

Washington Park East Neighborhood Association

DATE: April 11, 2017

Board Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present:

Tim McHugh, Bill Tracy, Lance Musselman, Joanne Asher, Ryan Schulz.

The Board meeting was brought order by Tim at 6:45 p.m. at St. John's

The minutes for the March 14, 2017 meeting were reviewed and accepted.

The Board and speakers were introduced. The sign-in sheet showed at least fourteen neighbors attended the meeting.

Presenters:

Officer Jim Lopez, District 3 DPD

Officer Lopez discussed safety issues and urged people to call the non-emergency number to report suspicions and request an officer. It helps DPD plan use of resources if they know what is happening in the neighborhood. The non-emergency number is 720-913-2000.

DPD's Virtual Neighborhood is an online service through Pocketgov, and allows residents to register to receive notices, report problems and contact your community resource officer.

Jill Farschman, Publisher, Wash Park Profile

The Profile is reaching out to neighborhood associations, featuring Neighborhood Notes, with news from local community groups. Articles are by staff journalists, advertising is available and neighbors can enter information about community events on the calendar. Her contact is jill@denvermetromedia.com.

Paul Kashmann, City Councilman,

DPS and DU are teaming up with the Denver Tennis Park to build a tennis center on the All City Sports property at South High School, featuring 7 indoor courts and 6 outdoor courts and available for public use when not being used by DPS or CU.

The issue of whether to extend the hours for marijuana sales until midnight is before the council. Surrounding cities have later hours than Denver, and a recent survey shows that residents are evenly split on whether to allow midnight sales.

Geese are an ongoing issue, with approximately a quarter million migrating through the area every year. The budget for mitigation is paired with weed control, for a total of \$22K annually.

There is no plan for goose management, but the State Division of Wildlife has one in development.

Treasurer's Report:

Bill Tracy presented the report on revenues and expenses for the past month. Cash balance as of the date of the meeting was \$10,342.26. The report was accepted.

Committee Reports:

Newsletter:

Mikki Wilder asked attendees how they found out about the meeting and several responded they saw the signs and others learned from the newsletter.

Website:

Monica Brisnehan reported that announcements and other postings are now transferred automatically to the monthly emailer or to Facebook. There was discussion about changes to the present system of automatic distribution.

Zoning:

There were no variance requests forwarded to the association for review and comment. There were questions from attendees about construction site cleanup responsibilities and the DenverRight initiative.

Membership:

Tim McHugh reported that he had talked with Ana Quintana about taking the membership chair. There was discussion about following up on past suggestions to identify newcomers to the neighborhood and ask them to join, and thanking members who donate extra cash along with their membership dues.

Crime and Safety:

Joanne Asher added to Officer Lopez's remarks about stolen cars that most of them had been left running with the keys in the ignition, supporting Lopez' urges to "harden the target" by making it harder to steal.

Park/FANS:

Tim McHugh reported that FANS had success with the Adopt a Tree program, where volunteers take care of specific trees in the park, and is looking for volunteers to spread mulch around park trees.

Celebrations are planned around the 150th anniversary of City Ditch and the dedication of a park bench in memory of Gerald Endsley, the former director of the municipal orchestra.

INC:

Tim McHugh reported that INC recommends that the city purchase Park Hill Golf Course, which is privately held.

DPS's Strengthening Neighborhoods program surveyed neighborhoods and reported that the top concerns were development, traffic, crime and lack of parking.

Traffic:

There was a question about parking permits and how long a car can be parked on a public street. Any car left more than 72 hours without being moved can be considered abandoned, and neighbors can call the city to report this.

Old Business

Future Speakers:

May: Grace Lopez Ramirez, O.S.E.

June: Merce Lea, WWPNA?

July: Perry Burnett, Accelerate Denver?

WPENA Survey

Lance Musselman made a motion to approve the survey and have it placed on the website; Joanne Asher seconded and all approved. The survey will remain on the website for 60 days and the results will be analyzed and compared with the 2012 survey, which was similar.

Happy Hour:

Last week's HH at Wash Park Grille was well attended, with 19 people signing in. Total cost came to \$235, counting a fifty-dollar discount by WPG.

Geese:

Yes, the subject of geese came up twice in the same meeting. Tim McHugh reported that his research shows no documented evidence that geese can transmit disease to humans, even via goose poop. However, a group called Citizens to Restore the Park have stated that there is a causal link between geese and human illnesses and deaths.

New Business

Elections are held in May, so next month's meeting will elect new Board members as long as we have a quorum of at least 12 paid members.

Food Truck.

The second and fourth Wednesday at the United Church of Christ, 300 S. Williams. Notice will be sent on the emailer.

DPD Cop Shop

Now open, it is in the former Radio Shack location at Alameda and Broadway.

There being no more business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 by Tim McHugh.

Lance Musselman

Secretary

Washington Park East Neighborhood Association