

City Park Alliance Board Quarterly Meeting Minutes
December 18, 2014

Members Present:

Gregory Davis
Brian Friel
Carolyn Lievers
Jacqui Shumway
Mike Fernandez

Business Discussed:

- a. **Annual Appeal Letter** Mike and Greg presented the final 2014 appeal letter with the minor changes made to the draft sent to members. Mike sent the appeal letter to the Alliance mailing lists. Next time we need to have a return address in the body of the letter to make donating seamless. As it stands recipients are directed to the Alliance webpage and donate button.
- b. **Zoo Road changes** The Board agreed that we will organize a public meeting seeking input about the proposed changes to what Parks and Recreation calls the “Boulevard” [the road at the back side of the Zoo]. Apparently it is proposed to become a two-way with parallel parking and landscaping. Presently heavy trucks have been using and it is in need to resurfacing. Also discussed was improving the back of the Zoo facing the Park. Members like ideals circulated by Georgia Garnsey. Greg reported discussing the Zoo’s plan (they have drawings) to get public input on its proposed designs for the back of the Zoo. Members were brought up to date about the City Council meeting on waste disposal facility at the Zoo and the press coverage of that. Greg updated the Alliance blog and posts about the Zoo issues on the Alliance website.
- c. **Story Hour:** – The Board thanked Jacqui for doing a great job with Story Hour in 2014. It was a great idea to involve Colorado children’s authors. Jacqui discussed on some ideas she has for 2015.
- d. **Membership:** We are actively looking for more Board members and will get the word out in the neighborhoods since that worked best last time. Both the Zoo and the Museum have designated staffers for the Alliance. So far the City has not assigned anyone to regularly participate with Alliance. The plan for 2015 will be to get information/proposals for the Park from the Zoo, Museum and Parks and Recreation monthly and report that information on the Alliance website. Specific Alliance members will be responsible to gather that information whether or not the entity representative attends the

Alliance meeting. Jacquie also suggests Alliance members attend neighborhood meetings and make a report on City Park. Members agreed to flesh this idea out at the next meeting before making any assignments or contacting neighborhood groups.

- e. **“Post Drunk or Sober”** is a new feature proposed for the Alliance website designed to engage people in the community about issues concerning the Park. Post drunk or Sober will give a brief factual background of an issue and then seek opinions about that issue. We hope to start a conversation with more of the neighbors living around the Park by inviting them to weigh-in timely, i.e., before a bulldozer shows up or a press release is issued or they hear about a fight to stop something.

- f. **Historic Designation:**
Carolyn and Mike reported that the exploratory committee will start meeting again in the New Year when everyone is back from parental leave. Historic Denver is arranging the meetings. The group of stakeholders is gathering data and information about how historic designation would work practically. For example one group is working on a draft application and assembling the supporting documents and another is brainstorming and contacting others nationally about fundraising. Also there is group reviewing the Civic Center process (warts and all) and the Master Plan for City Park (what has been done).

- g. **CPA and Mile High loop:**
Greg reported that the Alliance has a MOU for repair of the Mile High Loop – the Board voted to affirm the language of the MOU. Greg reported that some grading and resurfacing work has started. Greg and Mike will meet with Parks and Recreation as soon as possible to walk the trail to make sure the twelve areas of most concern are addressed. Members voted in October to contribute \$20,000 for this project.

- h. **A fundraiser for City Park** – The Alliance approved of Rick Acosta’s idea to develop a fundraiser for City Park with the Alliance as the financial intermediary. Members suggested funding a performance of the Symphony since Rick’s focus is performance art. More ideas and details will be discussed in the New Year.

Minutes submitted by Carolyn Lievers (1/3 /15).