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Amy Esten, 720-913-1095

City Park Maintenance Contact

Juan Marsh (Field Superintendent)
720-865-0871 Office (non-emergency)
303-916-4525 Cell (emergency/safety)

Next General Meeting:

Wed., November 19th @ 7-8:30 PM
Montview Manor Penthouse
1663 Steele Street

Meeting Agenda:

- Intro. of Guests, Announcements
- Police Dist. 2 Commander Rhonda Jones
- City Park Water Quality Presentation
- Election-SCPNA Officers for 2009
- Vote-Revision, Atomic Cowboy Agreement
- Vote-Donation to Montview Manor
- Parking Meetings Report
- Bluebird District Pilot Program Report
- New, Old Business Topics

SCPNA NEWSLETTER – November 2008

Thanks in abundance to Propaganda Labs and their BluebirdBeat.com for converting our articles into a beautiful Newsletter! Please come to the November meeting (time/place/agenda below).

Newsletter Readers,

Our newly formed Parking Committee is looking for additional members. The local impact of Denver's Parking Strategy is being discussed among the various local stakeholders, including SCP residents, at the Pinnacle Tower I Community Center on Wednesday November 12th, from 7:00-8:30 PM. Read more about it in this issue.

The city replied to our complaint about City Park maintenance. Their full letter, plus many other things of interest are presented in the longer version. Don't miss reading it if you can help it. Meanwhile, enjoy the 2-pager, and come to our November Meeting! See the Agenda in the left column. The election of officers for 2009 promises a special 'twist' you'll have to see to believe! And our District 2 Police Commander will join us.

-Jim Slotta

Businesses, Residents & Property Owners Are Invited!

Neighborhoods Assembly

Come to learn and share your thoughts about Denver's Strategic Parking Plan & its link to Businesses & Neighborhoods along East Colfax Ave & the Bluebird District.

During a brief portion of the assembly, Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods (CHUN) Delegates will be elected to represent Congress Park & South City Park. (Business employees and owners, residents and property owners are all valued representatives!)

When: Wednesday, 12th November, 7:00 to 8:30 PM. **Where:** 2990 E. 17th Ave. at Milwaukee, Pinnacle Tower I Community Room

Co-Sponsored by: South City Park Neighborhood Association (SCPNA) & CHUN **Questions?** Call the CHUN Office: 303-830-1651 or SCPNA President Jim Slotta: 303-388-3388.

**GOOD NEWS! CITY PARK REAL ESTATE
IS BEACON OF HOPE!**

In this "slow housing market" City Park still remains a hidden jewel in Denver. Those of us that live here know this, but according to Trulia.com, a real estate website, City Park average list prices have actually gone up to \$499,946. The median sales price is up 1.1% at \$303,250 and the average sales price is \$357,250! Currently there are 27 homes are for sale and 17 recently sold. This is a slow market but the listing price trend in City Park is steadily rising compared to Denver as a whole. Although the number of listings has remained flat, the price per square foot is dramatically higher compared to other Denver neighborhoods. We are seeing more interest in City Park with new additions like the City Park renovations, Colfax redevelopment projects, The Pinnacle high rise project, and new condos and resale homes being remodeled in the area. It's not all bad news out there in

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(Real Estate cont.)

the housing market and City Park is just one great neighborhood in Denver that is doing well. Cherry Creek, Hilltop, and West Highland are also seeing nice appreciation rates in an overall slow market. I would be happy to review your City Park home value and go over the recent trends in this sometimes confusing housing market. Please feel free to call me (303) 358 4294 or check out my website at www.ChrisMerman.com.

--Submitted by Chris Merman, Realtor-Prudential Colorado Real Estate and South City Park resident and Block Captain

A "TOM SAWYER"-TYPE STORY

I would like to make a good neighbor's statement for our newsletter.

Day 1: On Wednesday, 10/29, having borrowed my neighbor Emil's extension ladder, I set out to paint the 1st floor & basement trim on my house. I set forth with ladder and found I could not handle it. Leslie came running and helped me get it on the wall. Once the ladder was up, I could slide it along the sidewalk and was just finishing the upper edge of the bay window when Barry rode up on his bicycle. He helped me move the ladder back to point one on the lower level. I walked it along the walk and finished the south side of the house.

Day 2: Thursday, 10/30, my daughter Dorothy helped me place the ladder on the south of the front porch. David moved the ladder to the front of the porch, then to the center. Ryan appeared and moved the ladder to the far north.

Day 3: Friday, 10/31, Tom helped me get the ladder set up on the upper front porch. Pat moved it to the upper center porch. Adam moved it to the south center and on his way back he moved it to the far south. Son John came after work, and finished the top peak and far south side.

Every day God sent angel neighbors to help me as needed. Thank you one and all. What a great place to live as an old lady.

--Submitted by SCPNA Block Captain Eileen Heimerl

GIVE THE GIFT OF YOURSELF: VOLUNTEER

National Jewish Health is eager to find friendly, active people wanting to volunteer for various needs. Since 1899, our mission is to heal, discover and educate as a preeminent healthcare institution. National Jewish Health has been consistently ranked not only the #1 respiratory hospital in the United States but also among the 25 most influential research institutions in the world in its areas of focus, including respiratory diseases, immunology, and cardiology--all right here in your own backyard!

Volunteers are asked to commit 4 hours per week for six months. We are closed in the evenings and weekends so if you have time during the week and an interest in supporting our patients and staff, please call 303-398-1126 or email

volunteers@njc.org for more information. Various volunteer opportunities are available presently with more planned for the future. Training, parking and lunches are provided. Volunteers must also participate in a criminal background check and employee health process, both provided at no cost to the volunteer.

--Submitted by Helen Quelch, Volunteer Engagement Coordinator, National Jewish Health

BOO AND BREW II ON COLFAX AVENUE

The successful organization of this event for the second successive year pretty much establishes it as a Colfax Bluebird Business District Halloween tradition. Walking the blocks of "the 'Fax" on Friday night 10/31 for "Brew," one observed several hundreds of patrons filling the sidewalk patios and eagerly commenting on the creativity of the costumes parading by. It was instantaneous entertainment galore--quite a happening!

On Saturday 11/1, as a Halloween "after-burner," the children's "Boo" trick-or-treat event took place along both sides of Colfax between Monroe and Saint Paul. The event featured another day of extraordinarily wonderful fall weather, some repeat popular events from last year, and some that were new. Children were drawn to the haunted house at the Hooked on Colfax coffee shop where they admired the dead (fake) trapped rat on the snack table, and on down the block, the bubbles from the green monster bubble pipes floated from Babooshka's Hair Salon. There was apple cider at the Atomic Cowboy and a "candy bar" at the Fabric

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(Boo & Brew cont.)

Lab that was much more exciting than any salad bar. Crossing the street, children bounced away their sugar buzz at Tiger Kim's Martial Arts Studio and even learned some martial arts kicks. Lovely Confections provided a professional photographer to document all the amazing Halloween costume ensembles. Parents appreciated the security of seeing the red caps of the Guardian Angels floating by all day. Thanks to all those who helped plan and pull off this event.

*--Submitted by SCPNA Social Committee Members
Michelle Reichmuth, OliveAnn Slotta*

PLAN SHARED FOR WONDERLAND HOMES EMPTY LOT

(Meeting on 9/11/08 revealed interesting plans, now on hold due to failed economy.)

A meeting was held September 11th in the Pinnacle Tower I Community Room to introduce local neighborhood leaders to Walter Watson, President of David Weekley Homes Colorado, and to Virginia McAllister of Iron Horse Architects. A respected national firm, with most of its business in Texas and on the East US coast, DW Homes had written a contract to buy the undeveloped Wonderland Homes lot between Fillmore and Milwaukee Streets and south of 16th Avenue. Mr. Watson described a complex including 48 Townhomes with three-story height and an option to build a fourth floor in the sprinkler-installed attic spacing. Garages would be above ground; there was no plan for underground development. The Memorandum of Understanding between SCPNA and the original investment group would be fully honored, and the original Design Review Committee would be continued. The company had 'bought out' of its percentage of affordable housing obligation.

Attendees were all impressed by the plans presented, agreeing that it sounded much better than the original Wonderland Homes plan. Unfortunately, word was just recently received from Ms. McAllister that the plan was now on hold due to the severe national economic downturn.

--Submitted by Jim Slotta

DENVER COMPOSTS

My husband and I moved to South City Park last June, and one of our first purchases for the outdoors was a compost bin. We have been really

impressed with this low-maintenance, green solution for disposing our organic waste. I added some red worms, turned over the contents with a shovel a couple times, watered it occasionally, and let Nature take care of the rest. Next spring, I anticipate having rich, loamy soil to spread around my garden. Much to my excitement, Denver has started a pilot program for compost collection. Similar to the recycling program, residents will be provided with a compost container. During the growing season, organic materials will be collected by the city once a week (every-other-week during the winter). Unlike my back yard composter, which only breaks down grass, leaves, and some fruit/veg matter from my kitchen, the city compost program will be able to take a wide variety of leftover food materials, including meat, bones, citrus rinds, and soiled paper products—waste items directly responsible for filling our ever-shrinking landfills. The compost will be taken to Keensburg, CO by *AI Organics* to be converted to high quality soil and sold to retailers and farmers. Unfortunately, the South City Park was not selected to be part of the 3,000 resident pilot program, but if you are interested in participating, please let our elected Councilwoman Carla Madison know by emailing her at carla.madison@denvergov.org. Go to www.denvergov.org/recycle to find out more information about the Composting Collection Pilot Program.

--Submitted by Lesley Millhouser



Autumn in City Park

--Submitted by Lesley Millhouser

Response Letter from Denver Parks and Recreation

Roger Lawson received this letter from the Denver Parks and Recreation in response to the letter he sent in September on behalf of the SCPNA regarding City Park maintenance concerns.



Denver Parks and Recreation
Manager's Office

201 W. Colfax Ave. Dept. 601
Denver, CO 80202
www.denvergov.org/parksandrecreation

Roger Lawson
South City Park Neighborhood Association
PO Box 18375
Denver, CO. 80218

October 2, 2008

Mr. Lawson,

Thank you for contacting our office regarding City Park maintenance issues. We appreciate the passion the SCPNA has for City Park and would agree that park staff and many others helped make great improvements within City Park this summer. Those improvements will continue in October of this year as we partner with Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado in constructing the Mile High Loop Trail around City Park. As you are aware, there were a number of factors early this summer which negatively impacted the park including, no measurable precipitation until early August, breaks in the irrigation systems and weed issues stemming from the restoration of Ferril Lake, just to name a few. Those issues were largely addressed through reallocation of City staff in key areas, repair of irrigation breaks and contracted work to address algae and weed issues in particular.

In an effort to ensure City Park is maintained at the appropriate level in 2009, the Parks & Recreation Department will be focusing on a number of items this coming year to ensure we meet our adopted *Regional Park Maintenance Standard*, the highest in the City's tiered system of maintenance standards. Specifically, the department will be working with staff to prioritize preventative maintenance activities, determine the appropriate staffing levels to meet adopted maintenance standards, staff the park 7-days a week, implement a lake algae management plan, and coordinate with other agencies to provide for additional volunteers within the park in 2009. As a department we will also continue to prioritize and implement Better Denver Bond funded projects and approved capital improvement projects which will significantly help improve the parks dated infrastructure.

While your suggestion that a "Summit Conference" be facilitated to establish a maintenance system for the park is laudable, the Parks & Recreation Department must make decisions for the park that are based on a system-wide approach. Other organizations throughout the City have asked to help determine what the maintenance system and staffing levels should be within their neighborhood park. However, in an effort to be equitable across the City, the Department must continue to weigh a broad range of factors when determining our maintenance plans, including the approved budget, available staffing, and needs across the City. Both the SCPNA and the City Park Alliance have been effective in voicing their desires for City Park in the past, and we look forward to that continued input as we make park management decisions in the future.

Denver Parks and Recreation is committed to ensuring that City Park be maintained at a high level in 2009 and beyond, and the park remains a central figure in our historic and growing system of almost 300 parks. Your input is highly valued and we particularly appreciate the dedication of those within SCPNA who work to make City Park a "Crown Jewel of the Denver's Park System".

Sincerely,

Kevin Patterson
Manager



2008 DENVER LEAFDROP

Keeping your leaves off the street and turning them into compost.

Fall is upon us and so is the annual ritual of raking leaves. Denver Recycles' Leaf**Drop** program once again will be providing options for Denver residents to compost their leaves.

We encourage residents to reuse and recycle their leaves by digging them into the garden, composting them or using a lawn mower to mulch small amounts into the lawn. This adds nutrients and helps the soil retain moisture. Home composting and mulching information can be found at the links provided at the bottom of the page.

Denver LeafDrop Locations & Dates

Denver residents that can't reuse all their leaves at home can bring them to one of the convenient drop-off locations listed below.

SUNDAY DROP-OFF LOCATIONS:

When: November 2, 9 & 16 **Sundays**, 10 AM to 4 PM

Where:

Northwest - **Sloan's Lake Park** (17th Ave. at Sheridan Blvd.)

Southwest - **John F. Kennedy High School** (Newland St. & Brown Pl.)

East Central - **Cranmer Park** (3rd Ave. & Clermont St.)

Southeast: **South High School** (Louisiana Ave. & Franklin St.)

Northeast: **Smiley Middle School** (26th Ave. & Holly St.) ***NEW SITE**

WEEKDAY DROP-OFF (CLOSED WEEKENDS):

When: October 6 through December 5, **Mon. through Fri.**, 7 AM to 2:30 PM (Closed Holidays)

Where:

Havana Nursery, 10450 Smith Rd./ (just south of I-70 on Havana St.)

Denver Solid Waste Transfer Station, 7301 E. Jewell Ave.

(Quebec St. & S. Cherry Creek Dr.)

Open weekdays only. Weekday **LeafDrops** must be in tied or secured bags.

Notes: Denver Residents Only

DO NOT drop leaves at these sites except during the times and dates specified. Leaves left other times will not be recycled.

Leaves dropped off at weekday sites will need to be left in tied or secured bags.

In the event of extreme weather call ahead to check for cancellations.

Don't forget to reclaim your leaves in next spring's Treecycle Mulch Giveaway & LeafDrop Compost Sale. Call 720-865-6810 or visit DenverGov.org/DenverRecycles after April 1, 2009 for more details on when and where the Mulch Giveaway & Compost Sale will be held. Once again, this year's leaves will be turned into compost by [A1 Organics](#)

PROPOSED REVISION OF SCPNA'S ATOMIC COWBOY AGREEMENT

Recent conversations with the owner of the Atomic Cowboy bar & grill, 3237 East Colfax Avenue, have led to a mutual desire to revise our existing neighborhood agreement. The revised version, if ready, will be presented at our November 19th General Meeting for a vote of approval.

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(Atomic Cowboy cont.)

I. Contents of an email from SCPNA President Jim Slotta on October 2, 2008

To: SCPNA Zoning Committee, Officers, and other Committee Chairs

I met yesterday, 10/1/08, with Drew Shader of the Atomic Cowboy. He has taken down their speakers, which had been mounted on the south side of the Atomic Cowboy. He has written an email to me, content shown below, which I have permission to share with others.

It turns out that, in the listing of our 5-11-06 agreement conditions on the liquor license, a typo error on the part of Excise and Licenses contributed to a misunderstanding. On that listing, Item 4 began with the word "The" rather than "No" as originally written. Here is the way Item 4 correctly begins:

"4. No outdoor speakers will be installed or used on the outside eating areas. This speaker limitation applies to both the East Patio and the South Patio..." (etc.)

In exchange, I have committed SCPNA to a review of our agreement with the business. He knows that any changes to the agreement must be approved by a quorum of SCPNA Members at an announced meeting.

This brings the Atomic Cowboy back into compliance with our 5-11-06 agreement with the business.

Jim Slotta

II. Email from Drew Shader of the Atomic Cowboy on October 2nd, 2008

From: drewshader@gmail.com

Subject: Atomic LLC

Date: October 2, 2008 9:29:22 AM MDT

To: jslotta@earthlink.net

Jim,

It was nice talking to you the other day. Well over due. I am happy that we could work out the issue of our differing neighborhood agreements. As per our liquor license, my understanding was that we could have speakers, but only on the south facing or Colfax side of the building. The speakers have been reluctantly removed.

I understand that neighborhood agreement's must be respected. Even though Mezcal and Senger's currently have speakers on their patios. Once again, as I repeated to you many times. We will and have done whatever it takes to not only work out any issues with our neighborhood, but support it in any way we possibly can. I think that over the last four years that I have owned and operated the business, this has been evident. We support EVERY neighborhood cause or charitable event that is brought to our attention. With no questions asked we never hesitate to donate or give whatever is asked of us.

We hope to enjoy many more years as part of the SCP neighborhood, working with and bettering this area for years to come. Please come and try a slice of our brand new, New York style Fat Sullys pizza on us.

Your Neighbor,

Drew Shader

Atomic Cowboy

3237 E. Colfax Ave.

Denver, Co 80206

303-641-0159

www.atomiccowboy.net

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III. Plan for Vote on Revised Agreement at SCPNA November 19th Meeting

If done right, we could work with the owner of this business to be a shining example of the flexibility and appropriateness of neighborhood agreements. I have invited the CHUN/INC Patios Committee to work with SCPNA Zoning Committee members from our neighborhood to prepare a revised agreement potentially acceptable to both SCPNA and the Atomic Cowboy. We presently have two agreements--one dated 11-11-02 when the business first started (4 of 13 conditions attached to the liquor license), and the other dated 5-11-06 when the business applied for a patio (5 of 5 conditions attached to the liquor license). As we proceeded with the later agreement, we did not include everything that was listed in the first one, and some of the 11-11-02 agreement's conditions were revised in the 5-11-06 agreement. It is hoped that a revised agreement will be available in time for a vote at the SCPNA November 19th General Meeting.

In the new agreement, I am particularly interested in the inclusion of fair noise control conditions, and the inclusion of conditions sufficient to supersede the prior agreements. It would be ideal if the new agreement could be in line with the general recommendations of the CHUN/INC Patios Committee.

SCPNA PARKING COMMITTEE FORMED **ADDITIONAL MEMBERS SOUGHT**

Parking Meeting Notes

Wednesday, October 15 2008

7 - 8 PM, Montview Manor Penthouse

The first Special Neighborhood Focus Meeting on Parking Issues was organized by SCPNA Vice President Roger Lawson to address what he sees as an increasingly difficult to tackle problem in our neighborhood.

The meeting turnout was limited to about a dozen people because of simultaneous broadcast of the final presidential debate. In spite of the small turnout, we were able to have a fruitful discussion about the following areas of concern:

- The residential parking in the neighborhood will continue to be a concern, as the density of the neighborhood continues to increase, and the Bluebird business district continues to flourish.
- There are multiple developments that will contribute to increased number of cars in the neighborhood:
 - The Pinnacle Towers
 - The Colorado Commons
 - Continuing business development on Colfax
 - Increasing use of City Park
- The parking around Bluebird Theater continues to be a problem despite the residential permits in the surrounding streets.
- Parking during City Park events continues to be a problem.
- The traffic concerns are linked to the parking issue and should be included in the discussion.

While specific solutions to the parking issues were not proposed, we shared ideas to keep in mind while addressing the issue:

- Residential only parking permitting will not directly solve the parking issue because it will simply transfer the problem to another neighborhood.
- The solution should be inclusive of surrounding neighborhood concerns, as well as friendly to our local businesses.

In order to produce actionable results, the neighborhood association formed a Parking Committee, which will make a presentation to the neighborhood during the association's January 21st, 2009 General Meeting. Its presentation will include:

- The extent to which parking is an issue in the neighborhood
- Propose a solution the neighborhood association can support

If you would like to participate in the Parking Committee or would like to share your concerns please contact Grant Grigorian at grant.grigorian@gmail.com or 720-470-1469.

**Response to Allegations Regarding Possible Radioactivity
in Discharge from Lowry Landfill That Would Impact Recycled Water**

Updated 11/17/03

Recently, the Board has heard allegations that recycled water might be unsafe. The theory behind the allegations appears to be that Lowry Landfill received radioactive waste, that the groundwater collected at Lowry and treated at Metro is radioactive, that effluent leaving the Metro plant is radioactive, and that our recycled water will be radioactive as a result.

Complaints based on these same allegations were raised to the proper authorities several years ago and were disproved at various times, most conclusively last December. Nevertheless, the allegations persist.

Documents from the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency dated December 2002 explain why EPA has determined not to proceed any further with a plan for additional monitoring of radionuclides in Lowry discharges to Metro. Max Dodson, EPA Assistant Regional Administrator, stated, "The current groundwater monitoring data simply does not support the need to go forward with the plan at this time."

Here are a brief history and highlights gleaned from an EPA technical report dated December 5, 2002, and Max Dodson's decision letter dated December 13, 2002. Material in quotation marks is taken verbatim from these two documents.

- From 1985-1993 EPA and responsible parties studied Lowry Landfill to characterize the contamination at the site.
- In 1991, a consultant at the site issued a report of levels of americium and plutonium at Lowry that were higher than at Rocky Flats.
- In 1992, the same consultant issued another report after most of the samples were re-analyzed. "There was NO CASE in which the presence of transuranics was positively confirmed."
- In 1994, EPA issued its Record of Decision (ROD) on Lowry Landfill, requiring containment and treatment of groundwater on site. Despite the poor quality of the 1991 data, EPA used the data in its risk assessment. The risk assessment concluded that the total risk from naturally-occurring and transuranic radionuclides at Lowry was less than the risk from estimated national background exposure.
- In 1996 the Colorado Citizen Action Network (CCAN), Stop the Sludge Campaign – expressed concern that plutonium from Rocky Flats had been disposed of at Lowry.
- In 1997, EPA amended the ROD to allow pretreatment of groundwater at Lowry, followed by conveyance to Metro Wastewater for further treatment. The pretreatment permit requires that the discharge at Lowry be sampled twice a month for plutonium, americium, gross alpha and gross beta. In over 400 samples from March 2000 to December 2001, there was only one exceedance for gross alpha and gross beta (none for plutonium and americium), and those exceedances were not repeated. "The preponderance of the data suggests that there is no plutonium or americium in the discharge to Metro that would render a risk to the worker."
- The 1997 amendment of the ROD "created a surge of concern" from the CCAN, leading to a two-year audit by EPA's Inspector General.
- CCAN alleged that high levels of radionuclides were present at Lowry; groundwater contaminated with plutonium would be pumped to Metro; and EPA Region 8 and others had conspired to cover-up radionuclides

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at Lowry.

- In 2000, the Inspector General issued a formal report, which “found no apparent credible evidence that any of these conditions existed.”
- In addition to monitoring the discharge from Lowry to Metro, EPA has early warning wells at Lowry located upstream of the groundwater collection point, which monitor water quality six months prior to collection. In samples collected once a quarter, none showed problems.
- The wells that the 1991 consultant reported being radioactive were resampled (in 2001 or 2002). “All render results of americium and plutonium near zero activity.”

“In conclusion, [EPA has] found no evidence to support the need to launch an intensive study to determine the level of man-made radionuclides off-site as there is no current risk from the levels of activity detected on-site and within the discharge waters.”

THEREFORE - There's no risk from the groundwater before pretreatment at Lowry itself; there's no risk in the water being discharged to Metro after pretreatment; there's no risk in the much diluted effluent being discharged from Metro into the Platte River ; and there will be no risk from effluent diverted and treated at the recycle plant.

(Source of Article:)

http://www.denverwater.org/recycle/response_to_allegations.html

Water Quality & the Recycled Water System

Denver Water is building a non-potable recycled water system, the largest in Colorado, that will treat and deliver up to 17,000 acre feet (af) of water per year for industrial and outdoor irrigation use when it is completed. That amount of recycled water can free up enough drinking water resources to serve 36,000 households. The treatment plant has been in service since 2004, and in 2007 the system supplied nearly 6,000 acre feet to first adopters. The addition of Lowry and Stapleton large irrigators in 2008 will increase use to 9,000 af.

Recycled water is produced by taking treated wastewater that otherwise would be discharged into a river or stream and treating it again so it can be used for non-drinking purposes, such as irrigation for parks and certain industrial uses. The United States has been recycling wastewater for more than fifty years. Denver Water's recycled water treatment process is very similar to the process used to treat drinking water, although the end result has a residue of salts and other elements that make it not drinkable. The production from the recycling plant must satisfy government standards for non-potable water. In Colorado, the quality of recycled water is regulated by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.

Some people have expressed concerns that the wastewater effluent being discharged into the South Platte from the Metro Wastewater Treatment Plant (the source of the water treated at the recycle plant) might be contaminated with radioactive and other hazardous wastes. They have speculated that such contamination might be coming from Lowry Landfill, a Superfund site currently undergoing clean-up under the supervision of the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Groundwater collected at Lowry Landfill is in fact discharged to Metro, after pre-treatment on-site at Lowry. However, the water discharged from Lowry makes up less than one-hundredth of a percent of the water Metro processes. And more importantly, extensive scientific testing by the EPA over the last 15 years has not identified any elevated risk from the Lowry discharge, and there is no evidence that significant radioactive waste was ever dumped there. As the Lowry Landfill [FAQ](#) puts it, "radioactive material at Lowry Landfill is present at background levels that are consistent with naturally occurring and man-made radiation found throughout the western United States." (For more information, visit [the Lowry Landfill web site](#).) In 2000, the EPA's Inspector General issued a formal report which "found no apparent credible evidence" that high levels of radionuclides were present at Lowry. Studies have determined time and time again that there is no increased risk from the groundwater being discharged from Lowry to Metro.

Long before the treated wastewater reaches the Water Recycling Plant, the EPA monitors the discharge from Lowry to the Metro treatment facility. The EPA has determined that there is no risk of radioactive contaminants from the groundwater being collected at Lowry Landfill itself, even before pre-treatment. The federal agency also monitors groundwater before it is collected at Lowry for pre-treatment via "early warning wells." Water quality is monitored in these wells six months prior to collection and pre-treatment. None of these tests, conducted quarterly, have showed any problems with radioactive or hazardous contaminants.

The water is diluted at Metro and tested again, with negative results, during treatment. It's tested yet again when being treated at Denver Water's new recycling plant. None of those tests have substantiated the claims of radioactive or other hazardous waste.

(More information:)

Joe Sloan at 303.628.6320 or joseph.sloan@denverwater.org

**SCPNA Meeting Minutes-Wednesday,
September 17, 2008**

The meeting was held in the Penthouse of the Montview Manor at 1663 Steele Street at 7 pm. Approximately 21 people were in attendance.

Tickets for a drawing to Neighborhood Flix were passed out while people were seated.

Introduction: Jim Slotta opened the meeting with a welcome and introductions. He explained that general meetings are held every third Wednesday of the month for about one and a half hours. New attendees introduced themselves. Dave Felice mentioned the development of a new adjacent neighborhood association: ABC Streets neighborhood Association. The Secretary for the remainder of 2008, Lesley Millhouser, was introduced. Jim mentioned that SCPNA is sponsoring the drawing tonight—Flix is having trouble and has reached out to neighborhood groups to raise awareness to its financial troubles.

Announcements: A hardcopy of the full-length newsletter version was made available to any one who doesn't have access to the website. Jim recommends going to see the play Bubs at the Avenue Theater.

- Tuesday, September 30th at 7 pm at the National Jewish Health's Heitler Hall there is going to be a meeting for neighborhood input to our local businesses. Encourages folks to fill out the online survey.
- Saturday October 18th: MILE HIGH LOOP Workday
- Second Annual BOO & BREW. October 31st: Big Kids Halloween Party, Crawl the

six bars, costume contest, prizes. November 1st: Trick o' Treat on Colfax Ave for kids and parents.

Guest Presentations:

Amy Esten, community resource officer for District 2 was introduced. She grew up in South Park Hill and has lived in Denver for all but 8-years of her life. There are no huge pressing issues for her to address. There have been some robberies on East Colfax, businesses near Bel Air...described as black male late 20's to early 30's wears a long black wig. Call the non-emergency number (720) 913-2000. The DNC went well. The maximum number of people at TSU in Cordacova Park were about 500 people, most of them to see "Rage against the Machine." Crime is down in the neighborhood. Encourages people to keep their doors locked and don't leave anything of value visible in your car. If you hear gunshots, call the police. An attendee raised concern of people coming to the door and pretending to sell magazines. Esten said that they are probably canvassing for a burglary. Suggests answering the door (DO NOT OPEN THE DOOR), and if concerned, feel free to contact the police to check credentials and permits. Another attendee asked how one should report littering that he witnessed—Esten again encourages people to call the non-emergency number. Refer to flyer for crime statistics.

Mark Hoskin, is an architect with Hoskin and Associates, also a parent of a Senior at East High School. He is a volunteer for an organization at East High School called "Project Angel Pride" (www.projectangelpride.com). He extended his thanks to Jim for attending all the PAP meetings

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(Minutes cont.)

over the past several years. He thanked the neighborhood association and individuals for donations and support of the PAP organization.

The aim of Project Angel Pride is to improve the campus of East High. It began with a small experiment by planting a geranium garden on the campus, and it was thoroughly successful. There have been several projects over the years, big and small—they have tagged along with other organizations. Some changes include the following: Resurfacing of the playing fields. Students pointed out that the money was being used to resurface the tennis courts, which were superfluous. Therefore, a joint agreement between Parks and Recreation and East High was made to use (and improve) City Park Courts. The tennis courts have been removed freeing up space. A new parking lot was able to accommodate 500+ vehicles. The Esplanade was restored to its original splendor as a result. Repositioning of the playing field (closer to the Esplanade), freed up the land to someday put a playing field on the Westside. A scoreboard was donated. Project Angel Pride successfully raised money to light fields. Also improved the ballpark (handicap accessible, bleachers, port-a-potties are available). Instrumental in getting the clock on the clock tower (which hasn't been working for several decades) to work again.

Current Projects: Focused on the completion of the entry plaza. The "E" for East High School sits in a half-completed plaza. Design Studios West has done a preliminary design for a new plaza—raising money to complete it (hopefully summer of 2009). Includes making one entry handicap accessible, a congregation place for students, events. Plans have been approved by the Historical Society. Also Angel Pride has made East High a National Registry of Historic Places (it is already a Denver Landmark). Restoration of the Sullivan Gateway (est. cost \$900,000 to \$1,000,000). Gift to Denver, but neglected. May be recipient of a grant by the historic group, but need to raise an ambitious \$300,000. Gateway owned by City of Denver, maintained by Parks and Rec.

He is seeking help from outside organizations, like the SCPNA. One attendee raised the idea of renting the parking lot during City Park Jazz events . . . unfortunately, Mark feels that it is very difficult

to rent public school property. Admits there has been a disconnect between the fountain maintenance and Parks and Rec. Mark also mentions that John Youngquist, Principal, whose office is on the second floor, would be happy to meet with any one in the neighborhood.

Jim Slotta encourages you to check out the SCPNA website to view the East High's Heritage Hall of famous graduates. A dialogue must continue between the school and the neighborhood association about noise, lights left on, parking on Detroit, etc.

Nominations of 2009 SCPNA Officers (elections will occur in the November meeting)—Doña Dodson will accept the nomination for Treasurer. Jim Slotta accepts nomination for President. For the position of Secretary . . . Lesley Millhouser and Grant Grigorian have agreed to be nominated as Co-Secretaries for 2009. (Note: The two agreed to also share the assignment for the rest of this year.) Three people--Alicia Thorne, Nicholas Mancini, and Theresa Jacobs--expressed interest in being nominated to co-chair the Vice President position for 2009 . . . Roger Lawson wants to pass the torch. Written a few articles and rubbed a few park officials the wrong way. Job requires somebody to put their time, energy and passion towards the position. Roger has dedicated much of his time trying to renovate City Park. Other responsibilities include respecting bylaws, tradition, history, newsletter, sensitive to current issues, meeting/planning. Example, parking task force meeting where SCPNA needs to be represented. Being a liaison between residents and the city officials (what they are doing, what they are planning on doing), accomplish stated goals (on website), fundraising and soliciting monies in order to not spend membership dollars on the newsletter. Manage the block captains. Celebrations (block parties, garden parties). Better PR.

New Business: Roger Lawson introduced Dave Felice. He discussed City Park's future. Emphasized that he represents only himself. He is opposing private events to close City Park to charge money for venues (commercial events) and provided a handout of his opinion. He brings up the fact that the new manager of Parks of Recreation is Kevin Patterson. He was NOT one of two

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candidates recommended by the national survey. No direct experience, he is an administrator. Britta Herwig (new administrator) coming from Wash Park—she has received great reviews. Dave encourages people to check out his 2-page flier regarding this issue. His email is Gelato321@aol.com. “Free and Open Access”. Incidentally, the city is in accord with State Regulation 84 as long as it pumps its water supply into the lake first. Ashley Dulap (wildlife biologist). There are 82-species of fowl in the park.

Parking. There is not a one-solution fits all. The parking situation is not going to improve with increases in multi-family housing in SCP. A subcommittee is needed for traffic and parking issues. Bonita points out there is no unity in the neighborhood, regulation on one street merely forces the problem to other streets. There is no plan! A resident raised the question about neighbors feeling like they “own” the public street parking spot in front of their house. The question arose, what good is a resident-only parking area if there is no enforcement? Can we have a special meeting just about parking? Faded signs are going to be replaced.

Finally, it was brought up how in the last meeting Doña introduced a motion that passed, to write a letter to the mayor expressing concerns about City Park. The letter was written; we have not yet heard back from the mayor. Has distributed it to several adjoining organizations. He believes that everything has been shelved while the Park Manager gets a sense of the job.

Drawing: Grant Grigorian won the Neighborhood Flix tickets in the drawing. (Note: The Flix subsequently went out of business, so the winning tickets were converted to cash for the drawing winner.)

Meeting was called to a close at 8:40 pm . . . Jim encouraged everybody to check out the fountain!

--submitted by Lesley Millhouser, from computer notes taken by Lesley and a tape recording of the meeting