INC Officers and Executive Committee

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The meeting was called to order at 9:15 a.m. by Chair Stan McIntyre. The minutes from the September 17, 1996 Executive Committee and Committee Chairs Meeting were read by the secretary. Harriet Hoguet, Manager of Denver’s Neighborhood Planning Office, sent greetings and welcomed INC on behalf of the Planning Office.

Delegates Vote on 3 Issues:

A. Residential Care Use Ordinance Amendment -- motion as amended passed (13 to 5) “Not to support the current (7-10.96 draft and prints) Residential Care Use amendment, although support would be considered if the use of a 20% over the norm crime statistic was included as a measure of impact and saturation, and strongly suggesting that a city-wide process (similar to the Nutts Abatement process) be implemented prior to the final draft going to City Council Committees.”

B. Revision of City Zoning Code -- motion passed unanimously (19 to 0) “To encourage City Council to begin revising the Denver Zoning Code per Jim Zarin and Mike Henry’s letter dated September 18, 1996.”

C. Neighborhood Plans -- motion as amended passed unanimously (22 to 0) “To request clarification of the city’s vision and legal use of the neighborhood plans.”

Election of Secretary: Diane Walters was the only nominee for secretary and was thereby approved by acclamation, and no new correspondence was reviewed.

Announcements: Stan McIntyre requested that any INC delegates and committee people serving on city-wide commissions, boards and task forces advise him of same as soon as possible. INC will publish this information in our newsletter. Jeanne Rabo thanked all INC members who participated in reporting the public hearing results, which raised $300 for INC, and encouraged everyone to sign up to report results for the November 5 election. Meredith Anderson announced there will be an RTD candidates’ forum on Oct. 19, Montview Presbyterian Church, 1980 Dahlia St., 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

Marsha Johnson of the Election Commission advised that absentee ballots are available. The commission is promoting “Election 2000” which is an effort to get more citizens, especially young people, involved in voting. Write or call the Mayor and your councillorhip to encourage them to take part (continued on page 3)
Chairman's Column

By Stan McIntyre

During its October 16, 1996 meeting, the INC Executive Board adopted proposals to improve the way INC conducts its meetings and to keep membership better informed as to the history and purpose of INC. It was also decided that an audit of our bank account will be done shortly, arts and by INC committees should be regularly submitted to our newsletter, the INC membership should be informed as to who represents INC on Denver City Boards and Commissions. INC approval is necessary for any person to represent us, and according to INC Bylaws, no one can obligate INC without the approval of INC membership.

The board discussed the three different awards presented by INC. A consensus felt that we need to seek input from our members, and then have the INC Executive Board choose the recipients. The three awards are: The INC Good Neighbor Award, The Virginia Oredon Award, and The Bill Gross Award. The Virginia Oredon and Bill Gross Awards are presented at the annual INC Presidents Dinner. The INC Good Neighbor Award is presented at our March general meeting. This year's recipient of the Virginia Oredon Award is Cathy Donahue. Technician Johnnie Humphreys of the Denver Police Department will receive the Bill Gross Award.

Articles will be in our newsletter explaining why these two INC members are so honored. The Bill Gross article appears in this month's newsletter.

Quick Print at 1550 S. Colorado Blvd has agreed to print our newsletter for $100.00 a month. This move will assist our editor Craig Eley, and will result in a subscription for INC.

At our November meeting you will notice the agenda has been changed so we can better serve membership. As Chair of INC I am committed to listen to the concerns of the membership. I also feel it is the responsibility of all to remember the purpose of INC. We must abide by the INC Bylaws, address the issue and discuss how our neighborhoods impact members that will represent INC on the various boards and commissions, and to keep membership informed as to happenings on these committees. INC meetings will follow the agenda set by the Executive Board, and meetings will conducted according to parliamentary procedure.

I have met with the residents of the former Lowry Air Force Base to assist them in starting their own neighborhood association. They are now in the process of checking with the Lowry Redevelopment Authority to see if they will become a part of that association or start one of their own.

I attended the forum for RTD candidates hosted by the League of Women Voters and INC Rita Sokolowski and Norma Edelman represented INC. Thanks to both for their help.

A reminder: mark your calendars, the INC quarterly meeting with the Denver Mayor and his staff will be held December 4th at Calvary Presbyterian Church, 1420 South Holly Street. This is an opportunity to address the Mayor and his staff to improve the downtown neighborhoods. Also, don't forget the Neighborhood Presidents Dinner on November 13. RSVPs are a must for this event.

Park Design Assistance Offered

Jan Longwell, an instructor in the Landscape Architecture Department at the University of Colorado at Denver, is looking for a project to assign to the students in her class. She would like to give them the task of working with a community-based group in Denver to prepare a design for turning a vacant lot into a small neighborhood park, often known as a "parklet".

If you have a lot in your neighborhood that would be appropriate, call Frank Ford at 356-2824, or call Longwell at 722-2578.

Longwell's official assistance would end with the design phase; neither she nor the University will found funding available for the materials. However, Ford would assist any neighborhood with writing proposals to obtain funding for materials, and Longwell is willing to volunteer some time next semester to help with project implementation.

Please call as soon as possible. The students will only be able to work on one such project this semester, and the offer will likely go to whoever can first offer a site and a community group to work with.

Tree Replacement Program Planned

If your trees were damaged in the great storm of '95, you might be interested in Denver Digs Trees' offer of $15 street trees.

To request street trees, Denver can call 722-6262 to obtain a request form. The deadline for requesting a tree is January 15, 1997. However, residents are encouraged to order by November 30, 1996 to be sure that they get their first choice. Trees will be available for pick-up at designated Denver parks on Saturday, April 12, 1996.

Tree varieties include Autumn Purple Ash, Norway Maple, Skyline Honeylocust and Hackberry. Denver Digs Trees is a program of the Park People, a non-profit organization.

Resource Center Offers Motivation Workshop

The Neighborhood Resource Center is presenting a free seminar entitled 'Motivating People' on Saturday, November 23, 1996. The three-hour workshop teaches how to get people in your community involved, how to keep them involved, and how to get them to take leadership positions. Several experts on community mobilization will be featured speakers. If you are having trouble getting your neighbors to participate, or if attendance at neighborhood meetings has fallen off, if certain kinds of people are not showing up for your meetings, or if you want to organize a community effort but don't know how, then this program is for you.

The workshop will be from 9 a.m. to noon at the Mile High Unit Way Building, 2505 18th Street. For more information call 561-3790.

Around the City

city tax money to be used for clean-up at Lowry. Colfax on the Hill: the re-zoning of the Broadway to York portion of Colfax to B-4C may open the way for this area to become an Enterprise Zone. Park Forest asked that Debbie James is a new appointee to the Lowry Citizens Advisory Committee. Great Park Hill had a successful area Home Tour (remember to abide by Halloween curfew and make blocks in your area safe for the gremlins). They are hosting a candidates forum at St. Thomas Episcopal Church on October 29.

Dates to Remember

Nov. 13 Presidents Dinner
5:30 p.m.
Hyatt Regency Denver
1750 Welton St.

Nov. 20 Neighborhood Connection article deadline

Dec. 4 Mayor's Quarterly Meeting
7 p.m.
Calvary Presbyterian Church
1420 S. Holly St.
Minutes and Around the City

(from page 1)

...phasing in the new electronic voting machines which will save money and time in the future.

"Dollar-A-Dictionary" (DAD) Drive received an extra 1,000 dictionaries from KMart for distribution. There are now 6,400 dictionaries in the hands of third grade students in DPS. INC still needs donations to pay for all the dictionaries. Carol Boigen of the Mayor's Office of Education & Advocacy and Marilyn Vaughn, INC rep on the Mayor's Education Advisory Council, presented INC DAD committee co-chair Cathie Fisher and Tom Tavon a check for $500.00 and a "Thank You" for the success of this INC program.

State School Board candidates Naomi Bradford and Golly Stashford each made a brief presentation.

New Members: By separate motions and unanimous votes, the Ruby Hill Neighborhood Association and Barnum Improvement Council were accepted into INC membership.

Denver School Board Vice President Sue Edwards thanked INC for the dictionary drive and advised that enrollment is up. Four charter school applications are coming up, there is a paraprofessional for reading in every 1st grade classroom and ball fields at all schools are being donated by Dwayne Bunchette and Andres Gallaraga. School board President Aaron Gray's last day on the board is November 11.

Renaissance Projects: City Public Works Manager Bruce Hausamgartner and Team Coordinator Marshall Vanderburg gave a presentation on this city-wide permit restructuring project. It is designed to coordinate, streamline and make "user friendly" all of the permitting processes of all city departments. It will provide a single point of entry and early entry assistance (and a single project manager on large building projects) for all customers regardless of the type of permit approval(s) needed.

Around the City

Alamitos Plaza continues to struggle with the redesign of the Safeway at 6th & Downing and strongly urges everyone to vote no on Amendment 13, as a Safeway in Boulder is using the referendum petition process to try to get around neighborhood and city input on that project. Hampden Heights would like ideas on how to fight the newly opened nude dancing establishment in their area. Cory Merrill is anticipating the opening of the new Circuit City store in their area, and donated $100 to the Dictionary Drive, as well as $100 for flower bulbs at Steele and Mississippi. Cook Park got to enjoy the Mayor on his walking tour of their area. Organized Baker finally has additional parking at the Alameda & Broadway RTD parking area, and they give a great big "thank you" to the nearby merchants who have let commuters use their store parking spaces — please make sure to support these stores. Stono Lake defeated a liquor store in their area and is trying to get ahead of the curve for whatever is going to happen in their sports center complex area, with both the Broncos potential move/rebuild and McNichols Arena.

Be Careful What You Ask For

Mayfair Neighbors be careful what you ask for, because their fight to curtail the growth of the University Health Sciences complex in their area will move much new activity to Fitzsimmons, thereby decreasing the use tax base for Denver. W. Univ. Park is opposing allowing Sharon Chemical to bury its radioactive dirt on site. Far N.E. Neighbors donated $25 to Dictionary Drive and provided copies of their "25th Anniversary Celebration" program.

Harman is seeking forward to the expansion of Cherry Creek Mall with 30 more stores.

Mayfair Park reports that the Lowry Redevelopment Authority now wants to spend $5 million more on a land fill cap to add more golf, rather than just remediate the problem — our taxes at work.

Barnum will finally get several lakes in their area dredged. They are identifying their crime hot spots, and have garden parks going in. Upper Downtown says thank you for the vote to not support the current amendment to the residential care use ordinance, and that since the mayor amended on the B-8 to B-8A rezoning has passed they are now trying to fight the language amendment for same. Harkeness Heights is supporting Denver Digs Trees and Make a Difference Day.

D.A. Team

United S.E. Denver expects to have the DA candidates at its next meeting on October 23. Ruby Hill has just been up and running for 2 months but they are making improvements, working on Neighborhood Watch and focusing on their park and rec areas. Capitol Hill Hill United Neighborhoods is trying to control the large number of liquor license issues facing them and hopes that the changes in the permitting process which will occur from the Renaissance Project will not allow them to get "run over." Downtown Denver has lots of loft tours. Globesville says their neighborhood prosecutors are working well, and that a made for TV movie is being filmed at the water treatment plant. George Washington does not support the extra $5 million for the land cap at Lowry, especially since there is no plan yet to clean up the underground water plumes, and they passed a resolution urging the city not to allow

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For Your Information

INC Nixes Residential Care Amendment

Based on votes taken at the last regular meeting, October 12, 1996, and at the Executive Board meeting, September 17, 1996, Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation is not able to support the proposed amendment (draft 7-10-96) to the Residential Care Use Ordinance. INC's concerns are many and varied. Those concerns include the lack of use of a specific measure of crime, such as 20% over the norm, and related negative forces, for determining impact and saturation of a neighborhood. INC's concern is not only for neighborhoods but also for the health and well-being of the client. It also includes concerns over the process and the fact that city-wide neighborhood input was not used in drafting the amendment in its current form.

INC strongly suggests that a city-wide process similar to the one used in amending the Nuisance Abatement ordinance be implemented prior to the final draft going to City Council Land Use Committee for consideration.

DIA Ambassadors Sought

The Denver International Airport Hospitality Ambassador Program is seeking volunteers to assist arriving and departing passengers and airport visitors at DIA. The airport's program has been highly successful, receiving national and international recognition for its positive contribution to the Rocky Mountain region. It has served as the model for similar programs in airports across the country, including the Atlanta-Hartsfield Airport during the summer Olympics, and beyond U.S. borders at Auckland International Airport in New Zealand.

Qualifications for "Hospitality Ambassadorship" include enthusiasm for DIA, a ready smile, patient manner, neat appearance, transportation, reliability, and a willingness to volunteer four to five hours per week. The ability to absorb in-depth information about DIA and to use that information to give directions to the public is a must.

The DIA Hospitality Ambassador Program is a member of the Volunteers of America Retired and Seniors Volunteer Program (RSVP) in which Hospitality Ambassador volunteers over the age of 55 are eligible to participate. RSVP provides some travel expense reimbursement based on need, as well as travel insurance and other benefits.

The Hospitality Ambassador Program is sponsored by the City and County of Denver Department of Aviation. Persons interested in becoming DIA Hospitality Ambassadors are encouraged to call 342-2255 for a program application and brochure.

Liquor License Initiatives

by Margot Hartmann
Chair, Excise and License Committee

Fellow neighborhoods, we are in the process of putting together a package of recommendations to the city and state legislature regarding liquor issues. We are using as a guide legislation and ordinances from California that allow more control over quality of life issues.

We need your input, so please join us at the November 9 INC meeting. We urge all registered neighborhood organizations to help with this effort. We must bring back the consideration of the health and well-being of the neighborhood when issuing and controlling existing licenses. Please join us.

South Platte Representative's Report

By Stan McIntyre
South Platte River Commission

The South Platte River Commission October meeting has been rescheduled until November 14th. This meeting has been replaced by a number of subgroup meetings. I can report we have been notified that the Mayor's South Platte River Commission and Denver Parks and Recreation are applying for a Colorado State Historical Fund grant for interpretive signage along the South Platte River corridor.

The interpretive signage program will have two parts:
1. In Riverfront Park the focus will be on the early history of the early Development of Denver.
2. Elsewhere along the river tributary corridors, the focus will be on the history of the adjacent neighborhoods.

This notice was mailed October 17. I received it on October 18, too late for INC to take a stand on this request. I missed the October South Platte River commission meeting so it could have been discussed there. I do believe the city has to know by now we cannot give proper input to any request on such short notice.

Crossing Guards Needed

Denver Public Schools is always in need of volunteers, but at this time it particularly needs school crossing guards. Not only would you be doing a great service in keeping kids safe, but you get to wear one of those cool vests! You might also qualify for a property tax break. Call Christine Smith at 764-3580 for details.