

**CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES**

January 16, 2014

7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

7350 E. 29th Ave., Suite 300

Present: Councilman Andrew Amador, Nadine Caldwell, Lucia Correll, Diane Deeter, Brad Dodson, Laura Edler, John Fernandez, Scott Gilmore, Councilman Chris Herndon, Officer Sherikera Herrera, Damon Knop, Jeff LaMontagne, Steve Larson, David Netz, Dennis Piper, Carol Roberts, Harold Skramstad, Cindy Souders, **FC:** Tom Gleason, **SF:** Beverly Haddon, Angie Malpiede, **SCRG:** Kate Kramer, **SDC:** Tammi Holloway

Call to Order: David Netz and Lucia Correll called the meeting to order. Lucia asked if anyone with the CAB would assist with the minutes of the meeting. Kate Kramer volunteered. David thanked Tammi Holloway and the SDC staff for their continued service. Lucia and David recognized the hard work of Cheryl Cohen-Vader, Pennie Goodman and Tommy Bryant and wished them the best.

Co-Chair Report: Lucia talked about the agendas for the next few months. This meeting was to discuss a CAB report that was to be presented to the SDC board at their meeting the next week. The SDC board will not be able to have that presentation on their agenda, so Lucia proposed that the CAB discuss it at the February meeting. She will talk with the people who were presenting on Westerly Creek from Sand Creek to Lowry and ask if they can present in March or April. Tom Gleason mentioned that Heidi Majerik is ready to give a presentation on Filing 45. Lucia will look at the agenda for February to see if there is time for Heidi's presentation.

Partner Cities Updates:

City of Denver: No written report.

Councilman Herndon talked about the presentation by Forest City to the Land Use, Transportation, and Infrastructure Committee of the Denver City Council. He thanked Forest City for the interesting information. Chris will be attending the groundbreaking of the new for sale, affordable housing project being held today at Stapleton.

Brad Dodson noted that the design of Westerly Creek North Park (WCN) and the Prairie Uplands Park will start very soon. He announced that Denver Parks and Recreation (DPR) will build the parks, which will keep the environmental insurance policy in place. Lucia asked if both WCN and the Uplands will be built and Brad said that they were looking for funds to do both at the same time. Brad noted that there will be a Denver internal meeting on Section 10 (Stapleton north of 56th Avenue) tomorrow. There will be a financial update from the City and DURA at the end of the first quarter in 2014. Brad, Scott Gilmore, and Tom Gleason noted that they are all using the input from the neighbors to inform their design choices for WCN and the Uplands.

City of Aurora: No written report.

Nadine Caldwell did not have any information to share. John Fernandez talked about three major construction projects in Aurora. 1) The final design of the Montview bridge over Westerly Creek is proceeding and construction should begin this fall. 2) The Colfax

bridges over Tollgate Creek will be replaced starting this spring and work will continue for 18 months. There will be detours and lane closures. 3) The Peoria grade separation project over Smith Road is proceeding and may be open as early as July.

Commerce City: No written report.

Councilman Andrew Amador attended and gave an update on the new high school in North Stapleton later on in the meeting.

Stapleton Partner Updates:

- **Police Academy/Denver Police District 5:** No written report.
Officer Sherikera Heflin Herrera reported that burglaries are down significantly. Criminals are breaking into cars and taking garage door openers and coming back to rob homes later in other neighborhoods, so residents should be careful with garage door openers.
- **Stapleton United Neighbors (SUN):** No written report.
Damon has been involved in the Quebec Alternatives discussion. Angie Malpiede reported on the details of the last public meeting. One alternative (south on Quebec and north on Syracuse) is off the table. The city is discussing using their whole right of way along Quebec for a 2 or 4 lane road with an 8' sidewalk. Turn lanes at major intersections have been discussed as well as RTD bus pull-over areas. Angie has asked for the data on rental homes and owner-occupied homes and will share that data when she receives it.
- **Master Community Association:** No written report.
Diane Deeter reported that two new swimming pools will probably be opening up this summer – one (the one near J.C. Penney) will open for sure. MCA will be hiring 150 staff for the pools. Laura Edler asked if the pools are open to the general public and Diane said, “Yes for a daily fee.”
- **Bluff Lake Nature Center:** No written report.
Jeff Lamontagne reported on the Race for Open Space. In April 2014 it will be a 5K, 10K and half marathon. BLNC is having a raptor day for Earth Day this year and it will be on a different day than the RFOS.
- **Sand Creek Regional Greenway:** Written report submitted..
Kate noted that she is very pleased with the great news that DPR is moving forward on the WCN and Upland Prairie Parks. She said that the trail is still closed because of work that Metro Wastewater Reclamation District is doing. She told everyone to come to the Fotostream Photo Show on January 24 and asked Jeff of Bluff Lake Nature Center to talk about the spring Race for Open Space.

- **The Urban Farm:** No written report.
Harold Skramstad reported that the Urban Farm is in the middle of a big strategic planning exercise. They are very involved in the Stock Show currently. There will be 2 major events a year – a spring event and a fall event to be held on the first weekend in October.
- **Rocky Mountain Arsenal (RMANWR):** Written report submitted.
Cindy Souders, Head of Visitor Services, reported on the bison roundup, the numerous bald eagles that hang out at the Refuge, progress on the Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP), grant proposals with partners such as Groundwork Denver, ELK, and Mile High Youth Corps, and the Junior Duck Stamp program on February 1, 2014. Kate Kramer noted that Green Fire, a film about Aldo Leopold, will be shown on Saturday, March 1, and Sunday, March 2, at 2:00 at the Visitors' Center.

Stapleton Development Corporation (SDC) Update: No written report.

Tammi Holloway reported that at the end of December three of the six employees were laid off. New position descriptions are being written and will be discussed at the SDC board meeting next week. She will have a more complete report at the next CAB meeting. David Netz said that he, Tammi, and Alice Kelly talked with the lead archivist at the Denver Public Library about the treasure of documents about Stapleton that has been amassed over the years. The Library is very anxious to have the documents and David urged others who have key documents to give them to the library. Dennis noted that he is writing a history of parks at Stapleton.

Forest City Update: Written report submitted.

Tom Gleason passed out the presentation that he gave to the Land Use, Transportation, and Infrastructure Committee of the Denver City Council. He noted that it was a good opportunity to give an update on the progress at Stapleton. Bev Haddon noted that Stapleton is a major tax generator for the city – approximately \$46M thus far. Tom talked about the new properties coming to Stapleton – the assisted living/memory care facility; the new car wash. The new high school was discussed by Councilman Amador and Bev Haddon. The most recent designs will be distributed. Bev and Tom urged all residents to look at the Denver Public Schools web site for information about schools' boundaries and school choice.

Stapleton Foundation Update: No written report.

Bev Haddon saluted Tammi Holloway for all her hard work over the last few months. She has stepped up to do all and every task that needs to be done. She thanked Tom and Denver for the great presentation to the city council committee. Bev passed out instructions on how to watch the presentation on video. She applauded the new principals of the new high school (there is a community welcome on January 31) and Ashley Elementary.

Committee Reports:

Communications Committee: No report

Diane Deeter noted that the committee did not meet this month.

Design Review: No written report

Laura Edler reported that the committee reviewed a request by a storage facility. The next Design Review meeting is January 27 and Sentoria Hardiman is the SDC contact.

Housing Diversity: No written report

Damon Knop will be attending the groundbreaking this afternoon of the new for sale, affordable housing.

Parks Advisory Group: Written report submitted.

December minutes are in packet. Lucia Correll reported that the PAG meeting on Tuesday was upbeat and exciting. Civitas reviewed their parks plans for the area north of Northfield. WCN and the Prairie Uplands Park are moving forward rapidly. The PAG is discussing input in Section 10 planning. The PAG wrote a letter to SDC recommending that Dennis Piper and Tammi Holloway be appointed to the Project Management Team (PMT). David Netz asked if the TMA could organize a field trip to Valmont Bike Park in Boulder. The viability of a bike park on Section 10 was raised by Scott Gilmore. He noted that the city has invested in the bike park at Ruby Hill and that the cost of building and maintaining a bike park is tremendous.

Scott reported that a major tree planting will take place on Arbor Day on the Greenway. He asked for many volunteers. There will be another tree planting in May. He talked about the emerald ash borer and noted that no more ash trees will be planted in Denver. He also said that no new runs/walk/bike rides are allowed in Denver in 2014.

Transportation: No written report.

Angie has sunglasses and wrist bands available. On May 10, the TMA will hold the second annual NE WalkFest. On September 20 they will hold a bicycle ride; and on June 25, they are hosting a breakfast center for the Bike to Work Day.

Zoning and Planning: No written report.

Tom talked about 4 new projects that have come before Zoning and Planning, and which had been discussed earlier in the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 am.

The next CAB meeting is **Thursday, February 20, at 7:30 a.m.**, in the conference room – **but please confirm the location which will be noted in the pre-meeting packet.**

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