

## OVERLAND PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

# SEPTEMBER MEETING MINUTES

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September 26th 2023 / 7:25 PM / Harvard Gulch Rec Center

### HALLOWEEN PARADE OCT 21st

- Jack presented OPNA Float Design Concept. Plays off Broadway storefronts and spooky monsters. SOBO: BOOOOOOOOYAH! We will be looking for volunteers to help paint and assemble the float. Also ALL are welcome to walk with OPNA and our spooky float, in whatever costume you choose.
  - More Info on the Parade: <http://www.thebroadwayhalloweenparade.com/about.html>
- A motion was made to spend \$400 on float materials and expenses. Expense was unanimously approved. Candy will be donated. Looking for candy donations!
- If you are interested in helping assemble the float or walking in the parade please email [opnainfo@gmail.com](mailto:opnainfo@gmail.com) and we will get you details.
  - HELP PAINT FLOAT 10/12 6:30-8:30pm at the Table Public House
  - HELP Build and Assemble - email [opnainfo@gmail.com](mailto:opnainfo@gmail.com)
  - HELP WALK IN THE PARADE with OPNA and Pass out Candy - 10/21 5pm email [opnainfo@gmail.com](mailto:opnainfo@gmail.com)
- FLOAT DESIGN BELOW:



## OPNA Administrative Items:

- Treasury update was reviewed by Bryan:

Beginning Balance		\$ 5,576.79
Membership Deposits		\$ 51.38
Bank Fees		\$ (7.00)
Inter Neighborhood Cooperation Dues		\$ (200.00)
Ending Balance per Bank		\$ 5,421.17
	OPNA Funds	\$ 3,710.49
	ART Funds	\$ 1,710.68
Notes		

- August Meeting minutes were unanimously approved
- Board Positions: Per the bylaws: "Candidates for office must declare and attend at least one meeting prior to elections to explain positions and qualifications."
  - There are no board members stepping down.
  - Due to lack of decorum during the meeting there was confusion on the process for many new participants. After the meeting was formally adjourned two people declared that they would like to run for positions. Estancia Montoya and Daniel Reiling declared they will each run for president. No qualifications were presented by either candidate. Daneil Reiling declared he would like to run for vice president as well. No qualifications were presented.
  - Elections for board positions will occur at the October meeting.

- Temporary Managed Community - 2301 S. Santa Fe
  - The OPNA meeting directly followed the most recent City led community town hall on the topic. With the community's interest in this, lots of new neighbors were in attendance for the OPNA September meeting.
  - Jack reiterated that OPNA has not taken a position. We issued a written statement on 9/27/23:
    - " We as an organization have not taken a position on this issue - it is our job to represent neighbors and businesses in our boundaries and we have some opposed and some in favor. We will continue to ask for more information from the city. We will also work to minimize impacts to the neighborhood through communication, negotiations, and through Good Neighbor Agreements.yet taking a position on the proposed community."
  - Neighbors discussed why we hadn't yet taken a position. Individual opinions on the issue were voiced.
  - Neighbors had questions on the structure of the RNO and what influence or voice we have. Jack shared the information about the structure of the OPNA RNO and the role and resource that we provide to the community. He shared we plan to work jointly with other adjacent RNOs on a Good Neighbor Agreement
    - After the meeting OPNA leaders developed an information graphic on the role of RNOs. This information represents language and guidelines established in the City of Denver's municipal code and our bylaws. It is included at the end of these minutes for reference.
  - Neighbors voiced concern about safety around the proposed site, and questioned why the City has chosen this site. Some neighbors are feeling unheard by the City and mayor's office. OPNA will continue to advocate for more information from the city and clarity on the plan the City has for the site. OPNA will share information and updates out via the email list and on the OPNA website and social media channels. So please stay tuned.
  - After the meeting was adjourned neighbors continued to discuss and organize efforts on the topic. If you are interested in helping lead efforts for outreach or looking to connect with neighbors on efforts please email [opnainfo@gmail.com](mailto:opnainfo@gmail.com) and we will try to get you in contact with those who have specific efforts underway.

## **NEXT MEETING and UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**Next Social October 12th, 6:30pm**

***At the Table Public House***

**Next Meeting October, 26th 6:30pm**

***Hybrid - Location **tbd*****

# Denver Registered Neighborhood Organizations (RNOs)

Providing Resources & Creating Community

## Membership

RNOs are volunteer groups of neighbors & business owners who meet to address issues and interests that impact a specific prescribed geographic area. Anyone in the area is a member, but organizations can charge a nominal fee for voting membership. RNOs write and abide by bylaws that are submitted to the city.

## Communication

RNOs help the city communicate certain information that impacts neighborhoods. Meetings may include neighborhood crime reports as well as notices about zoning hearings, liquor or marijuana license applications, etc. Meetings also give neighbors a chance to communicate about community events and issues.

## Feedback

As part of the city's decision making process, RNOs can vote on a position statement that gives feedback regarding specific types of city business. RNOs can also negotiate Good Neighbor Agreements (GNAs) with properties that set out guidelines for property use that protect the neighborhood from potential negative impacts.

## Resources

RNOs can help to connect neighbors or businesses with appropriate city services and resources, such as housing, 311 responses, non-emergency police responses, parks and recreation, health and human services, etc. RNOs work closely with the City Council representative from their district.

## DON'T FORGET

- RNOs are made up of volunteers
- RNOs are responsible for communicating information from the city – they are the messengers, not the message-makers
- RNOs can advocate with the city, but cannot mandate
- RNOs are not HOAs: they can't set or enforce rules about the neighborhood
- RNOs aim to represent the views and opinions of **all** neighbors