

SCPNA Meeting Minutes-Wednesday, January 21, 2009

The meeting was held in the Penthouse of the Montview Manor at 1663 Steele Street at 7 PM. 39 people were in attendance.

District 2 Police: Officer Esten

The first speaker was Officer Amy Esten. After introducing herself, Officer Esten introduced the crowd to the new online crime statistics map on Denvergov.org. The map lists all reported crimes in Denver on a map and is up to date by 2 days.

Officer Esten also warned that in January and February car theft goes up, and to make sure not to leave the car unattended in the morning while warming it up. Leaving a running car unattended “puffer” is illegal in Denver, and you can be cited for it.

Officer Esten also encouraged everyone to make sure to report even about small things that happen in the neighborhood. By keeping track of petty incidents, the police can build a record of activity and address it.

During the questions period, Officer Esten was asked if anything was being done about excessive drinking and loitering before and after concerts at Bluebird. The officer reiterated the importance of calling in for even the smallest complaints, or to report incidents.

Another question was about the H.A.L.O. camera initiative by the City of Denver, and whether there has been any progress on the project. The officer did not know how the project has been progressing.

The last question was about graffiti in the neighborhood, and the officer responded by asking everyone to always call in about graffiti in the neighborhood to make sure that it is removed.

Call 311.

Denver Museum of Nature and Science:

President George Sparks, Vice President Dave Noel, PR Manager Laura Holtman

The next presenter was George Sparks, the president of the Denver Museum of Nature and Science.

Mr. Sparks came to share some of the museum’s plans for the next few years.

The museum has organized a weather station that will serve as the official weather station for the City of Denver.

Introduced the museum’s “Museum 2020”, a strategic plan to modernize the museum and make it more relevant in the 21st century. The plan has a budget of over \$160 million and stretches over a period of 15 years.

The museum is also planning to open a new permanent exhibit called the “Expedition Health” on April 4th, 2009. The exhibit focus is on families with children.

The voters of Denver have approved \$50 million in bonds for the museum, and the museum is using the money to modernize the facilities, put in a climate control system, and update the electrical system.

The museum also wants to build a Science Education Center on its southern end and integrate the structure with the park, though not intrude into the park. The exact architecture of the building has not been determined yet.

Parking and Traffic Committee: Roger Lawson and Bonita Lahey

The Parking and Traffic Committee presented its final report after a lengthy period of investigation. The complete text of the final report is at the website:

<http://www.scpna.org>

Recommendations were made to the Association regarding changes to some existing conditions. Comments were divided into two categories: What we Know and What we Recommend regarding the arenas of Parking and Traffic in and around South City Park.

(Notes by Jim Slotta regarding developments since the January Meeting:)

A vote will be taken at the March 18 General Meeting on three recommended Traffic resolutions. A vote on Parking resolutions will be at the May meeting. Please be prepared to vote at the March meeting on the Traffic resolutions ONLY.

To recap:

What we know about Traffic:

- 16th Avenue is not as safe and useful as it could be.
- Through the neighborhood there are north-south stop signs at all 16th Avenue intersections except Cook Street, Steele Street, and Detroit Street.
- Stop signs on 16th Avenue are at times obstructed from view.
- There are only two four-way stop intersections along 16th Avenue.
- Speeds on 17th Avenue are too high (35 mph) and not regularly enforced.
- There are three traffic lights on 17th Avenue between York Street and Colorado Boulevard, with no traffic light from Steele Street to Colorado Boulevard.

Currently, there will be three resolutions for which to vote; each will be voted on separately. Current wording of the resolutions follows.

Resolved: SCPNA shall contact the City and County of Denver, no later than April 17, 2009, to request:

(1)

That north-south stop signs be placed on the Cook, Steele, and Detroit Street intersections of 16th Avenue so that all streets along 16th Avenue have north-south stop signs, and that 4-way stops be placed every two blocks on 16th Avenue.

(2)

That a traffic light be installed by the City on 17th Avenue at either Monroe Street or Garfield Street (preferably Garfield Street), and reduce the speed limit to 30 mph on 17th Avenue between Colorado Boulevard And York Street, with enforcement.

(3)

That bike lanes be installed on 16th Avenue with no parking on one side of 16th Avenue.

(continuation of January 21st Minutes)

Atomic Cowboy

Over the last four years SCPNA has had an agreement with Atomic Cowboy Restaurant, which has recently had a change in management. Our resident lawyer Dave Lichtenstein has drawn up a new agreement form to the satisfaction of the restaurant's residential neighbors.

The agreement is to allow Atomic Cowboy install speakers on the south outside patio of the restaurant.

There have been no complaints from the neighborhood and they are supportive of the motion.

Motion to support:

Yay: 25

Nay: 0

Abstain: 1

Holiday Recovery Party

The second motion was to contribute \$200 to the 2nd Annual Holiday Recovery Party.

An amendment was proposed to set up a donation box for SCPNA at the event and to donate the difference between \$200 and the amount collected.

Yay: 20

Nay: 6

Abstain: 0

New and Old Business

1. A fox was seen in the neighborhood.

2. The empty lot on Fillmore and 16th

Opus will finish working on it soon.

Turmoil in the housing industry is causing delays.

3. Repaving on Fillmore Street remains undone; all other SCP streets have been repaved.

Meeting adjourned shortly after 8:30 PM.

-Submitted by SCPNA Co-Secretary, Grant Grigorian