



DENVER
INC

CONNECTION

INC WISHES YOU and yours
a blessed and happy holiday season.

There is no INC Delegate meeting in December. We look forward to seeing you again at our first 2012 INC Delegate meeting on Saturday, January 14.

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November's Featured Speaker: Derek Okubo

Derek Okubo, Director of Human Rights and Community Relations, under the Mayor's office was the featured speaker at INC's November meeting of Delegates.

Derek gave us an interesting and humorous sketch of his professional background and how he came to work for our current mayor.

He reported that under Denver's new leadership, neighborhood organizations will have a more central and vital role in neighborhood partnerships with the Mayor's Office. Attendees also learned the City is considering merging several agencies which will possibly include 311 under the direction of Mr. Okubo's office.

Okubo also related the City is working on next steps resulting from the Mayor's Community Forum held in October. (See November Connections for details), and informed us there are

plans for future Community Forums next summer and fall as well as an All America Conference on education in June 2012.

In line with better communications between neighborhoods, Executive Committee member, Cindy Johnstone, requested the City incorporate INC's neighborhood leaders into appointments to various City boards and commissions to specifically ensure representation of the interests of neighborhood organizations and to ensure a fair balance of business and neighborhood representatives. Derek responded this would be addressed.

Meeting attendees raised a variety of issues which ensued in a lively exchange. Topics included the lack of listening to or welcoming input from residents regarding the north expansion of the I-70 corridor and issues related to other neighborhoods (Highlands, Sloan's Lake).

December 2011

www.denverINC.org

REMEMBER: There is no Delegate meeting in December in honor of holidays. Next meeting: January 14, 2012

November Delegate Meeting Recap



IN THE PICTURES

Left: Derek Okubo. See story on front page about his presentation.

Right: L to R: Don Tressler, Diana Helper, and Councilman Charlie Brown.

Photos: Ray Ehrenstein



The November meeting was hosted by the Cory/Merrill Neighborhood Association at the Kirk of Bonnie Brae Church at 1201 S. Steele St.

INC Delegates, Don Tressler and Diana Helper welcomed attendees and introduced District 6- Councilman Charlie Brown who spoke about recent news stories related to council members texting at City Council meetings and the "sit-lie" ordinance as related to the downtown corridor of the business district and surrounding neighborhoods. The ordinance pertains to deterring panhandlers and steering homeless persons to social services. Attendees agreed this situation at the 16th Street Mall poses safety and image problems for both sides: the homeless/panhandlers and visitors to the mall.

Housekeeping:

- October minutes were approved.
- The deadline for denverINCnews is the 20th every month. The address for submissions is denverINCnews@aol.com.

INC Awards Dinner 2012

INC Annual Neighborhood Awards Dinner will take place Thursday, January 19, 2012 at DoubleTree Hotel at N. Quebec/MLK Blvd. If you would like to nominate an individual or group, please see the list of categories in October Conexions. Award nominations are open from now until December 30. Please submit these to Jane Lorimer, care of INC, P.O. Box 300684, Denver CO 80218 or by email: ejlorimer@aol.com.

Committee Corner

INC has many special interest committees who meet to address areas of specific importance to the Denver community. The following reports were submitted for recent activities. Please see www.denverinc.org for committee postings and the calendar of meetings.

Dinner Committee

We are still looking for additional sponsors and auction items for the annual dinner. To date, there are only 5 nominations for various awards. The dinner is by invitation and reservations this year can be accomplished by email or by telephone.

Parks and Recreation

Fifteen minute park platform is being presented to local neighborhood organizations regarding an admission-based events policy. PARC advised there is a two-year study proceeding on Purple Pipe Recycled Water use in parks from the Lowry landfill Superfund site.

Zoning and Planning

The Interim Planning Director and the City Forester are expected at the next meeting to discuss the trees in parks and along streets.

The committee would like neighborhood input concerning the evening liquor license hearings.

The next committee meeting is December 3 on the 19th floor of the Cheesman Park Towers at Williams St and 13th Ave.

Membership

December 31 is the end of the mem-

bership year. Renewal reminders will be sent by email and via the December newsletter. Dues for 2012 are \$40 RNOs, \$25 Associates and \$75 Patron level for both groups.

Public Safety

Check with committee chair or online calendar for next meeting.

Transportation

A meeting of the committee on the proposed I-70 bridge expansion was held at the Colorado Center at 2000 S. Colorado Blvd. on Thursday Nov. 17. Check with committee chair or online calendar for next meeting.

INC Membership

In case you missed it, membership dues were increased for 2012 to \$40.00 for RNO members and \$25.00 for Associate Members. Patron membership for both categories remains at \$75 a year.

We used to have all of the City Councilpersons as members of INC. This year, we have only two: Councilwoman Jeanne Robb and Councilwoman Peggy Lehmann. We'd like to ask RNO's to encourage their City Council representatives to become Associate Members.

Membership Changes: Please send changes for member, president or delegate data to the membership chair, Ken Beaudrie, by email to kbeaudrie@totalspeed.net

Take advantage of the membership form in this issue and renew your membership now!

INC CALENDAR

DELEGATE MEETING

December Delegate Meeting

No Delegate meeting in December in honor of holidays

EC Meeting

Monday, December 12 7:00PM
1201 Williams St., 19th Floor

COMING UP

January - Delegate Meeting
Saturday, January 14

The Uptown Lofts
Pearl and Colfax Ave.
In the Community Room
on the 2nd Floor.

A REQUEST FOR THIS MEETING:
After the holidays, local area food banks are usually low on items. We are requesting all who attend the January meeting bring a non-perishable food item to help replenish the food banks.

Tentative program agenda:
Presentation of results from a recent INC leadership planning workshop

Optional tours of our meeting facility:
The Colorado Coalition for the Homeless constructed Renaissance work force training center and Pizza Fusion Restaurant as well as 98 units of housing for mixed-use and incomes. There will be a tour and an opportunity to discuss the success of the dwellings with residents and staff.

January EC Meeting
Monday, January 9 – 7:00PM

2012 INC Annual Neighborhood Awards
Dinner & Silent Auction
Thursday, January 19
DoubleTree Stapleton Hotel

Recap Executive Committee Meeting

November 14, 2011

PRESENT EC: Steve Nissen, Larry Ambrose, Randle Loeb, Jennifer Tomeny, Cindy Johnstone, William Cornell, Jane Lorimer. Committee Chairs: Katie Fisher, Ken Beaudrie Michael Henry, Anthony Thomas

Seven motions were approved unanimously by the Executive Committee.

1. Approved October minutes.
2. Approved treasurer's report
3. Approved a payment of \$75 for room rental at CHUN for a Library Committee meeting and an INC meeting with the Mayor.
4. From now on, a draft of the monthly newsletter will be sent to all Committee Chairs and Executive Committee for review.
5. Approved 100% of the \$220.00 gained from the Macys Shopping Day coupon sales to go Dollar Dictionary Drive
6. Approved a letter be sent to Superintendent of DPS, Denver Green School and Derek Okubo regarding the process of informing neighborhood organizations about school changes and expansion of the premises.
7. Approved a planning workshop for EC and Committee Chairs to be held Saturday November 19.

Various other committee reports are covered in Committee Corner

Parks & Recreation Committee Minutes

Submitted by: Diana Helper and Larry Ambrose, INC PARC

November 15, 2011

PRESENT Co-Chairs Larry Ambrose and Katie Fisher - Members: Steve Fisher, James Sample, Ronnie Crawford, Maggie Price, Cindy Johnstone, Jay and Kathleen Rust, Diana Helper - Others: Mary Ewing from Parks/Rec Advisory Council, and Angela Casias. Denver Parks/Rec. (DPR).

Buchtel Centennial Park

Enlargement of Buchtel Centennial Park is part of a very welcome redevelopment of the intersection of Buchtel Blvd. Parkway and S. Columbine St. However, the RNO committee was not notified of a major change from the planned natural grasses to concrete paving along the parkway, not in keeping with the rest of the parkway. Part of the paving covers a corner of the Park. Angela will ask how DPR agreed to pave here. This issue is about timely public notification, parkway treatment, RNO priorities.

Civic Center Conservancy (CCC) and Public Accountability

There was discussion about the Civic Center Conservancy (CCC), and the need to learn more about how it operates and the extent to which it might have influence over Civic Center Park to the exclusion of others, including the INC PARC. It is up to DPR, perhaps also the PRAB, to study proposals for events and capital

improvements in all parks, with input from RNOs regarding impact, and ascertain their advisability.

Financial figures on Big Air were requested, and we wish to read CCC's MOU. Angela will provide this information. PARC hopes to have someone from the CCC come to a meeting to explain that group's work and plans, and for CCC to learn about PARC's mission and work.

Memorial for Adrienne Anderson/Metro Wastewater

Larry Ambrose attended the memorial service for Adrienne Anderson, a long-time environmental advocate. He reported that many of her colleagues have pledged to continue her work on water pollution. A University of Colorado professor has taken on the job of administering and organizing her voluminous archive of research and documentation.

PARC agreed to pursue the involvement of national environmental organizations and leaders into the issue of Metro Wastewater/Denver Water's inclusion of Lowry Landfill effluent in the Purple Pipe Recycled water program. Cindy Johnstone moved (seconded by Maggie Price), that such involvement be pursued.

> cont. on **page 5**

Parks & Recreation Committee Minutes cont.

Jay Rust asked that other Colorado environmental groups be kept in the loop on this issue as well. It was speculated that the production of a movie about the life of Adrienne Anderson will ultimately garner international attention to Denver's "creative" solution to the Lowry Landfill Superfund cleanup problem.

PARC/DPR Meeting & Future Budget Concerns

Angela Casais will arrange a meeting between INC's PARC with DPR's Laurie Dannemiller, Scott Gilmore and Eryn Brown for the following purposes: 1) get acquainted and 2) hear about their plans for management of the Department.

Budget concerns may reduce the number of flower gardens in Denver

parks. The committee questioned why DPR is pursuing funding for a \$500,000 playground, when it cannot currently maintain its existing flower gardens and parks. The Committee suggested DPR tell the public what is needed, explain where the budget stands, gain understanding, and solicit volunteer help. PARC believes the public is very pro parks, and is willing to help in many ways, but more community outreach is needed. Again, it is the process that needs to be developed.

Public Comments about DPR Planning and Rules

Cindy Johnstone suggested that it would be good policy for DPR to post online all public email comments regarding park planning, as these are a matter of public record

which should be available to all to read. DPR will be working on public notification again. Angela Casais indicated RNOs need to educate residents about rules/regulations such as what trees can be planted in a Right-of-Way. INC PARC desires to work with DPR in developing a process to communicate clearly such important information to the neighborhoods.

The next PARC meeting is January 17, 2012.

2nd Annual Winter Solstice Celebration

Wed. Dec. 21st at 2pm
Overland Pond Park

The park is located on West Florida Ave, behind Aqua Golf at S. Santa Fe. Just proceed west on Florida 1/3 mile and you'll see the Pond on the right.

Denver Energy Challenge

A representative from the City spoke at our November Delegates meeting about the Denver Energy Challenge. The group's goal is to reduce energy consumption of 1,200 businesses and 6,000 homes by 15% through the federal grant program this fiscal year.

The presentation centered around a FREE program through the City & County of Denver. This program is designed to help Denver residents save money and energy through household retrofits. Residents will receive free energy advising services in order to reduce household energy usage through this program.

Whether residents are looking to save money on monthly bills, have concerns or don't know about indoor air quality, are too hot or cold in certain rooms, or simply want to reduce their carbon footprints, the Denver Energy Challenge is available to help!

How to sign up:

Step 1: Sign up online at: denverenergy.org

Step 2: A FREE Energy Advisor will contact you to discuss your home energy usage, review available rebates, and help you prioritize the best ways to save.

Step 3: Complete energy efficiency improvements.

Step 4: Tell your family & friends about your savings!

Please contact Julie Carlton, Energy Outreach Coordinator with the City and County of Denver for presentations for your neighborhood.

Reach Julie at: Julie.Carlton@denvergov.org or telephone 720-865-5430

For more information about this program: www.denverenergy.org OR watch YouTube Video about the program: <http://youtu.be/3wi-buoenw4>

Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation Membership Renewal for 2012

INC membership year begins January 1, 2012. We sincerely value your continued participation, the larger our membership, the more potent is the resonance of our voices! Please use this form to renew, and either bring the form to the January INC meeting with your check, or mail to the address noted at the bottom of this form. If your 2012 delegates to INC are currently unknown, you may provide that information to the membership chair when it becomes available.

Start the renewal process for your organization today - your leaders may, in fact, be waiting for you to act!

Join as a voting neighborhood organization

☐ Regular Member: \$40 ☐ Patron: \$75

See graybar below to apply as an INC Associate (non-voting member)

Organization name: _____

Address: _____ Zip Code _____

Website: _____

Street Borders: North _____ East _____

South _____ West _____

President's Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (____) _____ E-mail Address: _____

☐ President is a voting delegate

Send newsletter via: ☐ E-mail ☐ U.S. Mail ☐ Don't want newsletter ☐ Do not publish my information

Note: Each RNO is allocated two voting delegates. If the president is one, appoint one below, otherwise appoint two.

Voting Delegate Name: _____

Address: _____ Zip Code _____

Phone: (____) _____ E-mail Address: _____

Send newsletter via: ☐ E-mail ☐ U.S. Mail ☐ Don't want newsletter ☐ Do not publish my information

Voting Delegate (if President is not a voting delegate)

Delegate Name _____

Address: _____ Zip Code _____

Phone: (____) _____ E-mail Address: _____

Send newsletter via: ☐ E-mail ☐ U.S. Mail ☐ Don't want newsletter ☐ Do not publish my information

Join as a non-voting supporting Associate

☐ Regular: \$25 ☐ Patron: \$75

Organization / Individual's Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Representative Name (if for an organization) : _____

Address: _____

Phone: (____) _____ E-mail Address: _____

Send newsletter via: ☐ E-mail ☐ U.S. Mail ☐ Don't want newsletter ☐ Do not publish my information

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

Bring this form to the January INC meeting with your check or mail to: Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation, PO Box 300684, Denver, CO 80218-0684

INC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Steve Nissen, Chair & DDD Chair
303-733-8524 pennissen@cs.com
Alamo Placita Neighbors Assn.

Larry Ambrose, Vice-Chair
Co-chair of Parks and Rec. Cmte
303-571-1744 lida@earthnet.net
Sloan's Lake N. A.

Randle Loeb, Secretary
303-620-1999 msg,
720-292-0757 cell
randleloeb@gmail.com
Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods

Jennifer Tomeny, Treasurer
303-777-7514
tomenycivi@gmail.com
Rosedale Harvard Gulch N.A.

William Cornell Delegate-at-large
Co-chair Education Committee
Co-chair Communications Cmte.
303-295-1149
william.cornell@northcitypark.com
North City Park Civic Assn.

Cathy Donohue, Delegate-at-large
303-860-8053
cathdonohue@aol.com
Neighbors and Friends
for Cheesman Park

Cindy Johnstone,
Delegate-at-large
303-733-6570
Cindy.johnstone@comcast.net
Friends and Neighbors of
Washington Park

Jane Lorimer, Delegate-at-large
Budget Committee Chair,
Dinner Chair
303-388-9224 ejlorimer@aol.com
George Washington H.O.A.

Andrew Schurger, Delegate-at-large
720-563-7875
aschurger@gmail.com
Stapleton United Neighbors

INC COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Ken Beaudrie
Chair Membership Committee
303-798-9306
kbeaudrie@totalspeed.net

Christiane Citron
Co-chair, Library Cmte
303-777-2242
bookingdenver@msn.com

Katie Fisher, Co-chair, Parks and
Recreation Committee
303-744-3888
kfisher@iliff.edu
University Neighbors

Michael Henry
Chair, Zoning & Planning Committee
303-377-6609
michaelhenry824@comcast.net
Capitol Hill United Neighborhood, Inc.
Merce Lea, Co-chair, Public Safety Cmte
720-210-4056
Broadway COP Shop

Chris O'Connor, Co-chair, Library Cmte
720-859-8821
mitz_4@comcast.net
Lowry United Neighborhoods

Michael Smilanic
Co-chair Communications Committee
720-932-1580
communicationcomm@denverinc.org
Sloan's Lake N. A.

Karen Taylor
Education Committee Co-chair
303-455-0562
karentaylorphd@gmail.com
Harkness Heights N.A.

Anthony Thomas
Co-chair, Public Safety Committee
303-399-1379
anthomas@juno.com
Civic Association of Clayton

Bradley Zieg
Chair Transportation Committee
303-994-1395
bradleyzieg@msn.com
Bellevue-Hale N.A.



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