



Overland Park Neighborhood Association (OPNA) – May 28 2015

Meeting called to order at 6:34 pm by President Mara Owen

Agenda

- Welcome and introductions
- Approval of April meeting minutes
- Treasurer Report
- Police Report
- Traffic presentation- Deana
- Alley house presentation- Andrew and Peter
- Arts and Venues update
- Outreach/branding
- Chris Nevitt's Office
- Compassion
- Aaron Greco and Jolon Clark Presentations
- Announcements

Business

- Minutes from April meeting approved as read.

- Treasurer Report

Beginning Balance	\$639.05	
Deposit/Payments	10.00	membership dues
	(100.00)	pending pmt to John Collins
Ending Balance of	\$549.05	

- **Police Report**

Officer Sharon was present. Question raised about Miss and Broadway shooting. They have gotten a few tips, but so far have not caught anyone. They are looking for light blue/silver 4-door. Please contact with any information you might have.

TC brought to her attention the ongoing street racing which consistently has been happening 10pm-11:30pm Sunday nights on Santa Fe and Evans. Officer Sharon advised neighbors to continue to call and report, since call load has been high and they dispatch by priority. Nathan suggested that anyone can and should attend the commanders meeting which occurs the 1st Thursday of each month at the District office on University at 6pm. All encouraged to come and bring any neighborhood issues.

- **Traffic presentation- Deana Brooks and Kelly Colvin**

Deana had contacted Kelly from the Transportation/Department of Public Works regarding her concern about the truck routes in our neighborhood on Wesley and Bannock. Kelly presented a proposal to make some changes to signs so that trucks would be directed to go down either Iliff or Harvard to get to the businesses on Delaware St. and remove signs from Bannock and Cherokee. They presented a map and were asking for feedback. Ronnie said that it helps if you go to the businesses and ask them to be more considerate and volunteered to go with Deana to talk to them to make them more aware of the traffic in the neighborhood. Please provide any feedback by the end of this week by contacting Deana at ddeanab@msn.com if you have any questions or concerns.

- **Alley house presentation- Andrew Gehauf and Peter Kelly**

Andrew and Peter presented an architectural design for new construction of a garage and second floor apartment unit which is being submitted to zoning for approval. Since the address where the construction is planned for (2255 South Acoma) is smaller than the standard required lot size in the neighborhood they will need to submit for a variance. They are asking the neighborhood association for a letter of approval. The proposed garage will replace the existing one and have a smaller footprint and be moved further to the north side of the lot.

Ronnie said when dealing with these requests with the zoning board, a letter from neighborhood goes a long way.

Ronnie made a motion to write a letter for granting the variance. Motion was seconded and passed with no objections. Kevin Dickson volunteered to write the letter and it will be signed by the officers.

- **Arts and Venues update**

We have applied for a grant from Urban Arts Fund. They will call us soon and are asking for more information which means we are still in the running.

- **Outreach/branding**

Continuing to work on more outreach in the neighborhood and continuing projects include updating the logo and also our new website.

- **Chris Nevitt's Office update (Nathan Batchelder)**

Nathan reported that the design for final improvement to the Evans Bridge is 100% complete and working with contractor to start sometime late summer. The improvements include permanent installation of lights and better crossing signs for pedestrians. This was all made possible by our own neighborhood efforts to let the city know how dangerous the bridge was for bicyclists and pedestrians. The city has listened and will be completing the improvements soon! Long term plan is still to have a pedestrian bridge over Santa Fe onto Jewell Ave.

With the change in city council, July 21st will be the current staff's last day in office. Ronnie asked whether there would be any official signage for the bike path or something which would say 'entering Overland pond', or even 'Overland Park welcomes you'. Nathan - Bike signs are being changed to have destinations around the city – i.e. Wash Park 2 miles. We may want to discuss with the bike team and the river team.

- **Compassion**

Ronnie was given a shout out for mowing his next door neighbors' lawn a few times. Ray and Jim jumped TC's car so he wasn't late for work. Small acts of kindness go a long way!

- **Announcements**

- Compost classes
- Denver urban gardens. Free classes. June 3, 6, 10th, etc.
- Johnson Habitat Ribbon cutting ceremony, Monday June 1st 11-1
- Future Recreation Center building needs a name
- East Colfax – historic events, Ray mentioned that ‘Carla Madison’ was influential in that area and may be considered for name. August 18th for recommendations
- Steering committee – I-25 and Alameda – input for the area. Mara is our representative and will attend monthly meetings bring back updates. Also there are 2 more public workshops scheduled.
- Bike parking rules and regulations – Fri June 12th. Nathan – spoke regarding street bike routes on Pearl Street. District 7 championed this. Now businesses can apply for on street or off street parking where there is some Grant money available.
- Ronnie – asking about outreach and is there any way to contact new neighbors. It was suggested to do this thru Nextdoor. Peter Kelly also heads up the committee for outreach and will be working to help encourage businesses to join.
- Summer solstice – Saturday June 20th 3-6pm at Overland Pond Park.
- Geoffrey – Decker Library – summer of reading for kids. Encourage children to come to library.

Meeting adjourned at 8:06 pm.

Next neighborhood meeting will be on Thursday, June 25, 2015, at 6:30 pm at John Collins Church, 2320 South Bannock. Come join us and find out what is happening in our neighborhood. Also, check us out and Like us on Facebook.

<http://www.opnadenver.org>