



Overland Park Neighborhood Association (OPNA) – July 27 2017

Meeting called to order at 6:33 pm by President Mara Owen

Welcome and Compassion

25+ members and guests were present. During introductions, several acts of compassion were expressed and open comments. These can be found at the end of these minutes notes.

Minutes from June meeting

Minutes from the June meeting were approved as written.

Treasurer Report

(reminder: annual dues apply to the full calendar year. \$10 per household, \$25 business. Paid members are voting members)

Beginning Balance		\$ 4,039.00
Membership Deposit		\$ 10.00
Paid Outstanding		\$
Bank Fees		\$ (5.00)
Ending Balance Per Bank		\$ 4,044.00
	OPNA Funds	\$ 1,737.61
	Art Funds	\$ 2,301.39

Police Report

CRO Jim Lopez

720-913-1248

Jim.lopez@denvergov.org

District 3

1625 S. University Blvd.

Non-emergency dispatch # 720-913-2000

Officer Lopez was present at this meeting. He reported that crime is steady in our area for the amount of new people that are coming in here. Reminder us to lock car doors and keep valuables out to help prevent theft from motor vehicles. To prevent burglaries, make sure to have good lighting and close and lock garage doors.

Sign up for Virtual neighborhood to receive information from cops.

pocketgov.org/police

Saturday, July 29th 11am-2pm, Prevention Party - South High School parking lot - free food and drinks. Chance to register your bike.

Rob – his bike was stolen 2 weeks ago. If the police are able to recover – you still need to be able to identify. Register your bike at Denvergov.org

Rob - pointed out 2 homeless camps on East side of Santa Fe along with people living by the river. Using the numbers and email provided by Officer Lopez please notify them of anything you see. Do not engage directly as this could be dangerous, instead allow homeless outreach organization deal with this problem.

There is a new program started by the Commander where they have assigned sector Sergeant who will attend neighborhood meetings.

Sergeant Adolf Steinbach as been assigned to District 3.

adolph.steinbach@denvergov.org

720-913-1300

Jolon Clark's Office (Council District 7) <http://www.luckydistrict7.org>

Maggie was representing Jolon Clark's office with the following updates:

1. GO Bond – has made it thru council which includes the Jewell pedestrian Bridge and the Alameda underpass where planning money would be going into the Alameda project.
2. On Thursday nights check out the Tuk-Tuk Shuttle between 6-10pm which circulates around 3rd Ave and Broadway down to Alameda. Fun if you are wanting to cruise the area restaurants and bars. This was Jolon's idea as a pilot project similar to what they do in Drink Rino around the breweries. See also <https://etukride.com/>
3. i300 – Marijuana Social Consumption [Bill](#) – Denver has adopted the rules and regulations that will govern the Cannabis Consumption Permits when establishments can places can apply and are required to reach out to RNOs. Art galleries and yoga studios are a few examples of places which may apply.

Presentation by Alexis Harrigan from Denver Public Schools

Hotline for the office of family and community engagement.

(720) 423-3054

With the change in demographics in the city, where Denver is the fastest growing urban school district in the country but has decrease in the total number of students due to families with school age children unable to afford living in the city. With the program 'school choice' they are seeing an increase in segregation. DPS is trying to get back to more integrated schools. The School Performance Compact is a policy that sets out a clear process for how DPS will identify the most persistently low-performing schools. The Denver Board of Education uses the policy to decide if the identified schools must be restarted or closed. The process applies to all schools, both district -run and charter. The closest schools in our area are Mathematics and Science Leadership Academy (MSLA) and Lincoln High School. Seven schools may be designated in the fall. when they are evaluated thru a report card. Any low performing may be required to either restart or close.

For more information see <http://greatschools.dpsk12.org>

Also information about the Strengthening Neighborhoods Initiative can be found at <https://www.dpsk12.org/neighborhoods/>

Ray – how is the review board selected? Outreach to neighbors and parents, partners, RNO's where you would complete an application, based on acceptance, become part of the review process.

Amy – when application open. will you communicate with the RNO's? Yes, she will

email link and application to the RNO's to be distributed out.

Presentation by Ben Kelly with Urban Peak - 1630 South Acoma St.

Urban Peak ignites the potential in youth to exit homelessness and create self-determined, fulfilled lives.

Ben, Karen and Melinda talked to us about the new vision and opportunity for developing the location at South Acoma St. and Iowa which was opened in 1998. They are looking to the future needs and how to consolidate with the other 2 locations in the city into one building which would include shelter, services, and housing. They showed us a rough rendering of the location and the vision of what the new building would be where it would include 5 stories comprised of shelter, administrative and affordable housing units surrounded by open space which would be accessible to the residents living there. They are looking for support during the re-zoning and permitting process with the city.

Note from Ben Kelly:

1. If any of your board members or neighborhood residents are interested in learning more about the shelter or taking a tour, please contact Clayton Gonzales, Assistant Director of Programs, at 303-974-2905, clayton.gonzales@urbanpeak.org.

2. Urban Peak hosts a community breakfast this September 14 as an annual showcase of the organization. The event includes a complimentary breakfast, video presentation about Urban Peak, message from a former Urban Peak Youth, and information about how you can make an impact on the lives of youth experiencing homelessness or at risk of becoming homeless. A link to the event is below--if you or any of your board members or neighbors would like to attend, let me know and I can arrange that. <http://www.urbanpeak.org/denver/events/reach-for-the-peak/>

Amy – Thank you for doing what you do and for the vision of increasing affordable housing into this area which is really exciting.

OPNA History Corner, Jim Sample, lifetime resident of Overland.

Jim Sample told us the second story for the OPNA History Corner To view the full video of this story, please visit our website where you will find the link coming SOON.

We are looking to highlight a historical story during each meeting (5 minutes maximum time limit). Please contact OPNA to become a part of this interesting and important retelling and recording of our neighborhood history.

Overland Social

Overland Socials occur on the **second Wednesday** of the month: It is a chance to get together with neighbors and hang out at one of our local restaurants. The next social will be

Wednesday August 9th - La Chiva 1417 S Broadway 6:30pm until...

New restaurant on South Broadway serving Colombian Cuisine.

Watch for reminders on our Facebook page **Overland Park Neighborhood Association - OPNA**

Community announcements (open to anyone)

- Megan Yonke – She is an urban planner with Radian Inc <https://www.radianinc.org/> a non-profit design group that focuses on creating healthy and sustainable communities. They work together with neighborhoods to locate commercial spaces and identify the most appropriate uses of that space. Currently there is a property between Harvard and Yale (10,000 square feet) where they are looking to find out what the community wants. Please complete the online survey which will be open for the next week to provide input into how this space is developed.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SouthBroadwayCommunitySurvey>

- David Ehrlich – Local representative for Superfly regarding the music festival at Overland. David thanked everyone that came to the city council meeting on Monday. He was amazed at the energy and felt that the community comments were rational. This coming Monday when city council makes the final vote, if approved, the next steps would be to submit the operational plans to be approved. We as a neighborhood will still have input during this process. After the plans are submitted and if successful will continue to work with the neighborhood and bringing the neighborhood back together. Encouraging us to go out and see

what you can do for the people who have been against the festival and may be open to reconciliation and coming back together. The hard work starts after the plan including identifying local non-profits, local restaurants, local artists would might want to become involved. If we all lean into it and feel vested in this festival, then it will be fun and it will be successful for everyone.

Jack – asked about the plans approval – The contract is only for the festival where the other parts go to individual areas, such as hotline, security, transportation. Every plan needs to be completed and approved where each department will sign off.

Rob – supported next Tuesday – what do we do by Monday? Anything else to do? How do we get people in and out of the area. Hire third party that handles other areas. To study and determine how we do it.

Amy- motion to send out an email to the neighborhood announcing the decision from city council on Monday. Second and approved unanimously.

- Levitt Pavilion is now open which much enthusiasm. They are updating their policies based on what they are seeing. For example, where umbrellas were not allowed, after seeing how unpredictable Colorado weather can be, they have changed it to allow for umbrellas. They are accepting any type of feedback on their website. <http://levittdenver.org/>

- Denver Days Events August 5th – 13th free barricades for block parties by tomorrow. Free rentals waived during this week. We are planning another Community picnic with Ruby Hill on the 13th of August which may include a concert at Levitt.

- Paul – made a motion to approve allocating some money for making new signs which would be used to help get the word out for our monthly meetings. Mara stated that we would probably need about 10 yard signs which would be templates that can be changed with dates, times, location. Motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

- Rob – Regarding the upcoming Halloween Parade – has a flat bed trailer – and trailer hitch and is offering to be used as a float with the idea of highlighting the River RISO – all were in favor.

- Ronnie – watches the South Platte water flow on a daily basis which can change minute by minute depending on the weather in the area. When OPNA went tubing a few weeks ago, the river was running at 200 cfs. Wednesday last night it was flowing 3000 cfs at Englewood. It quickly reduced back down to 600 cfs. He is planning another shorter float this Sunday from Overland to Confluence Park. He will send out information.

Compassion and open comments

Mara – Andrew rebuilt the little library outside their house. Come and read a book and leave a book

Eloise – Paul always says something nice to her on the trail

Amy – trapped in city council meeting for 6 hours and really had fun because we are all fun to be with

Rob – compassion for Amy

Jack – Eloise – someone camped under Evans bridge – checked on him – are you alright?

Megan – from west Colfax neighborhood – urban planning – loves this awesome meeting space

Maggie – and Charlie – thanked Jack for taking pictures on the tubing adventure.

David – Superfly – it has been a pleasure to be working with us. Rick Farman on Monday night said – wow! We are a fun bunch. Very amazed and excited to be working with us.

Christen – grateful for the nice neighbors like Rob and Amy, Paul and Terry

Paul – Rob and Amy have set up to call each other for any reason of what might be happening in the neighborhood.

Alexis – Denver public schools – thanks for food as she is 6 months pregnant – and for this beautiful

Andrew – thanked Ronnie for his passion of the South Platte river and organizing tubing trips.

Jim – liked Mara's new haircut

Ray – also liked her hair cut and that she donated her braids to meaningful organization

Mara – thanked Ronnie who ran the meetings for 2 months

Meeting adjourned at 8:03pm

Next neighborhood meeting will be on **Thursday, August 24** , 2017, at **6:30 pm** at **Overland Studios** **2205 S. Delaware St.**, Denver, CO 80223 Come join us and find out what is happening in our neighborhood.

Also, check us out on our **Website** and also to read the **minutes** from past meetings.

<http://www.opnadenver.org>

And like us on [Facebook](#)

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