

Congress Park Neighbors
Monthly Board and neighbors meeting October 17, 2012

Vice president Tom Conis called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Board members present: Tom Conis, Maggie Price, Bill DeMaio and Wendy Moraskie. Absent: Brent Hladky. Neighbors present: Katy Wasinger, Steve Lester, Jenny Remack, Carrie Palmer, Jesse Morreale, Rachel O'Bryan, Lisa Bingham, Howard Deibeen.

--Approval of minutes: No minutes were presented for the September meeting as there was no Board quorum.

--Treasurer's report: none

--Membership: Tom reported that membership is slightly down. He suggested that we need another fall membership drive, perhaps something in partnership again with the Film Society. Maggie will contact the DFS.

--Newsletter: Wendy reported that the Winter 2013 issue is in production, that all articles are welcome for consideration.

--Crime: Rachel was at the District 3 meeting and reported that the "groper" has been caught; police are concerned with the toxic effect on investigating officers of mold in marijuana growing operations, and police assert that the amounts allowed to be grown for personal use are too great, meaning some of that inventory is ending up on the streets for illegal sale. She said she'd write this up for the newsletter.

--INC meeting: Maggie reported that the workshops at the most recent meeting were very well attended and provided good information for neighbors on how to start a business, and for neighborhoods on how to include businesses in their communities, among other topics.

--Colorado Boulevard Healthcare District (CBHD) redevelopment: Lisa reported there was no October meeting, since the developer, Fuqua, has gone back to the drawing board upon the withdrawal of WalMart from the project. Discussion about how to get neighbors involved in moving forward with The remaining project, instead of waiting for the next crisis. Lisa said she'd write that up for the newsletter.

--Botanic Gardens: Bill reported that new construction projects are beginning on the DBG grounds, including a large greenhouse. He also said there might be others interested in serving as CPN-DBG liaisons to the Board; i.e., Myles, Charles and another person.

--Colfax Corridor Connections: This is a large study of the feasibility of re-installing a streetcar system on Colfax. From the city's web site: "Colfax Corridor Connections was initiated in June 2012 and is expected to be completed in November 2013. Throughout the project, the City and its partners will seek public input to help identify the solutions that will meet the transit and mobility needs of communities that live, work and travel in the corridor."

--Sprouts at Colfax and Madison has broken ground and is slated to open about November 2013

--Floor was opened to neighbors to raise issues

- Steve Lester raised more discussion about the Hospital district and possible alternatives and getting involved with the design process. Lisa reiterated that the monthly CBHD meetings are open to the public, and that she reports on them to the Board at the monthly CPN meetings

- Jesse Morreale delivered a monologue centered on the recent suspension of his liquor license at his Colfax business, RockBar. He expressed his opinion that the City pulled his liquor license because of complaints by neighborhood groups. Neighbors and board members asserted that the city must have had a reason or reasons to pull his license, and that RNO's really don't have that level of influence.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Wendy Moraskie