



Overland Park Neighborhood Association (OPNA) – January 23, 2020

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by Co-President Mara

Welcome and Open Comments

20+ members and guests were present.

Minutes from October 2019 meeting

Minutes from the October 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 Oct 2019		\$ 5094.25
Membership Deposit		\$
Paid Outstanding		\$ (400.00) Picnic Expense
Bank Fees		\$ (5.00)
Ending Balance Per Bank		\$ 4,689.25

	OPNA Funds	\$ 2,877.86
	ART Funds	\$ 1,811.39

Andrew, our new Treasurer, had no new update due to not having the accounts available to him yet. The question was asked what are the dues used for? The dues go towards OPNA sponsored events during the year including Denver Days and the Broadway Halloween Parade. It is also used to pay INC dues where the co-presidents, Mara and Amy, are delegates. It is also used for any art projects such as painting Evans bridge along with grant money. Jack raised the question whether OPNA can start to pay for the website and suggested setting up a debit card for the account to make monthly payments to the website provider. This is being taken under consideration and will be addressed once Andrew is able to access the account.

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

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 is the Nextdoor version for police reporting where you can sign up and find out about any crimes in your own or other neighborhoods.

Jim Lopez, our Community Resource Officer, was present to provide crime states for our area. The good news is that stats are down in all areas including violent crime and property. There is one stat on the rise which is car theft. He announced that anyone who owns a *Subaru Outback or Impreza* years 1996 –

2005 can obtain a free club to put on their steering wheel to protect from theft. They only need to contact District 3 police department to receive. Typically cars are stolen when they are found unlocked and running. They also look for keys in the glove compartment. If your car has a 'valet' key in the owners manual, remove this from the car to prevent theft. Jim also mentioned the importance of Neighborhood block watch where the better you know your neighbors and look out for strangers, the less likely crimes will occur.

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

Maggie Thompson Maggie.thompson@denvergov.org was present and provided the following information.

- City council passed a *plastic, paper bag fee* which will go into effect July 1st. This means that any disposable bag will cost 10 cents per bag. Businesses will be offering free reusable bags for a period leading up to July.

Veggies can still go in bags. Dry cleaners are also exempt. 4 out of the 10 cents goes to the retailer. 6 cents goes back to city for education. Other communities which have adopted this have seen as much as 70% reduction.

- *Coffee with Councilman Clark* on **Saturday, Jan. 25, 9-11 am at Vinh Xuong Bakery** (2370 W. Alameda Ave.) Stop by to ask a question, discuss an issue, or meet your councilman over some delicious Vietnamese pastries.

- Nextdoor.com – just a caution that Nextdoor prevents officials from seeing certain items within the neighborhood and anyone reporting police issues do not get sent to the city. It is important to remember these numbers.

311 and **911** for reporting any issues to the city. You will receive a Confirmation # and if needed, you can contact Maggie who can check on the status.

- Doug – has been sending emails for past several months to try to get the attention of parks and rec to do something about the stakes that have been left in the ground at Pasquinel's Landing and to request that the canals be retrenched in both Pasquinel's Landing and Grant Frontier parks as they have become clogged with mud and debris. Maggie suggested it might help if more people sent letters of request. A motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously to draft a letter on behalf of OPNA making these requests for improving the 2 parks.

- Iowa underpass – funds have already been approved for the rehabilitation of Iowa underpass and extending the bike path on the west side of Santa Fe thru the easement of the golf course. The bad news is that the state historic preservation group has found that the underpass is historically significant in the railing and concrete wall. Now the City of Denver has to prove that the benefit of fixing outweighs the potential loss of the historic site where they need to come up with 5 alternatives. Since the money is being provided by federal transportation money thru DRCOG they have until September before the money expires – or will need to file an extension. OPNA has already written a letter stating our position of wanting this area to be improved and why. We will want to keep informed on this in the event an extension is required and we will provide another letter of support.

- Court decision on camping ban. Denver has used tools to clean up some situations where safety and sanitation are the main focus. They are continuing with homeless outreach and working on providing better housing. There is currently one team responsible in the sheriffs office. City recently purchased a hotel in the Stapleton area which they will turn into transitional housing with the goal to fill by the end of January. City also bought the crossroads building and are figuring how to redevelop which will be Denver's first step in operating a city shelter. The mental health dollars approved during the last election cycle are going towards this. Christina from Urban Peak has been instrumental in assisting with this project.

OPNA By-laws purpose

Mara read the main points of the OPNA by-laws which can be found on our website [here](#).

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 scheduled for

Wednesday, February 12th at [Somebody People](#) 1165 S Broadway #104, Denver, CO 80210

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

Community announcements (open to anyone)

- Nick Martinez, owner of the properties at 1745 and 1753 South Broadway informed us that since Vape and Play have left the space, a new business run by Mark Hansen will be going into the space at 1745 which will become a co-op for yoga classes, Pilates, and other health related activities. The 1753 space as been rented out to the Bloomberg campaign for the next 6 months.

Michelle – Denver recently approved a measure to remove all lead pipes from city of Denver. Free lead test can be requested by home owners to find out whether they are affected by any lead pipes.

Free and Low-cost Trees

Trees help mitigate climate change and lessen the impact of rapid development. Be a part of the solution by applying for free and low-cost trees through the *Denver Digs Trees* program. Applications are available through Feb. 15 (or while supplies last) at TheParkPeople.org, or by calling 303-722-6262.

History Corner

Check out our [website](#) to watch neighbors telling historic stories from Overland Park neighborhood. Let us know if you have a story you would like to share in one of our upcoming meetings

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm

OPNA meetings are held the 4th Thursday of every month, excluding November and December.

Upcoming meeting dates for **2020** include the following: February 27, March 26, April 23, May 28, June 25, July 23, August 27, September 24, October 22

Next neighborhood meeting will be on Thursday, **February 27**, 2020, 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.

And like us on [Facebook](#) **Overland Park Neighborhood Association - OPNA**

Contact us at: OPNAinfo@gmail.com