



Denver Neighborhood Connection

THE NEWSLETTER OF INTER-NEIGHBORHOOD COOPERATION

OCTOBER 2010

Neighborhoods are stronger when they work together and learn from one another



Community Shopping Day

MACY'S CHERRY CREEK & PARK MEADOWS

Saturday, NOVEMBER 13, 2010

**Buy a \$10 ticket and help support the programs of
Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation, Inc.**

Your ticket entitles a 10-20% discount off almost **EVERYTHING**
at Macy's Cherry Creek & Park Meadows
plus an additional \$10 off of one purchase of \$25 or more on
Saturday, November 13, 2010.

Plus, enter to win a \$500 Macy's Shopping Spree!

ALL proceeds from tickets sold by Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation
volunteers will be donated to **Dollar Dictionary Drive**.

For tickets contact:

Cathee Fisher 303-548-5769, cathee@earthlink.net

Steve J. Nissen, 303-733-8524, Pennissen@cs.com

The 'Dollar Dictionary Drive' provides a free dictionary and
thesaurus to every third-grade student in Denver Public Schools

INC AGAIN FUNDRAISING FOR DOLLAR DICTIONARY DRIVE

*Dual Opportunity for RNOs to
Raise Funds, as well!*

As the autumn season progresses,
INC is once again participating in
Macy's Community Shopping Day
on November 13. **This is a
project whereby non-profits
can raise money for their
organization by selling
tickets at ten dollars each.**

Any funds raised will, of course,
go to the Dollar Dictionary Drive
of INC. This is a great

opportunity to reap savings
during these strained economic
times. Think holiday shopping.
Please contact Steve Nissen for
tickets at 303-733-8524,
Pennissen@cs.com. We can get
the tickets to you.

FROM THE CHAIR

The upcoming November election
is crucial, both in ballot issues
and candidate positions. In the
past, INC has conducted forums
in conjunction with Denver 8 TV
and The League of Women
Voters of Denver. Denver 8 has
experienced a critical budget

reduction this year and thus, we
were not able to proceed with
potential forums for this election
cycle. INC and the LWVD did
send a letter requesting the city
to adequately fund Denver 8 so
that we have a better chance of
conducting forums for the
upcoming spring municipal
elections. We have received word
from Denver 8 that they did
receive funds and so the future
looks more promising for forums
in the spring. If you need more
clarity on any voting concern,
please refer to the "2010 State
Ballot Information Booklet"
and/or the League of Women
Voters "Voter Guide". This is a
very important election for all of
us. I encourage everyone to be a
registered voter and to vote on
November 2.

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Upcoming INC Meetings:

- November 13th – location TBD
- December – no meeting
- January 8th - 4500 Telluride

Annual Presidents & Delegates
Dinner – January 26th, Double-
tree Hotel, Quebec & MLK Blvd

Member Organizations

ABC Streets Assn
Alamo Placita Neighbors Assn
Athmar Park Neighborhood Assn
Baker Historic Neighborhood Assn
Ball Park Neighborhood Assn
Belcaro Park Homeowners Assn
Bellevue-Hale Neighborhood Assn
Berkeley-Regis United Neighbors
Bonnie Brae Neighborhood Assn
Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods Inc
Cherry Creek North Neighborhood Assn
Cherry Hills Vista Community Assn.
Cherry Point Homeowners Assn
Civic Association of Clayton
Colfax on the Hill, Inc
College View Neighborhood Assn
Congress Park Neighbors
Cook Park Neighborhood Assn
Cory-Merrill Neighborhood Assn
Cranmer Park Hilltop Civic Assn
Crestmoor Park Homeowners Assn 2nd filing
Crestmoor Park Homeowners Inc
Filing One
Cultural Arts Residential Org
(CARO)
Curtis Park Neighbors
East Montclair Neighborhood Assn
Elyria Neighborhood Assn
Elyria Swansea/Globeville Business Assn
Far Northeast Neighbors, Inc
George Washington Homeowner's Assn. Inc.
Globeville Civic Assn #1
Golden Triangle Assn. of Denver
Golden Triangle Museum District
Greater Mar-Lee Community Org
Greater Park Hill Community, Inc.
Green Valley Ranch Citizen's Advisory Board
Hampden Heights Civic Assn
Harkness Heights Neighborhood Assn
Highland United Neighbors Inc.
Hilltop Heritage Assn LLC
Historic Montclair Community Association, Inc.
Humboldt Street Neighborhood Assn

Hutchinson Hills/Willow Point HOA
Inspiration Point Neighborhood Assn
Ivy Street Neighbors Assn
Lighthouse at the Breakers Homeowners Assn
Lower Downtown Neighborhood Assn (LoDoNA)
Lowry Community Master Assn
Lowry United Neighborhoods
Master Homeowner Assn for Green Valley Ranch Mayfair Neighbors, Inc
Mayfair Park Neighborhood Assn
Montbello 20-20
Morrison Road Business Association of Denver
Neighbors and Friends for Cheesman Park
North City Park Civic Assn
Northwest Quadrant Assn
Overland Park Neighborhood Assn
Park Forest Homeowner's Assn
Platt Park Peoples Assn
Rangeview Neighborhood Assn
Rosedale Harvard Gulch Neighborhood Assn
Ruby Hill Neighborhood Assn - RHINO
Sloan's Lake Neighborhood Assn
South City Park Neighborhood Assn
South Hilltop Neighborhood Assn
Southmoor Park East Homeowners Assn
Southmoor Park Homeowners Assn
Southwest Improvement Council - SWIC
Stapleton Master Community Assn
Stapleton United Neighbors
Stokes Place Green Bowers HOA
Sunnyside United Neighbors, Inc
The Unsinkables
University Hills Neighborhood Assn
University Park Community Council
Upper Downtown Development Org
Villa Park Neighborhood Assn
Virginia Village/Ellis Community Assn
Warrens University Community Council

Washington Park East Neighborhood Assn
West Highland Neighborhood Assn
West University Community Assn (WUCA)
West Washington Park Neighborhood Assn
Whittier Neighborhood Assn

Associates

Bernie Jones, PhD
Bill Johnston
Bonna Gayhart
Brad & Christine Klafehn
Cathee Fisher
Clerk & Recorder Stephanie Y. O'Malley
Councilman Doug Linkhart
Councilman Paul Lopez
Councilwoman Carla Madison
Councilwoman Carol Boigon
Councilwoman Jeanne Robb
Councilwoman Marcia Johnson
Councilwoman Peggy Lehmann
Dennis Gallagher, Auditor
Denver Health Medical Center
Denver Mayor's Office
Denver Public Schools
Denver Water
Downtown Denver Partnership, Inc.
FRESC
Gertie Grant
League of Women Voters of Denver
Leetsdale COP Shop
LoDo District Inc.
Rosy Griffiths
Sandra D. Shreve
Stephen Griffin
Vicki Gritters

Note: Patron Members and Patron Associates in bold typeface.

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.

MINUTES OF THE INC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING, SEPT 13, 2010

By Ray Ehrenstein, Secretary

Chair Nissen called the committee to order at 7:02 PM. A Quorum being present, Steve had us intro ourselves around the room and we discovered Neighbors, Merce Lea, Cathee Fisher, and Dave Webster among the usual suspects.

Chair called for approval of August's E.C. minutes/re-cap. Brad moved and Randle seconded and they were approved.

DDD – Chair Steve Nissen requested approval of a \$200.00 donation to Our Savior's Lutheran Church for providing us with facilities both for our August meeting and a place for DDD to label and repack dictionaries to send to individual schools; which was a blast. After discussion, Brad moved and Randle seconded. Six voted for passing.

Steve said that Macy's Community Shopping Day is coming up on November 13th 2010 and he believed we should participate again. Asked to explain the event for newcomers, Steve reported that Non-Profits such as the INC sell the Macy's tickets for \$10 and that INC gets to keep the \$10 and the ticket buyer gets \$10 off their first purchase over \$25 at Macy's. According to the Chair, last year was "not a very good year" with the bad economy and INC still made about \$500. The money raised is for the DDD.

Co-Chair Cathee Fisher described the distribution of the books to 3rd graders at Colfax Elementary: Susanna Cordova, Chief Academic Officer for DPS was on hand as was School Board Member, Arturo Jimenez. The book presentation to children of two classes of 3rd graders was later shown on

channels 9 and 31. INC members are encouraged to witness and even help hand out the books at various schools in their neighborhoods. We were reminded that we only had enough money to buy dictionaries this year. Some schools have inquired as to how to get the Thesauruses on their own and we are referring them to Cathee who can connect them to the bookseller, where the Thesaurus can be purchased for \$1.50 each which however must be purchased as a box of 24 books.

The Chair asked to approve the Combined Treasurers Report for July and August. Randle moved and William seconded to do so. After discussion the Report was approved unanimously.

Education Committee: Chair Billie Bramhall was sorry that she had been called away from the August delegates meeting just as we were starting the Education Forum and she was glad at least to be able to read about it in the August Delegation Recap. She praised Bill Johnston, Will Cornell, Karen, and Michael for "carrying the ball" for the committee. Will reported that from North City Park's side, they have a new Principal at Columbine Elementary, Dr. Franita Ware, from Atlanta, Georgia, whose strength is in working in "culturally diverse neighborhoods". Will was advised by Bill Johnston about the "Collaborative School Committee" and Dr. Ware has invited Will to take part. It will be good to have an INC member on this committee. Billie told us that she sent thank you notes to the panelists.

Parks & Rec Committee: Katie Fisher reported that Angela Casias wants two 20 minute presentations. One would be on the Dog Park's Master Plan and one on Admission based events in parks. Katie says we have gotten more participation

from members of the PRAB with some members attending our PRC meetings. These issues will be followed up by the Chair.

Safety Committee: Anthony reported that he sent press releases from DPD to Ken for forwarding to our membership. Anthony also would like to submit an article in the newsletter asking for members to join the Safety Cmtn. Anthony noted that Commander Sandoval began having District 4 public meetings back in 1994 and we learned from Merce Lea that now all the Police Districts are required to have public meetings quarterly. Karen says we can publish the regular meeting dates and times for all of the DPD Districts on our website and the EC thought this was a good idea.

Transportation Committee: Dave Webster said that the Transportation committee will have a meeting on Sept 17th on "Living Streets" at the Blair Caldwell Library. Anthony told us that the east corridor of light rail to the airport has become the first to be fully funded. He said one I-70 realignment facilitator is willing to attend the Transportation committee meetings.

Michael Henry suggested that the Safety Cmtn, Education Cmtn, and the Transportation Cmtn all need a regularly scheduled meeting time and place if they want to attract members and gain attendance.

Zoning and Planning

Committee: Michael Henry says we did good work in getting the nuisance abatement notifications going out to the neighborhoods. Asked about one process, Michael said that several steps of notification to the property owners must be sent out before a property can be confiscated. DPD's Captain Judy Will is in charge of nuisance abatement.

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Old Business: The new INC brochure is being worked on for content. Karen will send what is drafted at this point to EC members as a starting point for discussion. Larry Ambrose reminded us that we are still in need of a Marketing Committee and that a notice to that effect should be included in the Newsletter. Michael believes that INC information should be sent out to news outlets and this would be one responsibility of the new Marketing and Communications Committee. Randle thinks a history of INC would be helpful in the new Committee's archive. Billie added that we need someone specifically designated on the Marketing and Communication committee to feed INC info to media outlets such as Your Hub.

New Business: Anthony Thomas suggested that we should use the one month that the INC does not meet to have the Newsletter's issue be one about "INC, The Year in Review". This idea was well received by the EC. Upcoming meeting locations and topics were discussed. Brad informed us that the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Staff of the City of Denver (ARRA) would like to present at an INC meeting.

The INC President's Dinner is coming up and the Chair said we should be thinking about nominations. Steve asked Karen and she is willing to Chair the Dinner committee. Larry volunteered to assist Karen. Karen will call Anthony Graves of Visit Denver to follow up on Dinner plans. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

MINUTES OF THE INC DELEGATES MEETING, AUG 11, 2010

The meeting was brought to order at 9:02 A.M. at the Volunteers of America building at 2660 Larimer

St. by Chair Steve Nissen. He introduced Councilwoman Carla Madison, one of our Co-Hosts and suggested that Carla be allowed to welcome us first since she was in her bicycle riding togs and needed to leave soon to join in a riding event. The Councilwoman welcomed us to the VOA building which was as new to her as the six year old extensive headquarters building was to many of us. Carla told us that this was at the "very edge" of her district. She said she was happy to visit "the edge" and that she and Councilman Doug Linkhart (also present) were to lead off the "Tour de Fat" bicycle race at 10 o'clock. Carla said she was impressed by Denver Health's Hospital turning into a modern, business model run hospital and regretted that she must miss Elbra Wedgeworth and her presentation on DH later on. Steve introduced Wayne Jochem, a former INC Chair, whom Steve said was "on parole" from his Sheriff's job. Another former Chair and present Council-Member-At-Large, Doug Linkhart was also in attendance. Steve then introduced our hosts. Linda Dowlen from Whittier welcomed us and Cheryl Barry from Curtis Park joined her in welcoming us.

Steve Nissen asked for the approval of the August meeting's minutes. Randle Loeb moved to approve and Penelope Zeller seconded. Under discussion Judy Sullivan praised the Secretary's sometimes humorous writing and the Secretary apologized for his tendency to 'go on a bit long'.

Fortunately the minutes were approved unanimously anyway.

Steve asked Michael Henry to speak on two Zoning Motions. Michael first reminded us that the next ZAP meeting would be on Sept. 25th. Steve referred to the motion published in the August newsletter and pointed out that Denver's zoning codes new and old permitted citizens to rent out their residences temporarily; but that such rentals should be for a minimum of at least 30 days. Mr. Henry noted that this city regulation was originally crafted to restrict those who would rent 'by the hour or by the day'. Al Habercorn suggested



Councilwoman Carla Madison speaks.
Photo by Ray Ehrenstein

this was a type of "fundraising". George Mayl told us of rentals of a week or less in his and other neighborhoods. In one instance an entire girls' softball team was housed and other inappropriate "party house" short rentals were allowed in quiet neighborhood settings; with the attendant noise and parking issues. George had sleuthed quite a lot and found that it was often the same out-of-state owners who were renting multiple properties and they – of course – were not paying the city a room tax as a properly zoned hotel/motel would do. It was determined that the two issues addressed on page 11 of the August newsletter should be voted on as separate motions. Both motions were then offered by Michael Henry and seconded by Randle Loeb. After discussion, the

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question was called and then both motions were passed; the first motion "to condemn and halt, through more effective enforcement, the practice of SHORT TERM RENTALS for less than 30 days in residential zone districts." passed with 29 for and 2 abstentions. The second motion that "INC should oppose the variances requested in Cory Merrill and Stokes Place-Green Bower Neighborhoods." passed with 27 for and 4 abstentions.

Steve introduced Pat from VOA who wanted to get the information out about "Meals on Wheels" being available for folks 60 years or older and who are homebound and she wanted this information in our Newsletter.

We then proceeded with "Around the City" (see page 11). Note: Any Delegate's information spoken during Around the City must also be written on the circulating clip board if the Delegate would like it published in the Newsletter.

After the break the Chair introduced Elbra Wedgeworth who is the Chief Government and Community Affairs Officer for Denver Health. She was pleased to see many people whom she has known for many years in her previous career and told us that, "Right now I am a recovering politician". She passed out a handsome booklet on "Denver Health – 150 Years of Level One Care for ALL" and put DH history into perspective by saying when Denver Health opened its first hospital, Abraham Lincoln was President. Elbra recounted the true story of a Denver gun fight in which the men who exchanged shotgun blasts became the first and second patients of Denver's City Hospital. She went on to speak of Florence Sabin who was in charge of Denver Health in the 1940s. It was very unusual in that

era to have a woman in such a prominent position. Elbra said her own role is to meet with Colorado's State Legislators, Denver's Mayor and City Council, as well as Colorado's National Legislators on behalf of Denver Health.

Taking questions, Ms. Wedgeworth was asked about new buildings. She responded they would be building a new Dialysis Center off of Delaware Street next to Pavilion C. She told us that Denver Health provides more than \$400,000,000 in uncompensated health care.

After hearing praise from Jennifer Tomeny for the care given to a friend and how all the nurses loved working there, Elbra told us that she would share that. She also informed us that Denver Health has "some of the best doctors in the world" and

that "our survival rate is better than the Mayo Clinic". Elbra said that – as a City – we can be proud of our Denver Health's national reputation. In response to Randle's question about electronic records and follow up care, Elbra said that Denver Health has invested more than \$300,000,000 in our electronic systems and are one of very few hospitals who can transfer records between their main campus and other clinics in this manner. he pointed out that Colorado University Hospital has basically stopped providing care for Medicare patients, which she thinks "is a travesty" since their bottom line is that they made over \$180,000,000 net profit and of course, DH has to make up the

deficiency. She ended by saying that she has "to get out of here since Anthony (Thomas) wants my Negro Baseball League shirt and he can't have it!"

The Chair then introduced two speakers from Denver's Road Home, Melanie Lewis (Program Coordinator) and Debra Gray (Housing Manager); both of Denver's Road Home, who would both speak to homelessness issues. Debra acknowledged two of the DRH Commissioners who were present; Michael Henry and Randle

Loeb. DRH's new Executive Director is Amber Callendar, who was not present but sent her regrets. Debra informed us that DRH

began in 2003 as a

vision of the Mayor and City Council and a commission was put together including home-less and formerly home-less people as well as civic leaders who worked together to present a plan which was approved by Council in 2005. Denver's Road Home is a Public/Private partnership with the Denver Housing Authority, the Mile High United Way, the City, local businesses, service providers, and the foundation community.

The plan has eight goals: Permanent and Transitional Housing; Shelter System; Prevention Services, Public Safety and Outreach; Education, Training and Employment; Community

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Elbra Wedgeworth, Denver Health, speaks. Photo by Ray Ehrenstein

Awareness; Coordinated Responses; Zoning, Urban Design, and Land Use. Each one of those goals has specific action steps that are monitored and tracked for accomplishment. They look at the plan every two years to see if there needs to be any revisions. Due to the deteriorating economy, there has been an ongoing need to make revisions. DRH publishes a booklet which is available on their website. They have inquiries and visitors from all over the country studying why Denver's Road Home works so well. This is a program of which Denver can be proud and which certainly makes a great deal of sense considering how expensive jail time and continuous detox can become. The goals of giving folks housing, jobs, and stable schools for their children is well worth the effort.

Melanie took over and gave a review of the report from Year Five (coming out in a month) and said it will be available to the public. Melanie finds that they are better at counting (the homeless) and need to be better at targeting their services and maximizing the impact of their funding. She said they are more focused than ever on sustainability and regional planning. They need to reset their benchmarks for where they want to be in five more years. In 2005, (using a 3 year average) there were 942 chronically homeless individuals in Denver. The most recent estimate from six months of HMIS data is that there are 333. So Melanie said that while the numbers are improving for individuals, there is an increase nationwide of homeless families.

Debra returned to the mic and said that their Number One goal is to address Permanent/ Transitional housing. The goal in 2005 was the acquisition of 3,194 units. They now have over 1,900 units of permanent and transitional housing.

Some of the properties now developed as part of Denver's Road Home are "Denver Gardens", and a new project called "The Fourth Quarter" both which should be ready for occupancy in January 2011 and will also have a number of units set aside for returning veterans. "Glen Lakes Apartments" which is at Stapleton and will be new construction, will hopefully break ground in January. There are "West End Lofts"; a Colorado Coalition For the Homeless project that also hopes to break ground in January and the Denver Service Center, a Salvation Army project, that should break ground around the beginning of 2011 and is an 18-month project. Taken together, Denver should have about 208 affordable units with a number of those units set aside specifically for Denver's Road Home. Melanie then gave us a few more numbers: Through the Family and Senior's Homeless Initiative (run out of the Denver Rescue Mission) over 720 families and seniors have been mentored out of homelessness and they have an 89% retention rate for people remaining in housing a year later.

Last February, DRH put together their first "vulnerability index" which is in partnership with Common Ground. This index is a project to put a name-by-name list together to put faces with names and medical conditions to list the most vulnerable people who are sleeping on our streets. DRH had outreach workers from Urban Peak, St. Francis, and the Colorado Coalition along with community volunteers (some 50 people) who went out last February for three nights during the coldest weather where they encountered 311 homeless and 276 agreed to participate in the survey. Melanie said their Employment subcommittee has matched over 5,253 individuals with full or part

time employment over the past five years, and they have a 73% retention rate over a 9-month period. They are revamping their "Better Way to Give" campaign (the donation meters) to combat panhandling. Debra then said that "We are always fundraising of course" and that Mile High United Way is their fund raising arm and acts as their fiscal agent.

DRH has just been awarded \$200,000 from the Boetcher Foundation which will be directed towards opening 160 new units of housing. Overall, since the program first started, fund-raising has raised \$46,000,000. HUD has included Denver's Road Home with three other programs nationwide which are given as National models in America towards working towards ending homelessness. They are finalists and in November they should find out if they are the winner of the El Pomar Award which is very prestigious and comes with money. They do something twice a year which is called "Project Homeless Connect" which will occur next on Oct. 29th 2010. This will be their tenth such event. In May 2010 (the last such event) each homeless person (808 of them) was teamed with a young college age volunteer (also over 800) who escorted them to various services such as dental, acupuncture, haircutting and even feet washing. There was a medical area for testing glucose, blood pressure, diabetes, vision screening, legal advice, employment services, I.D. acquisition and even child care. Melanie closed with the challenges such as the upcoming homeless count in January and how to improve cost savings and how (although Mayor Hickenlooper has been greatly supportive) their program will continue whatever the administration. Melanie finished up with the opportunities ahead and

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plans for the new campaign revamp of the anti-panhandling campaign and to strengthen their connections with the community.

Questions:

Among the several asked was one by Judy Sullivan asking about that May Dental clinic and whether there was follow up as dental problems tend to be ongoing. Melanie responded that Dental was a VERY popular part of the event. She said in May they saw 114 patients, had 222 extractions and gave 34 fillings but that Judy was right to assume that they are unable to do follow up. Still, there were 80 dentist and hygienist volunteers that day in May, so at least all the people waiting were able to have the work done; usually for the first time.

Vicki Gritters had noticed that many people were not accepted in different places such as Samaritan House if they were not enrolled in their "programs" and she wondered if there were such programs which people had to join to get into this housing? Debra responded that such examples as Samaritan House, VOA and other providers had boards of their own and different programs. However, while Denver's Road Home does provide "partnered" opportunities with these charities, non-profits and other service agencies to obtain job training, health care and hopefully keep children in their school, DRH has no such mandated programs. In response to Vicki's follow-up, Debra said they would refer and connect folks to services for drug abuse and mental illness but that DRH is about "housing first".

Randle Loeb told us that 1/3 of over 11,000 homeless people (metro-wide) are children and "many of those children start using drugs when they are 8, 9, and 10 years of age." He asked if either speaker could address the

strategies to get substance abuse treatment for these younger populations? Debra responded that they try hard to get the children treatment because if these children grow up still addicted, they tend to continue the homeless cycle. She added that the need was urgent to keep the children in school and give them a good education because "they are our future". We learned from Debra that Denver's Road Home actually is a program that works out of Denver's Department of Human Services.

Brad Zieg asked, "How would the new code affect your program?" Debra responded that the zoning code issues which would affect them have been passed and put into the new code. These mainly deal with allowing more high density development especially along the fast track lines and hubs so that more units can be gained.

Larry Ambrose addressed the "old concept of dense housing projects" versus the newer concept of decentralized housing for the formally homeless and poor within neighborhoods. He asked, "Have you done studies and what is the balance that you see as the best way to use centralized housing compared to neighborhood homes?" Debra answered that the projected units are not in the downtown area but rather are dispersed to areas such as Stapleton and the southeast part of the city. She pointed out that a developer has to build where it is affordable and where they can use "lower income tax credits" which is the major source of funding for affordable housing in America. Colorado Housing Finance Authority is the Colorado organization that administers this funding. They have two rounds each year that the developers have to apply for and without such funding; most projects do not tend to move forward. Neither DRH nor the city

can dictate where the housing will go. Debra does not know of any of the studies Larry suggests but will be happy to look into that. While she thinks decentralization may be good "at times" the people need to be able to access their critical services and so they need to be close to transportation corridors.

Committee Reports:

Zoning and Planning: There was nothing more from Zoning and Planning's Michael Henry.

Parks and Recreation: PR committee chairs Katie Fisher and Larry Ambrose reminded us that their next meeting will be on Tuesday the 21st at the Heritage Club, 6:00 PM at 2020 South Monroe in the craft's room. We were told any neighbors from Denver were welcome. Larry noted that because of the vociferous objections presented to Councilwoman Sandoval from neighbors around Sloan's Lake Park, Parks Manager Kevin Patterson has removed that park from the list of parks that are available for Admission-based events. He urged other neighbors of specific parks to voice their concerns to their council members. The INC PR committee will be addressing the recycled gray water or purple pipes issues again and Larry said that so far they have not been able to schedule the upcoming forum. It looks as if it will occur this fall when hopefully we can get Denver Water and Wastewater to present their take.

Katie then told us that we do not yet really have "a Recreation part to our PR committee" and hopes that some members will step forward to fill that need. She says we need other people such as Tom Anthony to inform and update us on Rec Center "name changes" and privatization issues regarding this

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very important part of the Denver's Parks and Recreation Dept.

Bradley Zieg pointed out that Bellevue-Hale has come out in favor of Admission-based events and Brad was joined by both Cheryl Barry of Curtis Park and Judy Schneider of Ballpark Neighborhood who said their RNOs also agree with this position. Katie thanked them for setting the record straight. Larry concluded by pointing out that according to open records there has never been a cost-analysis study done on Admission based events in Denver parks.

Safety Committee: No report from Anthony Thomas.

Transportation Committee: Chair Zieg said there will be a meeting of their group on Sept 17th.

Dollar Dictionary Committee: Cathee Fischer reported that the DDD is still collecting money. The Dictionaries have all been handed out. There are pictures on the website for Dollar Dictionary. She says her goal is still to get the thesauruses to the students by years' end. Diana Helper wanted to know how much the individual thesaurus costs and was told \$1.50 a book, sold only in boxes of 24. Diana continued that there could be a problem if some students get both books and others do not. Michael Henry pointed to the list of RNOs who have contributed to DDD on page 10 of the Newsletter and Chair Nissen joined him in urging any who do not see their RNOs name on that list to get back to their group and get them to contribute. Steve said we are missing about 40 RNOs at this time.

At the meeting's end Brad returned to the main topic by stating that Bellevue-Hale Neighborhood is pleased that they will have transitional housing for returning

women veterans to use on their way to having their own homes.

The meeting adjourned at Noon.

DENVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS EXPO EVENTS

Middle School Expo – featuring schools offering 6th grade and higher Wednesday, October 20, 6:30-8:30pm

High School Expo – featuring schools offering 9th grade and higher Wednesday, November 3, 6:30-8:30pm.

Both events located at: Denver Museum of Nature & Science 2001 Colorado Blvd.

Now is the time to start exploring your middle and high school options. Learn about DPS traditional, magnet, pathways and charter schools; and learn about special programs such as Gifted and Talented, Special Education and English Language Acquisition.

Learn about the Denver Energy Challenge. Switch to renewable energy service, and support energy education projects at DPS high schools. Learn more at www.denverenergy.org. To learn more and pre-register, visit www.dpsk12.org/expo.

INC PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE NOTES

By Diana Helper

September 21, 2010. Present were co-chairs Larry Ambrose and Katie Fisher, Steve Fisher, Kathleen and Jay Rust, Cindy Johnstone, Kathleen Wells, Marlene Johnson, Ray Ehrenstein, James Sample, Dave Felice, Cathy Donohue, Bill Johnston, Bradley Zieg, Maggie Price, Diana Helper, Michael Smilanic of Parks Are for People, Paul Ryan of the Parks & Rec Advisory Board (PRAB), and Parks Dept. staff liaison Angela Casias.

The major focus of this meeting was the Admission-Based Events (ABE) Policy. Many questions were raised, and it is hoped that Angela Casias will have answers when she speaks at the October 9 INC Delegates' meeting. Concerns include matters of both public and internal policy and process, including:

- What is the process for adding or removing a park from the "Festival" designation list?
- What is the mission of this ABE Policy?
- When will true cost figures be provided?
- When will we see the internal operating procedure rules governing this policy (e.g. sizes of parks, priorities)?
- What information will City Council get regarding fee schedules?
- Will DPR fees disadvantage private venues in competition as event sites?

Also, the seat tax is charged whenever there is a paid performer or speaker at an ABE, and the splitting of this tax between general city fund and DPR is the only matter that needs to go before City Council. The planned Open Air Cinema event has no paid performer or speaker, so will it not have the seat tax? And, if 7500 people is the maximum that can fit in an ABE space, does that mean only that many tickets may be sold, or may people come and go, perhaps refilling that space several times- meaning perhaps 21,000 people could be in the park for that event that day?

Angela also spoke briefly about the City Budget which will go to Council in a few weeks. A full break-out of items was asked. She said the Dog Park Master Plan is to have its first presentation to PRAB on October 14 but may not be

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available to read until that day. It was urged that final consideration (public hearing) be scheduled for the January 13 PRAB meeting to allow time for study and comment. Also, it is likely PRAB will not meet in Nov or Dec.

The group "Parks Are For People" has had access to DPR's public documents and reported that so far they have discovered no files showing great demand for ABE, that the cities "studied" were not asked if they had these events in neighborhood parks (most have them in a special festival park), and no cost/benefit analysis was ever done except one which analyzed revenue and not costs based on 2006's festival park figures. Because a few members of the PRAB voted for the ABE policy under the impression that there was a demand, a thorough study of ABE in other cities had been made, and there was a current cost/benefit analysis showing benefits of ABE, PAFP believes that their vote was based on some incorrect information. Because citizens also were given that same information, their support likely was received also on some false impressions. After it does some further study, PAFP will make known its findings for the benefit of the public, the PRAB and the historical record.

It was suggested by Kathleen Wells that the INC P&R committee create a Park Platform to describe the Purpose(s) of Parks. Once identifying that, it would propose how to achieve such purpose(s), what obstacles exist to such achievement, and a way to test new uses against the purposes. It could address the difference between "parks" and "recreation" as well. Working with DPR on such a Platform would arrive at a common vision of the Purpose of Parks. This would be most useful for the future, and could be considered for support (or not) by

persons running for City offices. The committee agreed to work on such a project.

An educational forum on the issue of recycled "Purple Pipe" water quality was rescheduled for a date (to be determined) in January 2011.

INC ZONING AND PLANNING COMMITTEE NOTES

By Diana Helper

September 25, 2010. Charlotte Winzenberg spoke about plans for the closed Landmark Byers Middle School building in the West Washington Park neighborhood. It is owned by Denver Public Schools (DPS) who wishes to dispose of it; however, the Denver School of Science and Technology wishes to locate there, and many residents wish to keep the building as a school. Allan Gass advised that DPS had received \$8 million dollars from a voter-passed bond issue to upgrade the building some years ago for use of the School of the Arts, so it is quite usable. A petition to keep Byers as a school building was circulated.

Councilwoman Jeanne Robb spoke about the various proposals under consideration by City Council committee regarding sources of medical marijuana for use by cardholders. How much may be raised in the cardholder's home, or the caregiver's home, should it be termed a home occupation (with special zoning permit), or some combination of proposals, is under continued discussion by City Council.

Steve Gordon, in charge of the Planning Services Division of the Community Planning & Development (CPD) spoke about planning, services, and implementation of lightrail station area plans in neighborhoods. Seven have been completed so far, although thought is still being given to zoning matters.

In consideration with the Dept of Public Works and other city agencies, including Parks and the Preservation Survey, are updates of the Strategic Parking Plan Living Streets Initiative, and the Pedestrian Master Plan. Future planning subjects will include land use along the Platte River, West Side TOD, Golden Triangle, and rewrite/ update of the Comprehensive Plan, Blueprint Denver, and others.

Chrissy Estes Faraci, representing the Colorado Gaming Association, presented opposition to a bill likely to be proposed in the 2011 legislature to expand the game of chance Keno with machines in 7-11s, restaurants and many other venues in neighborhoods. Proceeds would go in part to provide funds (one-time) for higher education in Colorado. ZAP members will consider this further, after hearing from a supporter of the bill.

Larry Burgess, of the Elyria-Swansea-Globeville Business Association, spoke of the problem created by allowing marijuana to be grown in warehouses, without ordinance or regulation. Any industrial zone may be used for growing marijuana, and state law prohibits monitoring or publicly listing these businesses. ZAP members were generally supportive of a regulating ordinance, when one may be presented to them for consideration.

Joel Noble of Curtis Park spoke about confusion regarding preservation of flagstone/sandstone sidewalks in Landmark Districts, where some have been destroyed at new construction sites. The Pedestrian Master Plan states there is a policy to preserve them, but this policy cannot be located.

ZAP felt that all such historic sidewalks in Denver should be

(continued on Page 10)

preserved where they are part of the identifying look of the block, and wishes to develop a policy position from INC. This is another example of the need for co-operation and collaboration among the Public Works, Parks, and CPD departments.

There has been some improvement in RNO Notification, especially matters of nuisance abatement and sale of public land. Excise and Licenses notification is not always sent to the correct nearby neighborhoods.

Other topics – At Cook Park there was a memorial service for Dorothy Wells, a longtime friend of INC who accomplished many good works for her neighborhood. There was a suggestion that INC have a speaker from Community Gardens, and a thank-you to Rosemary Stoffel for providing coffee and keeping the list of volunteers to bring refreshments to ZAP.

The Neighborhood Handbook needs revision: ... **volunteers?**

ALL YE WHO ATTENDED THE EDUCATION FORUM IN AUGUST (AND ANYONE ELSE)

By Billie Bramhall

The Education Committee is reorganizing. We welcome new members. More than welcome - we urge some of you to sign up for the INC Education Committee so we can develop a new program for INC, to both support and influence what is happening in our neighborhood and charter public schools. We hope to have 4 or 5 or 10 new members by the middle of October, and will plan a meeting shortly thereafter. We usually meet from 5 to 7 PM (not very often) in a fairly centrally-located Coffee House. Sign up one and all so we can meet in late October or early November and get going on this critically important issue for Denver.

We will immediately elect a new chairperson, but I'll hang around. SERIOUSLY!

Contact Billie Bramhall, bramhall1@comcast.net, 303-534-2272.

Present Committee Membership: Will Cornell, Michael Henry, Bill Johnston, Karen Cuthbertson, and Billie Bramhall

DOLLAR DICTIONARY UPDATE

By Steve J. Nissen

The new school year has begun and the dictionaries are in the schools. If you haven't already done so, we encourage all RNOs to contact their local elementary school and make arrangements to visit the school and hand out the dictionaries to the third grade students. This is a fun and rewarding experience as well as an opportunity for RNOs and local schools to have a collaborate exchange. If you need assistance or a handout cheerleader at the school, contact Cathee Fisher at 303-548-5769, cathee@earthlink.net. As always, donations to the DDD can be sent to Dollar Dictionary Drive, P.O. Box 18347, Denver, CO 80218 or charged to your credit card online at: www.Neighborhoodlink.com/INC/home (click on 'Dictionary Committee').

NEW DENVER CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

Under the new leadership of President Chris Nevitt and President Pro-Tem Peggy Lehmann, the Denver City Council committee structure will undergo a substantial change this August. Council's 11 bi-monthly committees are being consolidated into 4 committees that meet weekly.

Land Use, Transportation & Infrastructure meets Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m. Co-Chaired by Jeanne Robb & Judy Montero. This committee deals with:

- zoning and other land-use decisions and planning
- public buildings, parks, and transportation planning & policy
- streets, utilities, and other physical infrastructure

Health, Safety, Education & Services meets Tuesdays at 2:00 p.m. Co-Chaired by Marcia Johnson & Paul Lopez. This committee deals with:

- public health, safety and security
- education, youth programs, and policies
- libraries, recreational programs and policies
- municipal justice system
- public housing, human services, and social assistance programs

Government Affairs & Finance meets Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. Co-Chaired by Carol Boigon & Paula Sandoval. This committee deals with:

- city budget, bonding, purchasing & other financial policies
- state and federal legislation, and lobbying
- Denver elections and ballot measures
- city personnel policies, internal organization, and operations
- relationships with other local governments

Business, Workforce & Sustainability meets- Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. Co-Chaired by Michael Hancock & Doug Linkhart. This committee deals with:

- business development, promotion, and retention
- workforce training and development
- city contracting, concessions policies and programs
- housing affordability policies and programs
- energy, waste, water, and other sustainability policies and programs

(continued on Page 11)

- tourism, conventions, cultural and sports attractions
- climate action planning and programs

AROUND THE CITY

From September 11 INC Meeting

ABC Streets Assn – Colorado Boulevard is under re-construction from Alameda Avenue to Martin Luther King Junior Boulevard. Neighborhood residents are still working with Xcel Energy and the Parks and Recreation Department on tree removal and trimming on East 25th Avenue; the power lines are being upgraded.

Baker Historic – Our first neighborhood ice cream social was a success as parents were able to network and find other children in the neighborhood. We had approximately 250 people. We will be changing our meeting place and time to Hirclefeld Towers that can be accessed from Daly Park, on the second Tuesday on odd number months at 6:30 p.m.

Berkeley Regis United Neighbors (BRUN) – Ed Mickens is moving to California. This will be a big loss for BRUN. We will miss his insight and experience with zoning and other political issues. He will be missed. Big Zukes II raised over \$400 for local DPS schools. On the Tennyson Street landscaping and street reconstruction improvement, there will be a public meeting on Thursday, September 30th at 6 p.m. at the Council District 1 offices (2727 Bryant Street). The meeting will review the proposed design refinements.

Civic Association of Clayton – The Park Avenue COP Shop has moved to 2717 Welton Street; it is in need of refrigeration. We can be reached at parkavecopshop@gmail.com.

Cory Merrill – Thank you for passing both motions on short term rentals. We, along with the Kirk of Bonnie Brae, had our first annual picnic; there was great food and music.

Elyria N.A. – The City has commenced an official “Elyria Swansea Neighborhood Plan” and a “National Western Stock Show Plan.” CDOT is conducting an ongoing IES on the I-70 East Corridor Project, now called the Keystone Collaborative Process to continue working on how best to deal with I-70 through Elyria. They rejected the Elyria 2020 Vision Plan option prior to empanelling the “collaborative group.” Elyria School is being converted to 37 housing units for transitional housing. The Johnson Recreation Center last week became the Colorado Miners Community Center; rumor has it that some as-yet-to-be-disclosed community members will be participating as advisors. A two-block-long “shingle mountain” began growing in Elyria in March, a permitted use under the heavy-industrial zoning in place all around the NWSS Station Site, Elyria Park, Riverside Cemetery, and the Platte River Greenway.

Green Valley Ranch Citizens Advisory Board – Check out our website at www.mygvr.org and subscribe to our monthly e-newsletter. Mark your calendar on November 20th for the 5k Gobble Wobble run.

Hampden Heights Civic Assn. – We recently rejoined; Sandra Sage is happy to represent the Hampden Heights C.A. in INC.

Lowry United Neighborhoods – We have having an amendments discussion on October 6th at 7 p.m. (Lowry Chapel, 293 Roslyn Street) to make the neighbors aware of the fall ballot. We are doing a great lawn walk, having picnics, and working on Hangar 2 – hooray!

New City Council space is open so there will be lots of politics in Lowry.

Overland Park – When trees were cut along the Platte, mulched trees were made available to Overland neighbors. The process will continue along the rivers’ course allowing other RNOs to obtain mulch. The re-grand-opening of Ruby Hill Park will occur on September 25th at 11 a.m. Councilman Chris Nevitt and Mayor Hickenlooper will be there. And there will be urban gardening as well.

Randle Loeb – October 5th, a ballot issues analysis will occur at the Montview Presbyterian Church from 5 to 7 p.m. This is sponsored by the Colorado Social Legislative Committee and the LWVD.

October 10th, All ballot issues will be discussed at the First Unitarian Church, 1400 Lafayette Street at 12:30 p.m. This event is sponsored by the LWVD. Bluebooks will be available.

October 29th, Project Homeless Connect will be at the Physical Education Building on the Auraria Campus from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Register at Mile High United Way, www.unitedwaydenver.org.

University Park – The Fall General Meeting will be on October 13th at 7 p.m. at University Park School (East Iliff and South Saint Paul) with Councilman Charlie Brown speaking on Medical Marijuana Dispensaries, Ashley deLaup on Coyotes, and Neil Krauss on the University of Denver. All are welcome.

Whittier – Whittier is working with the Five Points Business District to provide feedback on the Welton Corridor revitalization. It should become a great asset to the neighborhood.

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THE INC NEWSLETTER AND CONTACT INFO

Visit the INC website at:
www.neighborhoodlink.com/INC/ home
 for Delegate and Committee meeting
 times and locations

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Subscription address
 information/changes should be emailed
 to Ken Beaudrie at
kbeaudrie@totalspeed.net.

The annual Presidents and Delegates
 Dinner is scheduled for January 2011.

It's not too early to be putting
 together nominations for outstanding
 volunteer efforts by members of your
 organization or by residents in your
 neighborhood. Refer to the INC
 website for more information about
 award categories and criteria.

QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT

INC - Q2 2010 Financial Report
 7/1/2010 through 9/30/2010

Date	Description	Amount
BALANCE 6/30/2010		20,716.90
7/16/2010	Deposit	20.00
8/16/2010	Deposit	75.00
8/22/2010	Postmaster	-55.00
8/26/2010	Deposit	17.50
8/31/2010	Deposit	52.50
9/1/2010	VOID	0.00
9/1/2010	The Dictionary Project	-12,076.80
9/10/2010	Internet Xfer From Svgs 651...	12,076.80
9/11/2010	Signal Graphics	-737.70
9/13/2010	Internet Xfer From Svgs 651...	234.47
9/17/2010	Internet Xfer To Svgs 651620	-22.50
9/19/2010	Steve Nissen	-234.47
7/7/2010	Deposit	120.00
7/16/2010	Deposit	200.00
7/28/2010	Deposit	1,122.50
7/30/2010	lod Interest Paid	1.25
8/4/2010	Deposit	500.00
8/9/2010	Deposit	265.00
8/16/2010	Deposit	480.00
8/26/2010	Deposit	1,110.00
8/31/2010	lod Interest Paid	1.43
9/10/2010	Internet Xfer To Chkg 4054428	-12,076.80
9/13/2010	Internet Xfer From Svgs 651...	-234.47
9/17/2010	Internet Xfer To Svgs 651620	22.50
9/30/2010	lod Interest Paid	0.79
9/30/2010	Deposit	230.00
7/31/2010	lod Interest Paid	0.22
8/30/2010	lod Interest Paid	0.22
9/30/2010	lod Interest Paid	0.21
7/1/2010 - 9/30/2010		-8,907.35
BALANCE 9/30/2010		11,809.55
TOTAL INFLOWS		16,530.39
TOTAL OUTFLOWS		-25,437.74
NET TOTAL		-8,907.35

In MEMORIAM

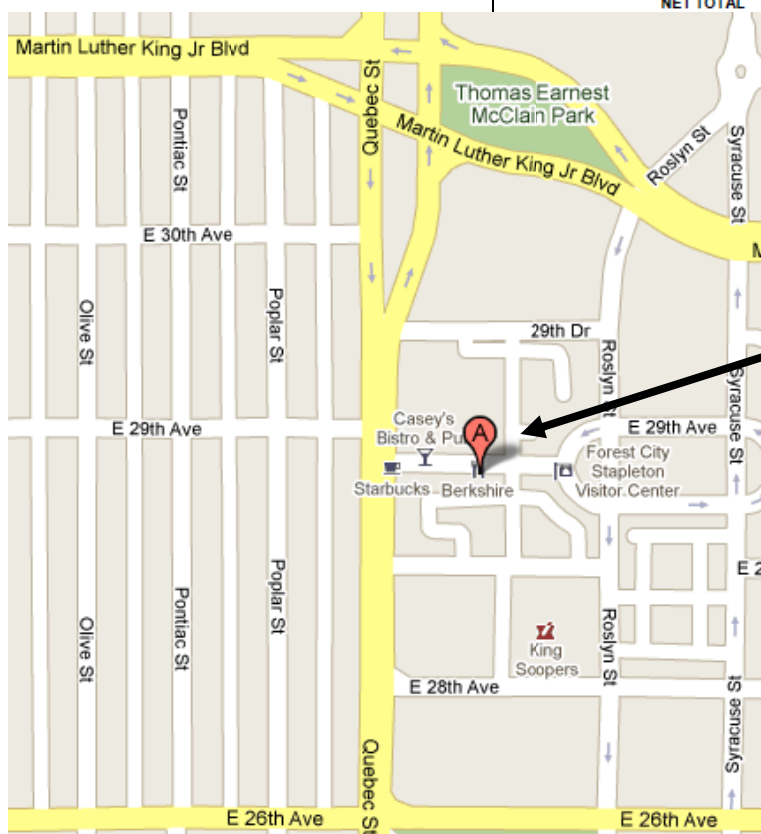
Dorothy Mae Wells
 1917 to 2010

The INC family lost a long-time, dedicated, and selfless member on August 7, 2010. Dorothy Wells was an officer of the Cook Park Neighborhood Assn for years and a devoted and selfless guardian of neighborhood tranquility. Her tireless efforts yielded many improvements to her neighborhood and she was highly respected for her commitments and dedication. Dorothy was also a respected volunteer at the Leetsdale COP Shop. At the 2004 INC Presidents Dinner, Dorothy was presented with the Bill Gross Memorial Award "in appreciation for outstanding community service." Dorothy has supported its programs especially in the area of public safety, which was the late Bill Gross' special interest. A memorial service was held on September 24 in Cook Park adjacent to the recreation center which she helped bring to the neighborhood. Memorial donations may be made to Denver Hospice, Cook Park or DPD District 3. A radiantly pleasant, gracious, caring and genteel lady will be forever missed by all who knew her.



This month's meeting will be held at the Stapleton Development Corp.

7350 East
 29th Avenue,
 #300



Meeting Saturday October 9th

The Public is Always Enthusiastically Welcome!

Stapleton Development Corp.
7350 E. 29th Ave. #300

(See Map on page 12)

8:30 a.m.

Coffee and Chat

9:00 a.m.

Welcome from SUN and Councilman Hancock

9:10 a.m.

INC Business

9:15 a.m.

Around the City

10:00 a.m.

Break

10:15 a.m.

Nancy Severson, Mgr. Dept. of Environmental Health "What Makes a Community Healthy"

11:00 a.m.

Angela Casias

Dept. Parks & Recreation – Update-Admission Based Events

11:15 a.m.

Michael Smilanic, Dave Felice – Parks Are For People

Counterpoint ABE – What Parks are For

11:30 a.m.

Committee Reports

Noon

Adjournment

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

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