



NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY – MAY 25, 7:30...

Please attend and bring a friend so we can GROW ONA and our influence on our future.
Pay measly dues (\$5 a calendar year, \$35 for businesses) and you get to vote!
Education Building of John Collins Church – 2320 S. Bannock – follow signs!
Because ONA is growing, this time we'll meet in the big room.

IN THIS ISSUE...

Upcoming meeting agenda
Last meeting minutes

MAY MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

Vice-President (and former President) Catherine Sandy will preside. Following Secretary's Minutes Report and Treasurer's Report likely agenda items include...

€ Elect Board Officers Before July Registration

Four highly stimulating meetings into 2006, during which officer elections have been sidelined by hot topics and new member introductions, we have only an acting Board. Since the leverage we enjoy with the City depends on twice-yearly registrations, which in turn rely on having elected officers, we now have a deadline. Elections are scheduled for the October meeting, so the officers we elect will serve only a few months before we get back on schedule.

The simplest solution is to vote in the acting slate, who have all agreed to serve out the year.

If this is not the option selected, candidates must declare and report on their qualifications and positions at the June 22 meeting for an election at the July 27 meeting (which allows only two working days to register, so we need to be on top of the process). More in the Neighborhood Watch item below...

€ District 4 Crime Report

While Brian and Tim, our SCAT officers are not available for Thursday, an effort will be made to get have police present at the meeting for an informal overview of Overland issues and intake from you.

€ Schedule an Overland Spring Cleanup Day

With enough interest, Saturday, June 12 could leave Overland spiffier and ready for summer.

Ideas include a graffiti removal squad (City-supplied materials), cleaning litter from the river banks, and neighbor-to-neighbor help with limb removal and cutting and hauling large objects to the alley for City pickup the next week.

€ Report on Overland Neighborhood Watch (a.k.a. ONWATCH)

At the April ONA meeting a volunteer committee was formed to pursue establishing a Neighborhood Watch program along most residential blocks west of Santa Fe. Issues from graffiti to vandalism to car theft to mugging to drug houses were targeted. Response was HEROIC, STELLAR, STUPENDOUS! Officer Roggeman addressed nearly 60 fed up neighbors in a meeting best described as highly interactive. The next day, two drug busts and a number of interventions followed Commander Sandoval's biweekly District 4 meeting, which eight Overland neighbors attended.

The blocks involved are well on their way to establishing required participation levels, establishing Block Captains and getting their phone trees up and running – though a hefty amount of work remains. For a comprehensive description of what the highly flexible Neighborhood Watch program can look like see

http://www.ncpc.org/topics/neighborhood_watch/publications.php A more detailed report will be delivered at the meeting; and thanks to the hardworking door-to-door canvassers who drummed up such a great turnout!

CONCEPT: Not only because we are a neighborhood divided into quadrants by Evans and Santa Fe, but because we are getting more engaged in our future potential, we should consider an idea set out in the By-Laws – Quad Area Representatives. As we accumulate members and establish more networks like ONWATCH it makes sense to develop more localized representation. The ideal Quad Rep would have interest in evolving a detailed general overview of their area's "Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats" and cultivating an acquaintance with as many neighbors as possible. If this seems like a good idea it would be appropriate to begin with discussions of how these offices might be organized and how communication might happen, then request candidates, perhaps for the October elections.

€ Basketball Court at Pasquinel's Landing

Through Councilwoman MacKenzie's office our request for a basketball court at Pasquinel's Landing (just north of Evans at Huron) has reached Denver Parks and Recreation. Next steps involve gathering neighborhood support and systematically addressing fears that such an amenity would be a magnet for trouble. Even with consensus on the plan and solid support the long wait for funding still looms. A citywide court study will soon be undertaken and bond issues are on the horizon, but we might want to seek third party funding assistance if the project "has legs."

€ Neighborhood Image / Branding / Broadway & Overland "Park"

At the April meeting, as part of interest in "branding" Overland to encourage development, we decided to look into changing our neighborhood name to Overland Park. This is the old name for the neighborhood and probably changed as a result of the escalation of Santa Fe which separated much of Overland from the Golf Course – the historic "Overland Park." The in-progress marketing of South Broadway as "SoBo" was cited at the meeting as helpful, although as yet most of the participation is north of I-25. It was decided not to form ad hoc committees to study these issues.

In July, District 4 Police will be promoting "Business Watch" down through the ONA section of Broadway. This represents a chance to reconnect with businesses as ONA members by cooperating in the effort. BARD (Broadway Area Revitalization District) may receive some monies to pursue the streetscaping planned in the late 1990's. Here is a conceptual image to spark imagination about what an active neighborhood promotion might look like.



€ Evans Light Rail Station Issues

The station area is predictably a focus for several issues:

- € Pedestrian access to Light Rail from west of Santa Fe
- € Inadequate parking and excess parking demand on neighborhood
- € Cut through traffic, speeding and pedestrian safety, especially at rush hour
- € Transit Oriented Development and a TMU zone to promote it
- € Development of Delaware down to the proposed Bates Station
- € And, for better or worse, Evans and Santa Fe is the center of Overland

Different folks have different issues with the station but it is reasonable to assume that some synergy among all the interests and a resulting bigger influence with the City, RTD, and C-DOT would come from sharing views and deriving a "Small Area Plan" for the vicinity. The

City is hot and cold on community planning at this time, but Catherine Cox-Blair, a specialist in Station areas, has expressed interest. The plum for the City is revenue and so we may find better listening from that angle. This is a small, doable undertaking, analogous the the Shattuck Plan.

MINUTES OF APRIL 27 MEETING -

Thanks to Catherine Sandy for comprehensive note-taking...

€ Call to Order: 7:40pm

€ Treasurer's Report: \$1,274.84. Approved

€ Secretary's Report: minutes read by J.U. In Charley's absence. Approved.

€ Kevin Dickson has been functioning as a new Chair: Database Coordinator. Many thanks.

€ Neighborhood Watch meeting reschedule needed due to Cinco de Mayo policing demands. J.U. To confirm with Officer Roggeman. Organizing meeting has been held and team is proceeding.

€ Discussion of City-supported Earth Day Cleanup. Catherine to organize.

€ Discussion of meeting in park. Jennifer Pollack suggested not moving the meeting while new members are just getting oriented. Idea of a future Grant-Frontier Park ONA block party.

€ Discussion of new polling places: fewer locations, early voting; John Collins no longer a polling place.

€ Jennifer Marquardt and Rachael Klaibou reported on RTD Evans Station-related traffic, speeding that endangers children waiting for school bus at Warren and Bannock. Suggestions included crosswalk paint, pursuing a 4-way stop (difficult but process exists), getting police to target enforcement at intersection, moving bus stop (DPS offered no help, referred to DPD), inviting Bruce Hoyt (DPS Board Member for our area) to ONA meeting. Suggestions came from Julie Conner, aide to MacKenzie and Shelly Watters, aide to Boigon. Closing of Rosedale mourned yet again.

€ Kathleen Mackenzie to be honored at Washington Street Community Center with Jane Croft Award.

€ Julie Conner put forth the strategy of requesting more parking at the Evans Station. Permit parking is already in effect near station as a result of the parking shortage, though enforcement patrolling is rare. Denver Public Works advises that RTD consideration of station problems and Transit Oriented Development (TOD) shortfall is unlikely without engagement through a specific issue such as parking. It was proposed, seconded and approved with one dissent to write a letter to RTD Board as a first step to opening dialogue. The RTD planning cycle closes in June so this must be done by then.

Kevin Dickson passed out literature suggesting that TOD is harmed when "ample" parking draws too much vehicle traffic to a transit station. It was concluded that the task of getting on RTD's radar by complaining about parking issues was an end in itself and could be separated from actually building parking.

Adjourned: 9:20