



Overland Park Neighborhood Association (OPNA) – September 27, 2018

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

**Welcome and Open Comments**

30+ members and guests were present.

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

**Minutes from August meeting**

Minutes from the August 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		\$ 3,994.00
Membership Deposit		\$ 60.00
Bank Fees		\$ (5.00)
Paid Checks		\$ (265.57)
Ending Balance Per Bank		<b>\$ 3,783.43</b>
	OPNA Funds	\$ 1,972.24
	Art Funds	\$ 1,811.39

Outstanding	New signage	\$ (150.00)
	Summer party	\$ (150.00)

**Police Report**

CRO Jim Lopez

720-913-1248

[Jim.lopez@denvergov.org](mailto:Jim.lopez@denvergov.org)

District 3

1625 S. University Blvd.

Non-emergency dispatch # 720-913-2000

[pocketgov.org/police](http://pocketgov.org/police)

**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>

[pocketgov.org/police](http://pocketgov.org/police) is the Nextdoor version for police reporting where you can sign up and find out about any crimes in your own or other neighborhoods.

**Officer Jim Lopez**

Officer Lopez spoke to us about becoming a neighborhood watch member. Since the police do not monitor next door, they need help pushing out information. They are offering a Crime prevention presentation for District 3 which includes how to become better engaged. This is scheduled for the first week in November.

Otherwise he is willing to do a presentation to our group some time in early 2019.

Jack – we participated in neighborhood watch when we were in District 4. One of the concerns was having to inventory all of your possessions. Can we use cell phones for inventory? Jim explained that it is not required to take inventory but always recommended. They are just looking for anyone who would be willing to help in the neighborhood watch.

Amy – as part of training do you cover things like warning signs vs profiling? You are taught to recognize when something looks bad, then it probably is. Behavior is suspicious whereas People are not suspicious. Rob – Asked about whether there is any signage? Is there designated watch area? If so, how is it defined? We can have signs if we want but don't need to. The main thing is to be aware. No hiding in houses. Just be engaged with your neighborhood, know your neighbors. If

you See something – Say something.

Rob – Asked whether there was any feedback on the Grandoozy festival and how was it received? Officer Lopez said that he heard that it went really well where only a few people went to detox. No real problems and actually was the easiest thing they ever worked with no reported crime during that time.

**Presentation from [Healthy Food For Denver Kids](#)**

Blake Angelo has been working for many years with volunteers and the city on the initiative for planting in the city and growing fresh food in the parks. In the past 10 years 50,000 lbs of fresh food was routed to the most in need. Still, within the last 30 days, 1 in 7 Denver kids missed a meal because their families couldn't afford to eat. The Healthy Food for Denver campaign is speaking up for them by working to provide 3 nutritious meals a day along with cooking, gardening, and nutrition education.

The full initiative can be found here: [Ballot Initiative](#). It would create a 13 person commission (The Denver Food Commission) that would hold the responsibility of granting out the money in one-year grants. Page 6 Section 2-242 talks a bit more about the Denver Food Commission and Page 7 Section 2-243 describes some of the criteria for organizations eligible to receive the grants. Look for this on the ballot next month.

OPNA received a sponsorship of \$100 from Healthy Food to be used for our potluck next month.

**Deputy DA Brenna Zortman <https://www.denverda.org/>**

**Brenna** works with Beth McCann who serves as the current Denver District Attorney. Beth is sending someone to each neighborhood meeting to provide questions and answers and report any trends happening in each area. Currently property crimes are the main type of crime in our area. Lock your cars. Close garage door and pet doors. She also spoke about the upcoming free Citizens Academy. Check their website for more details. Also see brief description below.

The Denver District Attorney's Office is launching the revival of its Citizens Academy program to provide ongoing practical information to the residents of Denver regarding the criminal justice system. The Citizens Academy is for individuals who live in or work in the City and County of Denver.

To kick-off its Citizens Academy program, the District Attorney's Office will host a

free, one-day, introductory “Denver DA 101” program featuring interactive presentations and discussions by the District Attorney and other members of the office.

WHEN:

Saturday, October 13, 2018

9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

WHERE:

Blair Caldwell African American Research Library  
2401 Welton Street, Denver

### **Amanda Balestrieri, conductor of the Seicento Baroque Ensemble**

**Amanda** is a classical soprano singer who is a member of a group which plays classical baroque music using time period instruments from the 1600's. Appointed as artistic director of the group, they are looking for a Denver neighborhood for performances. They are a non-profit organization, partially funded by SCFD. They will be performing at Overland Crossings on November 11th at 3:00pm in the afternoon. She is asking for volunteers to help with the front of the house. You can find more information at

[www.seicentobaroque.org](http://www.seicentobaroque.org) or 720-772-1610

Ray – has attended various concerts where Amanda has performed and she has a remarkable voice.

Judy – asked if the performance is formal or non-formal? Casual.

### **2018 Broadway Halloween Parade**

**Rob Lovell** spoke about the upcoming Broadway Halloween Parade on October 20th now in it's second year. Last year, we put together a float "The River Rats" which was a huge success and we were the only neighborhood float to participate among all the merchants on Broadway. This year we are reviving the float and the theme will be the "Pirates of the South Platte". We plan to have solar or other power hookup so we can get lights, etc on the float. We were also approached by The Eco-Leaders who are looking to collaborate with us and our float! Their idea is to dress up as pirates this Halloween with the message that CO buries \$265 million worth of resources every year! They are thinking to have treasure chests full of aluminum cans, glass bottles and gold spray-painted Terra-pak cartons (the materials kept locally in CO). This all sounds very interesting, so if you are wanting to have a say and be involved, there will be a **planning meeting at the next OPNA Social on October 10th at the Brutal**

**Poodle**, Also a working meeting is planned on **Saturday, October 13th**. Contact Rob Lovell <[Roblovell303@gmail.com](mailto:Roblovell303@gmail.com)> or just show up on the 10th and/or the 13th, and start putting together your best pirate costume and get ready to be in the parade on October 20th!!

**Jolon Clark's Office (Council District 7)** [www.luckyDistrict7.org](http://www.luckyDistrict7.org)

**Maggie** - Broadway Halloween Parade. Maggie expanded on the details of the parade where the feedback from last year was that it was neighborhoody and funky and enjoyed by people in the parade and all those watching the parade. This year it will start at 6pm and travel from 5th Avenue south to Alameda on Broadway. Floats will gather in the Denver Health parking lot. All car parking will be at Alameda and Broadway at the Broadway Marketplace where people will be shuttled to the starting place. It is really Fun for all ages.

**Jolon** – The 2019 city budget 2019 is now available on line found [here](#) which includes all departments and agencies. Some highlights include – increase for mobility, pedestrian crossing, a new dog park in south Denver, affordable housing, marijuana revenue and spending and more. Best to open the PDF and search for topics of interest.

Green roof initiative –has been in review for the past 6 months, after which can repeal – super majority – task force to look at it. What is it? 40 members. 30 hours of meetings – recommendations of changes. Multiple paths to compliance – easier to be in compliance. Eliminates exceptions. Now need to be voted on city council.

Mayor – committed to 100% renewable energy. How to do this? Council will be working on that.

Parks system is under funded. 28 million \$ gap for replacing existing parks and playgrounds. Where we used to be 7th in the nation ranked for parks. In 2018 dropped to 26th. If you don't vote on this they may need to shut down parks.

Please Vote YES on 2A. [Yesfordenverparks.org](http://Yesfordenverparks.org).

Reminder that this upcoming election will be 6 pages long so please vote local first which directly effects us all the most.

Iowa underpass – completing design work now – construction next year 2019 with an estimated 9-12 month construction period.

**OPNA officer candidate declarations**

Elections are coming in October where there will be a vote only if any of the current

positions are being contested.

Co-Presidents - Both Amy and Mara have plans to continue to work together as co-presidents. Where Amy's passion is in building inclusive communities, Mara's strengths include city planning and logistics. Together they make a dynamic duo.

Vice president – Ronnie will stay as the running river guy if no one else intends to run.

Treasurer – Tracey is willing to continue if no one else runs for this position which includes going to the bank every month, filing stuff and reporting.

Secretary - Terry is willing to continue taking notes and sending reminders to membership list.

**Rob** – expressed the need for more people to carry the load and proposed adding a community outreach coordinator position where the duties would include working to grow the membership, outreach to businesses, updating social media, marketing, etc. Jack made a motion to add the position where Mara seconded and it was approved.

### **Grandoozy Feedback**

Amy asked the group to fill out post-it notes to gather feedback related to the Grandoozy festival. The group was asked to identify what went well? and what were some areas of opportunities? This feedback has been collected and will be compiled and sent to David Ehrlich for followup. Thanks to everyone who took the time to respond.

### **David Ehrlich: Grandoozy Music Festival updates (Sept 14-16)**

<https://www.grandoozy.com/>

**David Ehrlich**, the local rep for Grandoozy and Supefly gave a BIG Thank YOU!! to OPNA. He has enjoyed working with our neighborhood and realizes that Councilman Jolon Clark took a gigantic risk when he agreed to move forward with the proposal almost 2 years ago. He appreciated that we created an atmosphere where we were open to the idea, took the time to listen and learn and most of all to provide good feedback all along the way which helped to guarantee the success of the festival. He will continue to work with us as this is a learning process of everyone. They were happy with the large audience and all the diversity of the concert goers where the largest group was in the 23-24 age group. The main comment has been that everyone seemed so happy.

What's next? The return of the golf course where they are working with a 3rd party

damage consultant. They found that there wasn't much damage where it has mostly required some re-sodding, aeration and seeding in some of the areas. He pointed out that the yellowish grass in some areas is due to the current drought condition which was not caused by the festival. They are tracking to reopen on October 8<sup>th</sup>.

Next up is working with the accountability committee to formalize the feedback which will be delivered to the Mayor. He noted that the biggest challenge was with egress through the neighborhood and ride share drop off and pick up throughout the weekend. Also, he will be meeting with neighborhood representatives regarding how to reinvest into the neighborhood.

Andrew – asked of the breakdown of ticket sales? Mostly local and a little older than expected. Although they are able to scale up to 80,000, current trends in the market don't lend to that.

Jack – Asked whether lowering the expectations would lower the acts? Actually they feel that they want to add slots for more acts.

Amy – asked about any shift layout, i.e. it was hard to get into 80s ski lodge, and shade would be nice over break room? They underestimated how many people would enjoy these areas and are taking all comments into consideration for future. Also, saw the need for more more lighting.

## **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

**October 10**

[Brutal Poodle](#) (1967 S Broadway, Denver, CO 80210)

There will be a discussion about the Halloween Parade float and what needs to be done to get ready. Please come prepared discuss ideas.

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

## **Community announcements (open to anyone)**

**Megan:** Urban Peak supply drive was a great success in our August meeting and

Megan proposed that we make this a quarterly tradition. We agreed to do another one in October, and will also plan another day to cook a meal for the youth at Urban Peak. This time the request is for coats, hats and gloves for winter. Also there will be a sign up for volunteering to cook breakfast at Urban Peak in January.

**Karen:** Requested to be added on the agenda next month to discuss the ongoing issue with the project on 2101, 2119, and 2125 S. Cherokee where currently the plan is for 20 units with 8 parking spaces. Currently they are in mediation right now and it is not going well. It still will need to go to the planning board. Karen will come back to discuss the best ways to have our voices heard regarding zoning issues.

**Amy:** Requested to send letter back to The Post for providing food for our equinox party. Also will send thank you to Deep Eddy for supplying spirits during the festival. Will have letters and cards to sign at next meeting.

### **Compassion**

What an amazing equinox party where food was provided by The Post Chicken and Beer and many neighbors came out and connected and re-connected in enjoying the last day of the beautiful summer weather and reflecting on the music festival.

### **Meeting adjourned at 8:49 pm**

Next neighborhood meeting will be on **Thursday, October 25**, 2018, at **6:30 pm** at **Studios at 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**

Contact us at: [OPNAinfo@gmail.com](mailto:OPNAinfo@gmail.com)