

Call to the Annual Meeting

The March meeting is INC's Annual Meeting where elections for INC officer positions are held and proposed changes to INC By-Laws are entertained. For delegates to run for office or vote, they must be from RNOs that are INC members and whose dues are current for 2010. A list of current member RNOs appears on page two and a membership application is on page 13. Dues may be paid at the March 13th meeting. The people listed below have indicated a desire to run for the positions listed. However, these and other nominations must be made from the floor at the meeting; all INC delegates are encouraged to consider running for officer positions.

Chair	Judy Schneider and Steve Nissen
Vice Chair	Bradley Zieg
Secretary R	ay Ehrenstein
Treasurer K	aren Cuthbertson
Delegate-At-Large La	rry Ambrose
Delegate-At-Large Eug	ene Howard
Delegate-At-Large Georg	e Mayl
Delegate-At-Large	<i>vacant</i>
Delegate-At-Large	<i>vacant</i>

The meeting will be sponsored by the Denver Sheriff's Department and will be held at the brand new Justice Center. Stick around after the meeting for a tour of the facility!

Also at this meeting will be a discussion of proposed changes to the INC By-Laws brought forth by the Executive Committee. While most changes are corrections to grammatical or typographical errors, there are some substantive changes and additions. The proposed changes follow; new language is underlined while deletions are *italicized*.

General:

Change all occurrences of "Vice-Chair" to "Vice Chair".

Re-number all "Articles" (Roman numerals) as necessary to coincide with changes.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

E. Nominate neighborhood representative, *without regard to political party affiliation*, to serve on public commissions, boards and task forces; and

WHY? All discrimination clauses are now described in new "Article III" below.

ARTICLE III. NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

INC will execute its purpose without regard to race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, familial status, or political party affiliation, except to serve a historically disadvantaged group.

WHY? Many Dollar Dictionary Drive grantors ask applicants to provide documentation regarding equal opportunity policies.

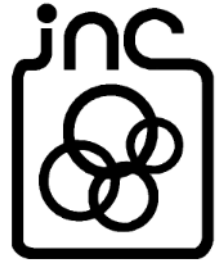
ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP

A. There shall be four classifications of membership: "Member Organization" (MO), "Member Organization Patron", "Associate" and "Associate Patron".

1. "Member Organization" (MO) shall be any "Registered Neighborhood Organization" (RNO) as set forth in Chapter 12, Article III of the Denver Revised Municipal Code, *and* which has delivered a complete application form with dues paid in full.

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March
2010

www.
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com/INC/home

Denver Neighborhood
Connection

INC Member and Associate Organizations (Patrons in Bold)

Member Organizations

Alamo Placita Neighbors Assn
 Athmar Park Neighborhood Assn
 Baker Historic Neighborhood Assn
 Belcaro Park Homeowners Assn
 Bellevue-Hale Neighborhood Assn
 Berkeley-Regis United Neighbors
Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods Inc
 Cherry Creek North Neighborhood Assn
 Cherry Hills Vista Community Assn.
 Civic Association of Clayton
 Congress Park Neighbors
 Cranmer Park Hilltop Civic Assn
 Crestmoor Park Homeowners Inc
 Filing One
 Curtis Park Neighbors
 East Montclair Neighborhood Assn
 Elyria Neighborhood Assn
 Far Northeast Neighbors, Inc
 George Washington Homeowner's Assn. Inc.
 Golden Triangle Assn. of Denver
Golden Triangle Museum District
Greater Park Hill Community, Inc.
 Green Valley Ranch Citizen's Advisory Board
 Harkness Heights Neighborhood Assn
 Highland United Neighbors Inc.
 Hilltop Heritage Assn LLC
 Humboldt Street Neighborhood Assn
 Hutchinson Hills/Willow Point HOA
 Inspiration Point Neighborhood Assn
 Lighthouse at the Breakers Homeowners Assn
Lower Downtown Neighborhood Assn (LoDoNA)
 Montbello 20-20

Morrison Road Business Association of Denver
 Neighbors and Friends for Cheesman Park
Overland Park Neighborhood Assn
 Park Forest Homeowner's Assn
 Platt Park Peoples Assn
 Rangeview Neighborhood Assn
 South Hilltop Neighborhood Assn
Southmoor Park East Homeowners Assn
 Southmoor Park Homeowners Assn
Stapleton Master Community Assn
 Stapleton United Neighbors
 Sunnyside United Neighbors, Inc
 The Unsinkables
University Hills Neighborhood Assn
University Park Community Council
Upper Downtown Development Org
 Virginia Village/Ellis Community Assn
 Washington Park East Neighborhood Assn
 West Highland Neighborhood Assn
 West University Community Assn (WU CA)
 Whittier Neighborhood Assn

Associate Organizations
 Bernie Jones PhD
Bill Johnston
 Bonna Gayhart
 Brad & Christine Klafehn
 Cathee Fisher
Councilman Doug Linkhart
Councilwoman Carla Madison
Councilwoman Marcia Johnson
Councilwoman Peggy Lehmann
 Dennis Gallagher, Auditor
Denver Health Medical Center
Denver Mayor's Office

Denver Water
Downtown Denver Partnership, Inc.
Gertie Grant
 League of Women Voters of Denver
 Leetsdale Cop Shop
 LoDo District Inc.
 Rosy Griffiths
 Sandra D. Shreve
 Stephen Griffin
 Vicki Gritters



Denver Neighborhood Connection

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INC organizations should send changes to their president and delegate data to the membership chair at kbeaudrie@totalspeed.net

Delegates' Meetings are held on the second Saturday of each month at 9:00 a.m.
 See this issue for location.

The INC Executive Committee meets monthly at 1201 Williams Street in the 19th floor meeting room.
 RNOs are welcome to reprint the articles in their own newsletters.

2. “Member Organization Patron” is any MO as described in Item #1 having paid the appropriate ‘Patron’ dues.
3. “Associate” is any individual, civic group, non-profit group, or government agency having paid the appropriate ‘Associate’ dues.
4. “Associate Patron” is any entity from Item #3 having paid the appropriate ‘Patron’ dues.
5. “Associate” and “Associate Patron” shall be non-voting members.

B. Dues

1. The amount of dues to be paid, by any member category, shall be established by the Executive Committee and shall be due and payable annually by January 1, except that the dues for a new MO joining after the Annual Meeting shall be prorated on a quarterly basis.
2. Current rate of dues shall be as quoted in the Membership Application and published in the newsletter.
3. A grace period, for receipt of MO dues paid in full, shall be given until the start of the Annual Meeting. Any MO not paid in full by such time shall be dropped from membership and their Delegates shall not be allowed to vote, or run for office, until such time as the dues are paid in full, thereby reinstating membership.

F. Patrons, MOs, or Associates making a donation exceeding their required dues or fee shall be acknowledged as Patron.

WHY? Membership classifications are clearly articulated and inequity in dues is removed. This conforms to INC’s historical practices.

ARTICLE V. – DELEGATION

A. The makeup of paid INC members shall be known as the “Delegation”.

B. Delegates

1. Any paid INC member shall be recognized as a “Delegate”.
2. The meeting of the Delegates shall be known as the “Delegation”. (see A.)

(THE REMAINDER OF THIS SECTION SHALL BE IDENTICAL TO THE CURRENT SECTION “POWERS OF THE DELEGATION”).

WHY? “Membership” and “Delegation” information in current document is all garbled together, jumps back and forth, and is not clearly defined. This will bring better clarity, delineation, and will bring conformity to our documents in adherence to INC’s historical practice.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

A. Officers

1. Officers of INC shall be: Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and five (5) Delegates-at-Large. *Officers shall be elected by the Delegation, for a term of one (1) year or until their successor is*

elected. Officers shall assume their duties as of the close of business of the election meeting.

2. Officers shall be elected at the Annual Meeting, by the Delegation, for a term of one (1) year or until their successor is elected.
3. Officers shall assume their duties at the close of the Annual Meeting at which elected.

WHY? Standardize the term “Annual Meeting”, clarification of when officers are elected and when their duties begin.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

C., 4

d. Provide access to detailed transaction information when duly requested.

WHY? To maintain transparency and comply with standard practices in the accounting industry.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

F. Vacancies.

1. A vacancy in the office of Chairman Chair shall be assumed immediately by the Vice Chairman Vice Chair.
2. Vacancies in other offices shall be filled immediately on an interim basis by appointment of the Chair The Chair shall, by appointment, immediately fill officer vacancies on an interim basis with Executive Committee approval, and shall, for the duration of the term, be confirmed by vote of the Delegation within two (2) regular meetings from the notification to the Delegation of such vacancy.

WHY? Create two items for better clarity. The Chair appoints, as opposed to the Chair being appointed.

ARTICLE V. – MEETINGS

- A. Regular Meetings. Regular meetings of the Delegation shall be held monthly with notice given in the newsletter. The date, time, and place shall be determined in advance of the notification by the Executive Committee. date, time, and place determined by the Executive Committee and advance notice given in the newsletter.

WHY? More concise and better clarity.

- B. Annual Meeting. The regular Delegate meeting held in March shall be the “Annual Meeting” at which the election of Officers shall take place.

WHY? Election of Officers and Bylaw changes are already addressed under “Officers” and “Amendment of Bylaws”.

Executive Committee Recap

By Fran Rew

Karen Cuthbertson, INC Chair, called the meeting to order on Monday, February 8th, 7:00 p.m., at 1201 Williams Street. Other Executive Committee (EC) members present were Larry Ambrose, Ray Ehrenstein, Steve Nissen, Anthony Thomas, Don Tressler, and Brad Zieg. Also present were Katie Fisher, Mike Henry, Fran Rew, and Judy Schneider.

A motion to approve the INC Delegates Minutes for January passed by acclamation.

Treasurer's Report: Steve Nissen reported the January 31st ending balance is \$19,876.83. A motion to approve the Treasurer's report passed by acclamation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Dollar Dictionary Drive: Steve Nissen reported that the DDD was in the black. The DDD balance as of January 31st is \$3,556.84. At the INC Banquet, \$350.00 was collected from donor cards.

Education Committee: No new report.

Membership and Newsletter Committee: No report.

Parks and Recreation Committee: Larry Ambrose and Katie Fisher reported that a public hearing at the Denver Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (DPRAB) about the Master Dog Park Plan was scheduled for the following evening; it was to be moderated by the City Park Alliance in the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. This would be the first time that Denver residents will have a chance to listen to each other's views in a large audience format.

The Dog Park Master Plan Task Force made recommendations but the DPRAB did not take a vote about the Dog Park Master Plan. At the last DPRAB meeting, the topic of admission-based events drew protests about the continual expansion of privatization of Denver's public parks by allowing for more events in the park than what was originally approved and shortening the originally allowed time between events. Both Ambrose and Schneider stated that no one understands the zoning code for parks. They asked the Executive Committee to introduce a motion to the INC Delegates about Denver Parks and Recreation zoning problems. Ray Ehrenstein reported that a PBS documentary about the history of zoning was scheduled for television broadcast after the INC meeting.

Public Safety Committee: A representative from the Nuisance Abatement Oversight Committee (under the Manager of Safety) told Karen Cuthbertson that her application to volunteer on this committee was reviewed and approved. There is only one vacancy for this committee.

Transportation: Nothing reported.

Zoning and Planning Committee (ZAP): Mike Henry reported that the next ZAP meeting would be on February 27th. Penny May will be giving a report on medical marijuana licensing. Mike wants ZAP to submit a motion to

speak our piece about the zoning to the INC Delegation in March. Fisher said that many of the neighborhoods would not support the proposed zoning code maps because they are not well prepared. Henry said no one from West University Community Association (WUCA) has attended the Zoning Code Task Force (ZCTF) meetings. Fisher said that her WUCA members work during the day when the ZCTF meetings are scheduled, therefore WUCA members are sending letters. Don Tressler said there might be a two-month extension of the adoption of the final zoning code update. Henry explained that residents have been involved with the zoning code update for four years but that the business community is only now beginning to work on this. Henry said, "We want to get everyone's input so if it means another two months, so be it." Concerning the Zoning Master Plan, Judy Schneider said B8A and B8G are changing the parking information. Ambrose and Nissen both commented that the new zoning code seems to be more complex than the existing zoning code. Mike Henry asked that people express their opinion at the ZAP meeting. Katie Fisher said that the ZCTF meetings are during the day on weekdays; this is very inconvenient for working people. Henry pointed out that the INC ZAP meeting occurs the fourth Saturday of every month, 9:30 a.m., at 1201 Williams Street in the 19th floor meeting room. Brad Zieg said there is concern that zoning may become an election issue in the 2011 election if the finalization of the new zoning code is dragged out.

OLD BUSINESS:

Recruiting Officers: Both Judy Schneider and Steve Nissen expressed an interest in running for the INC Chair position. Karen Cuthbertson expressed an interest in running for the INC Treasurer position. INC needs three volunteers to run for At-Large positions currently held by term-limited persons. Ray Ehrenstein expressed an interest in running for the INC Secretary position.

April 2010 Celebration of INC's Official 30th Year Anniversary: INC's 30th anniversary of formal legal incorporation is in April. Anthony Thomas and Larry Ambrose recommended that INC have a socializing celebration. Thomas was thinking about an affordable brownbag picnic in a park that everyone could attend. Ambrose added additional suggestions for dinner or lunch at a restaurant. The history of INC could be shared, with an informal (possibly playful) ceremony to recognize and honor past INC presidents.

INC Fundraiser for the People's Fair: Steve Nissen established INC as a Pop Booth vendor at the CHUN Peoples' Fair. Karen noted that Wayne Jochem, who has headed up the INC booth at the Peoples' Fair for many years, had expressed an interest in heading up the booth recruitment effort a gain this year. However, Wayne had to withdraw because of job commitments. Brad Zieg recommended that there be a committee to head up recruiting RNO volunteers to staff the booth. Karen Cuthbertson said that INC's

2009 beer booth at the Peoples' Fair made about \$350. Beer vendors are giving INC less of a percentage. Each RNO gets \$10 per volunteer per shift at the INC fundraising booth.

New City of Denver Web Site: Cuthbertson and others noted numerous difficulties with the new denvergov.org website. Cuthbertson would like INC delegates to test the site and will bring it up at the February 13th INC meeting. Cuthbertson expressed frustration that promises from Community Planning and Development that INC members would be involved in the development and testing of the new site went unfulfilled.

Denver Election of City Council Candidates: Mike Henry said INC should contact the League of Women Voters (LWV) and Denver 8 TV regarding a Candidate Forum for Councilperson in District 1, given that Rick Garcia is resigning. Karen will contact LWV and Denver 8 TV.

INC New Brochure: Steve Nissen expressed that INC needs a new brochure. Mike Henry recommended waiting to design a new brochure until after INC's election of new officers.

Annual INC Neighborhood Conference: Anthony Thomas said the date scheduled for the annual INC Neighborhood Conference is the same date as the People's Fair, Saturday, June 5th. It was the only date available to do it in Coors Field. Schneider added that, because of the Bien-

Corrections of INC Bylaws: Steve Nissen will be submitting additional corrections for repetitious and unnecessary wording in the INC Bylaws to for the Delegates to consider at the March Annual Meeting.

Delegation Recap

By Dave Felice

University Park Community Council Vice-President Tom Gonella welcomed the delegates meeting on February 13th at Heritage House in near Southwest Denver.

Mayoral Chief of Staff Roxanne White said the City's budget remains a serious problem. Tax receipts are down seven percent over last year and an \$80 million gap is expected as the budgeting process begins in May. White said medical marijuana regulation is still an issue. She praised Councilman Charlie Brown for his work on writing ordinance language. She said the City needs guidance from the State. White said she expects a "really, really good" product to come out of deliberations over the master zoning code revision. White also told delegates almost half of the Better Denver bond money has been spent or allocated and the administration expects all projects to be complete by the end of 2011. She said there are over 100 applications pending review for the post of Safety Manager and the City will also be hiring a new Undersheriff and Fire Chief. In response to a question, White said anyone interested in serving on the selection committees should contact his or her council representative.



Angela Casias of Parks and Recreation speaks to the delegates.

Photo by Ray Ehrenstein

nial of the Americas celebrations, Mayor Hickenlooper would not be able to attend in July. Mike Henry, who has been on the Neighborhood Conference Planning Committee, had not heard a word or seen the minutes of this meeting.

Parks and Recreation Manager Kevin Patterson told delegates Denver cannot expand to add parkland so the City must find creative ways of meeting demands for parks posed by population growth. Patterson said higher density residential areas lead to greater need for public open space and the City needs to add 1,000 acres of parkland over the next 15 years. Denver currently has 10 acres of park for

every 1,000 residents, less than many similar cities. He said increased demand can also lead to conflict over use because there are fewer buffers in and around parks. Patterson says the City and residents need to look at multiple uses and ways to incorporate waterways and gulches in the park system. He said the river corridor has already proven to be a significant recreational and economic asset. Patterson acknowledged an attendee's concern about proposed modifications to Overland Golf Course because it is "senior friendly" as it is the only City course that does not have strenuous climbs. Some people are disturbed that changing Overland to a 9-hole "executive" course would deprive seniors of a needed facility.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Parks and Recreation: Co-Chairs Katie Fisher and Larry Ambrose reminded delegates that the INC resolution from September supports development of a permanent festival park. The Parks Advisory Board is re-examining policy on admissions events, looking at when and how events can be held. The committee encourages and welcomes additional neighborhood representation, meeting every third Tuesday at 6:00 at Heritage House. The newsletter has a meeting recap on page six.

Transportation: No report.

Census: Residents should be wary of scams. Census workers wear badges and do not ask personal financial questions.

Stimulus: No report.

Zoning and Planning: Chair Michael Henry says the adoption schedule for the new zoning code has been extended to June to allow more time for public comment. He says this will result in a more careful examination. ZAP meets on the fourth Saturday of each month. This month, Excise Director Penny May will discuss medical marijuana.

Dollar Dictionary: Steve Nissen says the fund-raising process is well underway and the new brochures are available. Steve thanked Karen Cuthbertson for her work in designing the new tri-fold brochure.

Parks and Recreation Recap By Larry Ambrose/Diana Helper

The INC Parks and Recreation Committee (PARC) met February 16th with Committee Co-Chairs, Larry Ambrose and Katie Fisher, and members Tom Anthony, Cathy Donohue, Ray Ehrenstein, Dave Felice, Steve Fisher, Diana Helper, Mary Myers, Jim Sample, John Simi pre-

sent. Also attending was Angela Casias of Denver Parks and Recreation (DPR).

There was a discussion of the announcement that Open Air Cinemas (OAC) would not take place this year in Civic Center Park. OAC is still planning for 2011 and 2012 in City Park. The reason given was they had insufficient sponsorship. [NOTE: February 17th Denver Post article says they would be in Civic Center in the future, not City Park. The article also says they missed the deadline for a liquor license application.] There was speculation as to whether the Biennial of the Americas will actually happen as it is still in need of sponsors—and now OAC-less.

There was a discussion about the need for a Festival Park for admission-based events and for the ever-growing People's Fair, Taste of Colorado, et cetera that have outgrown Civic Center and are highly damaging to the grass and other park property. Fund it with Revenue Bonds? Larry provided information about the history of the Platte Valley and the old Elitch's property and the sales and financing deals that have taken place since the park was built in the 1990s. The price has risen from \$6 million to \$60 million and on to \$300 million over this period.

A discussion ensued as to the inability of those attending to hear Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) members at their meeting at Bogey's on February 11th. The meeting was not ADA compliant. There were problems with arrangement of the room, no microphones, lack of Channel 8 coverage, and leaving the screen lit and the LCD projector running throughout the meeting (a noisy distraction). It was felt that the PRAB is a City Charter created body conducting public business and should be obliged to conduct meetings in a way that includes the public. The Committee agreed it would be appropriate to send a letter from the INC PARC to the PRAB regarding this matter. Cathy and Dave will write a draft. There was discussion of the need for Chantal Unfug to rewrite the fee-based policy document as well as the notification policy. It was discussed that it would be nice if the Mayor were to appoint at least one INC person as a member of the PRAB.

Dave had a request from Congress Park Neighbors to suggest three questions it should ask residents about admission-based events in parks. The Committee's suggestions were: Do you approve of closing off park space to those who have not paid admission? Should the people have a vote on this change of policy? Does Denver need a Festival Park for such admission-based events and other large events?

Data Corrections

Keep INC informed of changes in your organization's president and delegates. Notify the membership chair at 303-798-9306 or kbeaudrie@totalspeed.net.

Organizations and persons not affiliated with INC should also communicate their desire to obtain this newsletter or submit address changes to the editor at 303-798-9306 or kbeaudrie@totalspeed.net.

At the Dog Park meeting at City Park, there were mostly negative comments for using the main part of the park as an off-leash area although many dog owners do feel a need for more dog parks. Wherever dogs are off-leash, they should be in a fenced area, not running free in a park. In City Park there is the park plan, new museum building construction, and the new circulation plan to be considered if any such fenced area were to be there. Larry reiterated the idea of increasing revenue by increasing the percentage of dog licenses. Arrangements for "special allocation" of funds from Animal Control to Parks and Recreation Dog Parks could be arranged through the budget process. However, Cathy warned against a special allocation as it will only cause battles for dollars. Tom explained his idea for a water dog park near the Rail Yard Dog Park. It was suggested that he work with the people who raised money for the new Rail Yard Dog Park to see if this adjacent area might be a compliment as a "water dog park." Angela said DPR purchased 100 bag-dispensers with a year's supply of bags for each from Poo Free Parks. DPR plans to work with INC on its offer to help with this. It was pointed out that this is an example of what most neighbors already are doing, had P&R asked in the beginning.

There was a lively discussion about Recreation Centers. Angela spoke about Recreation Centers – none are closing, but some are "transitioning." She talked about La Alma, Johnson (Elyria), and DPR's need to cut \$7 million from its budget, hence its plan to transition recreation center management to non-profits who would then get a building to use and could offer the same or better programs. The Committee made it a point to say to Angela that the main problem has been that the neighbors and others actually using these centers have not been consulted from the beginning and heard the reasons, positive points, options, given time to think about it, help with plans, correct misconceptions, know that changes are not necessarily permanent (5-year agreements), et cetera. Tom gave two money-making ideas: Denver Lottery, and "Denver Idol" competitions to engage kids and adults, provide activation, entertainment, and healthy competition, get sponsors, et cetera.

There was a brief mention of how changes to Overland Golf Course are being proposed without public involvement from the beginning. Jeff Shoemaker, from the Greenway Foundation, however, seems to have been heavily involved. There would seem to be a need to keep the 18-hole course as it is the only City course with terrain that suits many older golfers.

Angela presented a chart and information on the reorganization of DPR, some jobs consolidated, and the City being remapped into four instead of six districts. There is one ranger for each district plus one for mountain parks. It looks as if everyone has to do a lot more. DPR will be hiring a few more specialists and, later on, more field work-

ers. Larry made the point that INC PARC is not interested in trying to micro manage the staff at DPR but would like to know how much money is being spent on management as a percent of the total budget.

Angela said DPR wants INC to help develop a community outreach strategy. Larry suggested that Cathy C. and Scott would be good to assist. She also mentioned INC help with ideas to activate the parks that we already have listed recently. She also said that she will be asking INC for input on increasing the number of Temporary Vending Sites in parks – especially near pools and ballparks. These would be concessions brought in only by the day, not permanently. The Permit Staff has a list of people who have been requesting such sites. Decisions need to be made about what is to be sold, when, and where.

Angela will address Earth Day plans in March at the INC PARC meeting.

Homeless at Risk By Randle Loeb

A team of 50 homeless outreach workers and volunteers surveyed 276 homeless people living on the streets and in overflow shelters this week as part of an innovative effort to house Denver's most vulnerable people. The survey found 121 people, or 44 percent, to be at a higher risk of dying prematurely if left on the streets. This indicator is slightly higher than the national average of 42 percent.

"The information gathered this week will help Denver's Road Home in reaching our goal of reducing chronic homelessness by 75 percent in year five of our plan," Jamie Van Leeuwen, executive director of Denver's Road Home said. "Over the next year, our hope is to house and provide services to 280 homeless individuals and families. We have 500 units of housing in the pipeline over the course of the next two years."

"Denver is among a group of cities that has made great progress in ending homelessness and we are excited they took another step this week to reach this goal," Becky Kanis, co-director of Common Ground's 100,000 Homes Campaign said. "Denver is among a few cities around the nation that we are working with that is implementing and succeeding in its plan to house and provide support for the homeless population. Their work this week really shows their commitment to addressing this issue."

Denver's Road Home completed the vulnerability index in partnership with Common Ground and homeless street outreach workers from several local community organizations including the St. Francis Center, Urban Peak, and the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless. The approach of prioritizing the most vulnerable individuals—those most at-risk of dying—for housing and services has been incredibly successful in New York, Washington D.C., Los Angeles, and other communities across the country.

The Vulnerability Index was created based on research by Dr. Jim O'Connell that shows certain medical conditions place a homeless individual at higher risk of dying than others if they remain on the streets.

Results

- ...# 276 surveys were administered – 89% response rate
- ...# 97 of the 276 surveys were administered in overflow shelters (Men at Cross Roads, Women at the Delores Project)
- ...# 198 pictures were taken as part of the survey
- ...# 121 (44%) individuals met at least one high-risk criterion from the Vulnerability Index, that is slightly higher than the national average of 42%.

At-Risk Indicators

Indicator	Number
Tri-Morbidity (combination of mental illness, substance abuse and chronic disease)	62
Three or more emergency room or hospitalizations in prior year	48
Three or more emergency room visits in prior three months	27
Age Over 60	20
HIV/AIDS 4	
Liver Disease or Cirrhosis	24
End Stage Renal Disease	6
History Cold/Wet Weather Injury	33

Older Adults

- ...# 20 or 7% are over 60 years old
- ...# The oldest respondent was 72 years old

Years Homeless

- ...# The average years homeless for the Vulnerable Cohort population sleeping on the streets is 4.6 years.
- ...# The average years homeless for the Non-Vulnerable Cohort is 1.5 years.

Service Needs (Total Surveyed)

- ...# 98 people reported a dual diagnosis of mental illness and substance abuse
- ...# 113 people reported a history of substance abuse
- ...# 17 people reported signs or symptoms of mental illness

Health Conditions (Total Surveyed)

- ...# 38 people reported having asthma
- ...# 10 people reported having diabetes
- ...# 39 people reported having Hepatitis C
- ...# 28 people reported having heart conditions
- ...# 17 people reported having emphysema
- ...# 12 people reported having Cancer

Veterans (Total Surveyed)

- ...# 55 or 20% surveyed were Veterans
- ...# 24 of the 55 Veterans are Vulnerable Youth

Foster Care (Total Surveyed)

- ...# 49 or 18% of respondents report having a history of foster care
- ...# 27 respondents were under 25 years old. Of the 27 youth respondents, 11 report having a history of foster care
- ...# The youngest respondent was 18 years old
- ...# 9 respondents under the age of 25 have increased mortality risks specific to that age group (Youth risk factors are HIV/AIDS, drink alcohol everyday for past 30 days, injection drug use)

Inpatient Hospitalizations (Total Surveyed)

- ...# A total of 145 inpatient hospitalizations were reported in the past year

Emergency Room Visits (Total Surveyed)

- ...# A total of 232 ER visits were reported by all respondents
- ...# 1 respondents accounts for 30 (13%) of the reported ER visits

Health System Impacts (Total Surveyed)

- ...# 137 or 50% report having no insurance
- ...# The majority of reports having no insurance go to Stout Street Clinic (39%) and Denver Health (25%)

Income

- ...# 41 or 15% of people report being on Aid to the Needy and Disabled (AND) or Food Stamps as a primary source of income
- ...# 69 or 25% report panhandling as a primary source of income
- ...# 21 or 8% report having SSI or SSDI as their main source of income
- ...# 51 or 19% of people report having no income source

Violence

- ...# 102 or 37% report being a victim of a violent attack since becoming homeless

About Common Ground

The mission of Common Ground is to end homelessness by transforming people, buildings, and communities. Founded in 1990, Common Ground rapidly grew to become the largest developer and manager of supportive housing in New York City and has pioneered a new approach to outreach called Street to Home that is being replicated in cities across the country.

About Denver's Road Home

Denver's Road Home was developed by the Denver Commission to End Homelessness. Over 350 diverse stakeholders served on committees and more than 500 people came together over the course of 18 months to provide recommendations and feedback to the Commission. Denver's Road Home, a ten year plan to end homelessness in our community, was approved by Mayor Hickenlooper and Denver City Council in 2005. Denver's Road Home is now in year five of its plan. To learn more, visit www.DenversRoadHome.org.



Athmar Park N.A. – Good news! Lowe’s is opening soon at Alameda Avenue and Zuni Street. Come by and see us. The bad news: a huge surge in graffiti.

Byers Friends and Neighbors – We believe the Byers Branch Library, a Carnegie library, is a valued public asset that must be kept operating as a public library that is valued and needed by the neighborhood and valued by the greater community at large.

Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods (CHUN) – Planning and volunteer recruitment is gearing up for the CHUN Peoples’ Fair on June 5th and 6th. Call 303-830-1651 for information. A Peoples’ Leadership Council has been created at 2260 California Street for homeless people to advocate for social and personal change of the lives of people. We are meeting every three weeks at 12:30 p.m. at El Centro Humanitario at the corner of Park Avenue West and California Street. Our meeting are on March 10th and 31st. All citizens are welcome. Randle Loeb is co-captain of the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless MS150 Ride to Fort Collins and Back on June 26th and 27th. They are looking for riders and sponsors. Please go to MS Ride Great Western and log on to our web page. We are also sponsors for the Senior Support Services E-race on August 28th to raise awareness and fun ding. Please contact Randle at randleloeb@gmail.com. Senior Support Services was founded by six faith communities over thirty years ago to care for elderly neighbors who are indigent and runs a daily program.

Cory-Merrill N.A. – Addressing through newsletters and pulpit to get younger generations involved.

Elyria N.A. – Councilwoman Montero, DPS Board member Arturo Jimenez, and Hickenlooper Administration representative Guilerino Vidal joined Penfield Tate and nine others in supporting a two billion dollar, six mile, permanent detour of I-70, splitting Elyria and Swansea off from Globeville and the Platte River Greenway. The Johnson Recreation Center, that sits a block from this proposed new Interstate detour, has been de-funded in the 2010-budget despite the April, 2009, Task Force recommendation that it remain as a neighborhood recreation center. The new Denver zoning still plans to change the Blueprint Denver

Globeville mixed use area immediately adjacent the Platte River Greenway to heavy industrial use. The North Metro Fastracks DEIS Team is expected to recommend a preferred station location site at 48th Avenue and Brighton Boulevard, one block from the Johnson Recreation Center, nearly directly in the path of the I-70 detour footprint CDOT just allocated another \$700,000 to study.

Greater Marlee Community Org. – We have several Medical Marijuana stores now and are having several issues with robberies, shootings, and such. Police District Four has 83 dispensaries; we have heard this is the largest number in the City. We are looking forward to State laws to control them.

Green Valley Ranch C.A.B. – There will be an Earth Day celebration on Saturday, April 17th, in the Oakwood Homes new home center parking lot at 48th Avenue and Tower Road. The event is from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. BestBuy and King Soopers are participating. We will have electronics recycling and other earth friendly activities. Check out mygvr.org for more details.

Humboldt Street N.A. (HSNA) – Our rezoning application originally submitted at the end of 2007 for the commercial area that wraps two sides of our HSNA Historic District is still being “stonewalled” by City Planning. They are relying on the opinion of one assistant city attorney to prevent the completed application from being sent on to the Planning Board. We have worked in collaboration with owner and developers of the subject area to craft a zone amendment that preserves the character and integrity of our one- and two-story historic district. We have reviewed this issue with three senior partner level, real estate, and zoning attorneys who believe the CPD opinion directly contradict both City Code and common practice. In addition, the new zoning code would authorize literally a 70-foot wall on the alley and rear property lines along the full length of our historic district. We are seeking alliances to move our application back into play and can provide more information on our situation if anyone is interested, contact (heartcom2@msn.com).

North City Park Community Assn. (NCPCA) – There is no official positions from the NCPCA board yet but lots of opposition to dog enclosure and 100-percent neighbor opposition to off-leash, free-run dogs in City Park.

Overland N.A. (OPNA) – The River South Master Plan will be discussed during the OPNA meeting on February 25th, 6:30 p.m., at John Collins United Methodist Church, 2320 South Bannock Street (near Iliff Avenue). The meeting is open to all.

University Park Community Council – We are concerned with and working diligently on zoning code, park, and historic preservation issues.

15th Dictionary Drive

By Cathee Fisher

Wow! As we all take a deep breath and look forward to spring, the Dictionary Drive Committee is planning for the autumn distribution of a dictionary and thesaurus of their own to every third-grade student in Denver Public Schools.

Ninety elementary schools serve Denver's students. This has been a very successful and rewarding program for all who have been involved through the years. I know you will agree that being in the classrooms when each third-grader is given both a dictionary and thesaurus of their own is a fun and thrilling experience. We hope each of you is able to participate in the future.

The community's "Gift of Words" to our youngest citizens matters to all who are interested in their future. The books we will deliver to the students in 2010 has something for everyone. Dictionary words: "a" (an article used to indicate one before a noun) to "zygote" (350 pages later). Then there are the "e" words "egg," "exacerbate," and "excellent." "It is truly amazing that, out of twenty-six letters {in the English language}, there can be thousands of combinations of letters to make up the words in our vocabulary." (Quote attributed to Colista Moore)

In addition, there is something for the scientist, mathematician, geographer, historian, and astronomer with the periodic and multiplication tables, country and state maps with demographics, US Presidential biographies, the US Declaration of Independence, plus pictures and descriptions of the solar system. Current-events perspectives are provided by the US Constitution; adopted in 1787, Article 1, Section 1, paragraph 4 begins "The actual Enumeration shall be".... describes the reasoning for the census of 2010. It is a snapshot of who we are in 2010.

Our program also gives a thesaurus, the "dinosaur" book, to each third-grade student. It is a way for each student to find a different way to say the word "big" or "marvelous" or "zestful!" At this point I could say "and whatnot" (something trivial or indefinite). However, although the education of some of our youngest citizens seems to be something left for others, it is not trivial and education is easier done now rather than later, so your support for this program is needed and greatly appreciated. Each book will have a label identifying the student's school and neighborhood association(s). Please spread the word, pass the hat, have a yard sale, or anything else creative that neighborhoods always find to do when help and money are needed. Our students are part of our neighborhoods.

Some of the first dictionary and thesaurus recipients will be graduating from college in May. Not all students follow the projected trajectory in school or in life. I am sure the exceptions prove the rule – "Sometimes the turtle, sometimes the hare." The journey and the goal are equally challenging and rewarding. Education, both formal and

informal, is the opportunity for gaining knowledge and the power it instills in individuals and our communities. If you know a student neighbor who would be willing to pass on their story about how they used their gifts of the dictionary and thesaurus through the years, please help us learn their stories. Contact any of our board members (refer to page 14).

Donations can be sent to:

Dollar Dictionary Drive

PO Box 18347

Denver, CO 80218

www.neighborhoodlink.com/inc/

(Click on Dollar Dictionary Committee)

Zoning and Planning

By Diana Helper

The Zoning and Planning Committee (ZAP) met February 27th.

Draft number 4.1 of the proposed Zoning Code will be published on-line approximately March 23rd. It will require, like all previous drafts, careful study. The Planning Board's first hearing of testimony (as opposed to an informational briefing) on this draft is now scheduled for April 7th and the City Council public hearing is now planned for June 21st. Meanwhile, planning board information sessions with staff briefing will be March 3rd (suburb/urban edge/urban), March 17th (general urban/urban center/downtown), and March 31st (Special Districts incl. Parks, Campus/Articles 10-15). Community Planning and Development (CPD) "office hours" will be held concurrently in the Webb Building on those dates. The office sessions are the best way to get answers to specific detailed questions.

Steve Nissen reported this is the 15th year for INC's Dollar Dictionary project that provides all 6,500 Denver Public Schools third-graders with a dictionary and a thesaurus. Those present were urged to help raise funds to keep this important project going.

Larry Ambrose said he is running for City Council for District One to ensure solid neighborhood representation. The election is May 4th.

Steve Hildeman and Chris Citron presented the case for saving his toric Byers Library at 7th and Santa Fe Drive. They also moved that INC support a request to the Denver Public Library board for timely notification to the public, ample opportunity for response, and board meetings announced and scheduled at times when the public can attend. The motion was seconded and a unanimous vote (41 present) approved. This motion is printed elsewhere in this issue, for INC delegate vote at the March 13th INC general meeting.

Jeremy Wells of the Denver Landmark Preservation Commission (LPC) spoke about the new Certificate of Appropriateness being issued to detail exactly what work has

been officially approved for buildings in historic districts or individual historic landmark buildings; this certificate will be posted. Neighbors (or Registered Neighborhood Organizations - RNOs) are not otherwise notified when applications for design review are submitted but LPC was urged to list these on its website at denvergov.org/preservation. If you wish to receive direct information about agendas for LPC meetings, email landmark@denvergov.org. LPC also plans a survey, with Historic Denver, to locate historic Denver buildings. Landmark buildings in disrepair must be maintained properly and Neighborhood Inspection Services (NIS) should be alerted to check the location of poorly-maintained sites for issuance of a citation if needed. The effect of the new Zoning Code and Conservation Districts on historic districts and property will be discussed at ZAP in the future.

Penny May, Director of the Department of Excise and Licenses, spoke about processing applications for medical marijuana dispensaries. The department will thoroughly check that all requirements are met (building security, etcetera), plus proper measurements (distance from schools, etc.) and that needed licensing is in force. ZAP asked that license information be available online.

Cathy Donohue attended a meeting on improvements to the McNichols Building (former Carnegie Library) at Civic Center Park. She strongly opposes an idea that was suggested to put an addition on this historic building.

Ray Ehrenstein attended a meeting on the Greenway Foundation's River South Master Plan proposal to redo the Overland Golf Course property, including reducing the course from 18 to 9 holes. The large crowd made it clear they oppose that plan and that they had not received any notification regarding this. A new plan will be drafted, and a public meeting held.

City Councilwoman Carla Madison spoke about the future Recreation Center site at Colfax Avenue and York Street and suggested uses for this large property while waiting to build the Center. Ideas include a dog park and a community garden. Concern was expressed that when the Center was built, the temporary use (especially the dog park) would be moved to City Park, a concept that neighbors presently oppose for City Park.

There was discussion of accessory dwelling unit (ADU) inclusion in the proposed Zoning Code; of numerous zoning concerns still present in many neighborhoods—height, size, parks/parkways protected from industrial uses; proposal of a street through Fillmore Plaza; Dog Parks (one more task force meeting); the Rosedale school conversion; update on Cherokee/Gates site; Parks/Recreation request for input on park activation, outreach strategy, and vendors; and more.

The City Council public hearing on revisions to the Billboard Code is March 8th. The changes proposed are primarily clarifications of the present ordinance, passed in 1988. One feature of the new bill is that it would prohibit

additional light-emitting diode signs; there is no limit on the brightness of the light produced in those already in place.

The City Council public hearing on Reduction of Parking Requirements in TMU-30 zones will be March 22nd. The city proposes a 75-percent reduction of required parking for Transit Oriented Development sites. This was met with alarm; RNOs in the immediate vicinity would be notified.

The next ZAP meeting is March 27th. The agenda will include discussion of the proposed draft 4.1 Zoning Code concerns.

Byers Library Motion **By Michael Henry**

On February 27th, the INC Zoning and Planning Committee unanimously supported the following motion for consideration by the Delegation on March 13th. Delegates should please be prepared to vote.

Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation should communicate to the Denver Library Commission, the Mayor, and City Council that INC opposes the proposed closure of Byers Library at 675 Santa Fe Drive, a historic, landmark Carnegie Library that is well used by its diverse neighborhood.

In addition, INC strongly encourages the Library Commission to develop and implement a more satisfactory process to solicit and give more meaningful and respectful consideration to public involvement and comments in library planning discussions from the general public, including users and neighbors. One example would be to have the Library Commission meetings at times that the public can more easily attend.

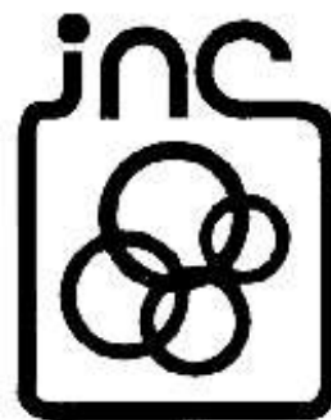


Park in the Post Office parking garage at the corner of West 14th Avenue and Delaware Street. Enter the garage from Delaware Street. See the photograph below looking south. Park on the fourth level. Take the parking garage elevator to the lobby and the Sheriff's Office will have staff there to escort people to the Justice Center in groups. Because of this, the last group will be brought over at your meeting start-time. **Hopefully no one will be late.**



Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation

2010 Membership Application



INC is a consortium of Denver neighborhood representatives who believe that neighborhood organizations deserve a greater participation in city government and possess a shared vision that individual neighborhoods are stronger when they work together and learn from one another. **To join as a member neighborhood organization, the organization must be registered with the city as a Registered Neighborhood Organization. Log on to denvergov.org for details. The names of Patron members and associates are listed in bold in our newsletter.**

We wish to donate \$_____ to the Dollar Dictionary Drive.

Join as a voting neighborhood organization: Regular Member (\$35) ☐ Patron (\$75) ☐
See below to apply as an INC Associate

Organization name: _____
Address: _____
Borders: North _____ East _____
South _____ West _____

President's Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: (____) _____ Cell: (____) _____ President is a voting delegate: ☐
E-mail Address: _____
Send newsletter via: E-mail [☐] U.S. Mail [☐] Don't want newsletter [☐]

Voting Delegate Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: (____) _____ Cell: (____) _____ E-Mail Address: _____
Send newsletter via: E-mail [☐] U.S. Mail [☐] Don't want newsletter [☐]

Voting Delegate (if President is not a voting delegate)
Delegate Name _____
Address: _____
Phone: (____) _____ Cell: (____) _____ E-mail Address: _____
Send newsletter via: E-mail [☐] U.S. Mail [☐] Don't want newsletter [☐]

Join as a non-voting supporting Associate : Regular (\$20) ☐ Patron (\$75) ☐

Organization Name: _____
Organization Address: _____
Agent's Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: (____) _____ Cell: (____) _____ E-mail Address: _____
Send newsletter via: E-mail [☐] U.S. Mail [☐] Don't want newsletter [☐]

Bring this form to an INC meeting or mail to:
Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation, PO Box 181009, Denver, CO 80218-1009

**Meeting Saturday
March 13th**
The public
is welcome to attend.

Justice Center

See map on page 12

8:30 a.m.

Coffee and chat

9:00 a.m.

Welcome from Chief Marie Kie-
lar, Sheriff Department, and
Council President Jeanne Robb

9:10 a.m.

Around the City

10:00 a.m.

Break

10:15 a.m.

Fabby Hillyard
Director of Volunteers
2010 Biennial of the Americas

10:50 a.m.

INC Elections and Voting on
Proposed By-law Amendments

11:45 a.m.

Committee Reports

Noon Adjournment
Stick around for a tour
of the Justice Center

You can always view upcoming
INC meeting locations and get
information about presentations
on our website. Click on the
“meetings & more” link.
[www.neighborhoodlink.com/
INC/home](http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/INC/home)

Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation

P.O. Box 181009
Denver, CO 80218-1009

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303-936-9206

athmaratlarge@ecentral.com

Athmar Park Neighborhood Assn.

Bradley Zieg, Vice-Chair

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Bellevue-Hale Neighborhood Assn.

Dave Felice, Secretary

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ABC Streets Assn.

Steve Nissen, Treasurer

Co-chair, Dollar Dictionary Committee

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Alamo Placita Neighbors Assn.

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-chair of Parks and Recreation Cmte

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Ray Ehrenstein, Delegate-at-large

303-698-0337

James_bear_sample@mac.com

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anththomas@juno.com

Civic Association of Clayton

Don Tressler, Delegate-at-large

303-753-4003

donaldtressler@comcast.net

Cory-Merrill Neighborhood Assn.

Penelope Zeller, Delegate-at-large

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penelope.zeller@gmail.com

North City Park Civic Assn.

Ken Beaudrie, Chair, Newsletter &

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Katie Fisher, Co-chair, Parks and

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Mike Henry, Chair, Zoning & Plan-

ning Committee

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Capitol Hill United Neighborhood, Inc.

Dave Webster, Chair, Transportation

Committee

720-941-8026

Dj-jl-webster@att.net