advisory and appointed
Education
• Need to follow up with Benita Duran around better communications with the RNO’s using the GIS system
• Karen has a Bond Oversight Committee report for the next newsletter
• Contact Benita about holding INC meetings in a school in a given DPS district where the DPS Board member attends
Dollar Dictionary – no update

New Business
Jane new items
• Survey Monkey for our tool box that we offer to our RNO’s as a benefit (SEE SHEET)
• Should we charge or should we give it away as a member benefit
• Table self-funding discussion for a later meeting
• Motion to approve the expenditure of the $225 Gold Plan for Survey Monkey as an RNO Member Benefit made by Randle, 2nd by Gayle – motion approved unanimously

Steve new items
• Doors Open Denver, suggest we become a sponsoring organization at the $1000 level
• Motion made to support the $1000 expenditure to become a sponsoring member made by Jane, 2nd by Randle – passed unanimously
• People Fair – offering booth space for Non-Profits organizations approx. - $165
• Hiring Labor to do some clerical work – cannot wait until we raise $50K to hire full staff, we need

February Delegate Meeting > continued on PG 4

• State Level bills in the works
• HB14-1222 – tougher penalties for selling to minors
• HB 14-1209 – grants to work with neighboring states
• SB14-129 – update current statues on the books
• Industry is working on pamphlets of over consumption, edibles, support education programming and would like to have a seat at the table on that discussion
• Packaging is a major issue for the industry right now since they need to be child resistant containers

Questions and Discussions from the delegation that were discussed:
• Medical studies on impacts of drugs, social impacts, how will addicts be helped
• Any discussion to limiting the number of retail stores in Denver
• Marijuana under the influence arrests vs. other drug arrests, can DPD differentiate
• Underground POT clubs, private clubs, etc. - City stance is no and they will be shut down
• State left Amendment 64 very open for Tourism
• Proposed locations too close to schools, City didn’t seem to be aware, hearing officer granting approval even with overwhelming evidence that location is in violation of statues
• What are the number of inspections that are required for a Marijuana retail application (5 different inspections)
• How much money is the City making in tax revenue, can it be posted to a website
• Hearing process, is there any discussion around including a needs and desires standard as part of the Marijuana hearing process just like alcohol
• Does the City have access to who has medical Marijuana cards
• Is Marijuana smoking in a car the same thing as an open container for alcohol
• What is being looked at for R&D and Medical studies
• How can the hearing process be helped to be more neighborhood friendly

Next Meeting:
March 8, 2014
Denver Health Medical – Rita Bass Trauma Institute Auditorium
Topics: INC Elections, INC Year in Review and 2014, Affordable Care Act-Dr. Bill Burman
Adjourned: 11:40am

to look are what we can farm-out now
• In the budget for up to $1500 to hire contract labor
• Need to put a job description together
• Need to start keeping track of our assets and who is responsible for tracking the asset items
Adjourned: 9:23pm
Doors Open Denver Needs Your Help

This will be the first year, since the Denver Architectural Foundation has taken over the management of Doors Open Denver, that the City of Denver has not been a significant sponsor, which means a $25,000 shortfall. Therefore DOD has to raise funds from sources that have not been contacted in the past and from those who feel that the event is of value to Denver.

Doors Open Denver (April 12-13, 2014) is an annual celebration of Denver’s Neighborhood Architecture. This two day free event invites residents and visitors to tour and appreciate the spectacular, the new, and historic buildings they see every day but may never have entered. Participants may experience DOD through: Self-guided tours, Urban Adventures (self-guided tours tailored to a specific interest or theme), and Expert Tours (led by architects and historians). This event takes an inside look at Denver’s distinctive buildings and unique places. INC is a $1,000 Neighborhood Sponsor to DOD. For more info and to DONATE, visit www.DoorsOpenDenver.com.

Help INC Track Media

We would like to track our media so we can better understand what gets covered, where we get coverage and how we can improve our coverage overall. To accomplish this, INC Communications group would like to request copies or links to articles you see that include mentions about INC during 2014. As example, several of INC’s honored award recipients have received mentions in company and neighborhood media and our president has had coverage on TV and in print concerning the St. Anthony’s development project.

Send this information to Jane Lorimer at media@denverinc.org

Citywide Cleanup Day – April 26

Keep Denver Beautiful’s annual, citywide cleanup will be held on Saturday, April 26. This one-day event offers Denver residents free disposal of unwanted household items and yard waste at collection sites located around town. We will also have private organizations available to collect items, which can be recycled or reused.

Collection site locations will be finalized in a few weeks.

Thanks Silent Auction Donors

Special thanks to Robin Riddell Lima from the Golden Triangle Museum District who visited several museums in her area and put together five phenomenal museum packages!!! Several of our members donated wine for the auction. Other donations came from:

- Ace Hardware Tamarac
- Annie’s Café
- Ascent Fitness
- Carpet One Floor & Home, Denver
- Christine O’Connor, Lowry United Neighborhoods
- Comcast
- David Morales at Voila Salon
- Denver Film Society
- Denver Museum of Nature and Science
- Downing Street Garage
- Dr. Robert Stencel
- Embassy Suites Denver SE
- Fresh Fish Company
- Grapevine Wine & Liquors
- Happy Cakes
- Jane Lorimer
- Judy Schneider – Rockies tickets
- Masterpiece Deli
- Eitan Nelson, Medicine Man Denver
- Murdoch’s Dog Grooming Salon
- Overland Golf Course
- Pink Fog Studio
- Racines
- Rackhouse
- Sally Kurtzman
- Sam’s No. 3
- Savory Spice
- Sipping N’ Painting Hampden
- State Rep Dan Pabon
- Stephen Griffin
- Steve Nissen
- Susan Morrison
- Tiffany Wine – Swing Dance Lessons
- University Park Community Council
- Welshire Golf Course
- Water 2 Wine – Greenwood Village
- Whole Foods Cherry Creek

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