



Overland Park Neighborhood Association (OPNA) – March 22, 2018

Meeting called to order at 6:32 pm by President Mara Owen

Welcome and Open Comments

20+ members and guests were present.

During introductions, several comments and recommendations were made to the group.

Minutes from February meeting

Minutes from the February 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		\$ 4,274.00
Membership Deposit		\$ 90.00
Bank Fees		\$ (5.00)
Paid Checks	INC & Rainbow Bridge	\$ (575.00)

Ending Balance Per Bank		\$ 3,784.00
	OPNA Funds	\$ 1,973.61
	Art Funds	\$ 1,811.39

Police Report

CRO Jim Lopez

720-913-1248

Jim.lopez@denvergov.org

District 3

1625 S. University Blvd.

Non-emergency dispatch # 720-913-2000

pocketgov.org/police

Sergeant Adolf Steinbach District 3.

adolph.steinbach@denvergov.org

720-913-1300

BROADWAY COP SHOP

487 S Broadway

Follow the Denver police twitter page to see any information on line.

[Denver Police Dept. \(@DenverPolice\) · Twitter](https://twitter.com/DenverPolice)

<https://twitter.com/DenverPolice>

Teresa Driscoll-Rael

[\(720\) 913-1248](tel:(720)913-1248) Teresa.Driscoll@denvergov.org

Teresa Driscoll spoke to the group about some happenings in the area. The reported van that was abandoned for a while in the neighborhood has been removed. If you are connected thru nextdoor.com, although this is a good way to communicate with your neighbors, it is important to note that the police do not monitor this site. If you find anyone reporting suspicious activity thru

nextdoor.com, please encourage them to notify the police.

pocketgov.org/police is where you can sign up and find out about any crimes in your own or other neighborhoods.

Now with warmer weather, typically there is an increase in burglaries. Be aware of your neighbors in the next few weeks. During spring break you can contact the clerk where you can provide your address to let the precinct know and they can check your area while you are out of town. Also, now with spring, there could be an increase in stolen bikes where registering your bike helps. You can do this at the Cop Shop in our area. They are also starting a new program – pups on patrol where they will spend an hour to deputize you and your dog. Then when on daily walks, if you see anything suspicious, you can call to report.

Judy – asked with warm weather, are there a lot more homeless and groups camping around the Platte River trail? The commander has started a 'hot' team, which is a coalition of groups including zoning, parks and rec, along with the police who will work together to offer assistance to the homeless. We are the 2nd district to implement this where 2 officers and a supervisor have been assigned. (District 6 - downtown was the first to implement).

Ronnie – when you do a sweep of homeless, especially around the river, who picks up after? There is an arrangement with the 'wake up' crew to come in after area has been cleared of people and clean up any trash.

Peter Smith, candidate for State Senator

Living in Athmar Park, Peter wants to promote local communities and is running as an independent. See Electpetersmith.org for more details of his campaign.

Megan, Denver Vape and Play Nick

Martinez <http://www.vapeandplay.com/>

Megan and Nick spoke to us about their proposal for a cannabis

consumption lounge at 1753 S. Broadway, across from Corvus coffee shop. The lounge would be for cannabis consumption only where patrons would bring their own cannabis which would be served through vaporizers by vape tenders in a saloon style. No alcohol, vape pens or edibles would be permitted. They are looking at setting up time intervals for people to come and enjoy their facility where when the session is over, there is no re-entry. They have a relationship with Lyft and Uber to provide customer rides if needed. They are looking to hold some events and entertainment, musical and comedy. The total capacity would be between 75-95 people at one time. They are planning to provide a safe environment in the community to consume and enjoy cannabis.

They have met with the city and other neighborhood groups and were asking the OPNA members for a letter of support. A motion was made to write a support letter which was approved unanimously.

Community Garden Study

The University of Colorado, in a partnership with Denver Urban Gardens, is conducting a human research study where they plan to review a group of people who participate in community gardens compared with another group that does not participate. They are seeing whether community gardens have a positive affect on people, where they may become more active, feel better and consume more fresh foods. They are looking for people for the study where you should not currently be a gardener or have participated in any community gardening for the past 2 years. The people in the study will be given a plot in Ruby Hill Park garden. They are currently recruiting for the 2018 growing season. See the following Website – www.capsmetro.org for more details.

Rob, Seeds and Community Garden

Speaking of gardens, and belonging to a compassionate neighborhood. How can we practice? Get involved on May 19th for the spring cleanup in district 7 where we can plant trees in the Overland Park area. Also, we can grow gardens in our own yards or

as part of a community garden. Rob brought some seeds and next month will have seedlings for distribution.

Mara proposed doing a seed swap in the next meeting. Please bring your extra seeds where you can give seeds to others and take other seeds for planting.

Jolon Clark's Office (Council District 7) www.luckyDistrict7.org

Maggie provided the following updates from Jolon Clark's office.

- Look for the latest Newsletter which this month focuses on Overland Park neighborhood and the projects which are happening in our area. Also, can find out information on the next happy hour with Jolon.

- [Rainbow Crosswalk](#) Maggie thanked us for our contribution to the rainbow crosswalk which they are hoping to complete by May 1st. She will provide an update on the ribbon cutting.

- The Halloween parade was such a huge success last year, that they are already planning for this year. Save the date of October 20th. Prizes will be awarded this year.

- For Earth day – collection of electronics will be available at 6th and Alameda.

- Be aware that there has been at least one rabid skunk found in the neighborhood and there could be more. If you come across a rabid skunk, call 911 and they will handle. Also, you can take your pets to the local animal shelter on Jason St. for free rabies shots.

- [Denverright](#) - Blueprint Denver Workshop

Denverright is a community-driven planning process that challenges you to shape how we want to evolve in four key areas: land use, mobility, parks, and recreational resources.

[Click here](#) to learn more and make your voice heard through the online survey tool.

- 2018 Lucky District 7 Spring Cleanup!

Join your neighbors for a district-wide spring clean up. We will be working to clean up the neighborhoods of Lucky District 7 on Saturday May 19th. Also, you can apply for a free tree! Looking for captains who can help to pick a project, for example picking up litter or helping

out neighbors in need, or tree planting. There will be a party at the end of the event. See more here

[Learn more about the event and register to volunteer here.](#)

Community announcements (open to anyone)

- INC <http://www.denverinc.org/>- Ray and Jim are our representatives for the INC and all are welcome to come to any of the various committee meetings including Transportation, and Parks and Rec. It's a great way to find out what's happening in Denver.

- Historic Denver Neighborhood Action Fund – Mara spoke of looking into applying for a grant used for funding historic things in the neighborhood, examples being taking inventory of various housing types or buildings in the area. Or even a collection of oral history related to our neighborhood. It was decided to hold a meeting to discuss outside of our regular meeting and bring back ideas.

Amy – An amendment has been proposed with the city that whenever anyone is applying for re-zoning, a mailed notice would be sent out to all residences within 200 ft. of the proposed change. She proposed that we write a letter of support for this new amendment. Motion passed unanimously.

Rob – provided an update on the damaged fence on the corner of Santa Fe and Jewell where he has submitted reports and complaints to CDOT who is responsible for fixing. He has been told by them that there are funding issues and they are exploring different ideas of what to do including taking the down the rotted fence and installing a natural dirt berm. This would require 75,000 sqft of dirt along with necessary man power for landscaping. One idea was to see whether Superfly funds might help.

Compassion and compassion charter

Amy – following up with Project helping, has come up with an

opportunity to volunteer at Urban Peak where the date has been set for May 12th, a Saturday morning between 8:30-10:30am. Up to 7 volunteers will help to prepare and serve breakfast. If you are interested in participating in this event, please let Amy know so she can fill the slots. Amy Razzaque amyrazz37@gmail.com

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 is

- April 11th where we will meet at the Skylark for Ronnie's Birthday Party 6pm-Midnight

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

Community announcements (open to anyone)

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm

Next neighborhood meeting will be on **Thursday, April 26**, 2018, at **6:30 pm** at **Studios and Overland Crossing** 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](#)

Overland Park Neighborhood Association - OPNA

