

Congress Park Neighbors Members meeting Dec 17 2014

In attendance: Tom Conis, Jeff Feeney, Steve Eppler, Carrie Palmer, Adrian Clark, Lisa Stapley, Mary Beth Sweeney, Karen Miller, Julie Meyers, Peggy Anderson, Lisa Bigham, Wendy Moraskie, Myles Tangalin, Maggie Price.

Meeting called to order by President Tom Conis President at 7:00

Meeting minutes from Oct 2014 and Members meeting Nov 2014 moved by W. Moraski to approve both, seconded by M. Tangalin, V. Eppler. Unanimous approval to accept

Newsletter report- Wendy Moraski . Wendy brought extras to drop of to neighborhood business. Next issue will be in Feb 2015, articles and ads must be submitted by Jan 15, 2015. Send articles and advertisements to Wendy or to our advertising coordination listed in newsletter. Advertising and payment are available via Pay -Pal on web. Wendy contacted Carolyn Van Sciver regarding Historical Speaker Series, Carolyn is not ready to take on project again but is willing to lead and mentor someone else who may want to continue it.

Teller Back Pack - Maggie explained the history of the Back Pack program through Teller School. 20 families have been identified as in need by the School Social worker. Each week those children take home bags of food to their families that have been packed by volunteers. Food comes from Volunteers who work at Food Bank of the Rockies and identify Teller School Back Pack as recipients or people who donate money to the project.

Botanic Gardens - Victoria Eppler (CPN NAC rep) has applied for a Trustee position and has had 2 interviews, Mayor will make final decision about appointees. Vicki gave explanation of NAC and its history of friction with the Neighborhoods surrounding the Botanic Gardens. The Chihully event caused pressure within the surrounding neighborhoods because of its nationwide popularity but there are no plans to have a future event in the next year with that magnitude.

Crime Report - Steve Eppler . Crime in Denver is down particularly in District 2. Congress Park is part of precinct 215 and crime down 20%. Theft of idling cars account for the majority of reports.

Rec Center - Aaron Goldhammer represents CPN as a stakeholder, next stakeholder meeting is Jan 7, 2015 . At Nov members meeting it was brought up that some residential units may be planned to be co-located within the Rec Center footprint. Maggie contacted CW Jeanne Robb and was told that the City was looking at withholding some of the

property and selling it to a developer for best market price. Property appears to be on North side of property facing the school.

INC - Last month meeting had to do with By-law changes for indemnification. There is a moratorium on some special events in the Parks . The SEAP (Special Event has gone from desk to full fledged department. Will get more info to publish. Discussion of renewal membership for INC, Motion to renew at current bronze level by Myles, seconded by Vicki . Myles will renew at Bronze, Patron Level \$100

9th and Colorado Health District - Lisa Bingham and Myles Tangalin are representatives from CPN to CBHD. Continumm is the developer for the project and hopes to close on property in Jan 2015. Lisa reported that Demolition will start after the closing. Developers have met with many neighborhood groups (CPN in Spring) . Continumm has sponsored several outreach meetings including one for children. Allience (the other developer) has started building.

Annual Meeting Review - Tom Conis We need to pay more attention to Rec Center, need to activate more people to come to meetings, suggestion was to put out agenda prior to meeting.

Speakers:

Peggy Anderson -Owner and operator of Annies Cafe and Bar - Peggy has been a resident of Congress Park for 37 years came to meeting to inform and discuss a major change to her liquor license. Annies has been at the corner of E. Colfax and St. Paul for 6 years. Prior to that they were located on 8th and Colorado Blvd for 27 years. They wish to have a small patio with outdoor seating. She told us that that the new seating area will not be in the right of way but will be in one of the existing flower beds (west one that will be removed) next to their building. The larger one to the east will be retained. The footprint will not be larger than what the flower beds currently take up. The patio will wrap around a portion of the front where the existing handicap parking is. Seating will be for around 25 people. A door from the dining area (where current handicap parking is) will be created for patrons and servers to enter the fenced area. Handicap parking will be moved on the other side of the front door. No smoking or e-cigarettes will be permitted on the patio. Patio hours will correspond with Annie's regular hours (closes at 10:00 pm).

Lisa Bingham - Sustainable Neighborhoods - Lisa has lived in CPN for 10 years and represents CPN for the 9th and Colorado Health District. Denver has a sustainable neighborhood program. It identifies 5 different program areas air, water, land, energy and people. Lisa would like Congress Park to participate in this program and because it is dependent on neighbors helping neighbors it could foster closer relationships. It promotes local businesses and the hope is that the businesses would feel a part of the neighborhood and residents would support them by shopping in them. Another plus is that energy efficient homes have a higher resale value. Lisa has put together a list of what could be done to participate and grants that might be available. Walk-ability is part

of the program and CPN is known for that as well as biking. Lisa will do article for newsletter explaining the program. Maggie will create survey with Lisa's input.

New business:

Mary Ellen Sweeny - Doors of Congress Park a project to feature the different types of doors within CPN. This program would be similar to Doors of Dublin. Neighbors encouraged to submit pictures of their doors to be featured as a exhibit and perhaps a poster. Mary Ellen wants to form a committee to study and will contact Carolyn Van Sciver for historical suggestions.

Higgins Plaza has expressed an interest in partnering with CPN on a project. More info will be obtained.

Susan Bardwell is representing INC in an Parks and Rec advisory group for the Emerald Ash Borer.

Collins Bicycle, a long time business on E. Colfax is re-opening. The owners of Hooked On Colfax are now the new owners and are working with the Collins family.

Carrie Palmer reported thefts of packages along 7th ave. She requested yard signs advertising the meetings. Maggie will get and give to her.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15