UPCC Board September Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, 9/4/24
Kate's House

Attendees
Kate
Mike
John
Rosemary
Jess
Kristin

Agenda
Meeting called to order at 7:06

1. **UpWords**. Laura will send out a draft for everyone to review. Should be mailed out 3rd week of September. Printing turnaround time is about 2 weeks. Mike checking on bulk permit mailing. Will try and see what the cost savings is. Need to figure out if we can print the bulk permit stamp right on the newsletter. The permit needs to be used at least once within either 18 months or two years to remain valid. Hopefully, donations will get boosted after the newsletter goes out.

2. **Joel.** Joel went home to Memphis. He has 2 mobility proposals and the Board will ask him to present to us. Mike will put him on the agenda for November. One of his ideas is to increase density close to Light Rail Stations, near University off ramp. That location won't work as it's for water retention but there are a few other sites proposed. Joel is our INC delegate officially. (INC-Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation) The INC's role is to bring neighborhoods together to share ideas and get information about city-wide issues. They did not have a meeting last month.

3. **Parks.** Tyler to updates at General Meeting. Laura to put the "Urban Forest Strategic Plan Report" in next E-News. UPCC had a Tree Committee within the neighborhood.

4. **October General Meeting and Agenda.** Kate Young will be there as CRO. (Rob already scheduled) 6:30-8pm is the new meeting time.

   Agenda Topics:

   Kate Young (CRO) Observatory Park shooting might come up.

Jess to present survey results.

Denver Parks and Rec Update. Can we schedule someone to come? Harvard Gulch drainage. Jess and Tyler to provide some questions in advance to them. Dredge gulch? Discussion on park maintenance, including weeds, bathrooms, and the orange fence.Mention of a drainage study and potential improvements at Harvard Gulch. Need to address specific community concerns raised in the survey.

Historic Denver (5 mins). Rosemary will ask for Walking Tour volunteers

ADU (John Hesse) report out. John will point out where to get more info. John will let the audience know where the City is right now with its ADU proposal. (10-15 min) Discussion on the current status of ADUs in the city. Clarification that ADUs cannot be built without a rezoning until January 2025, possibly later. Suggestion to bring in a planning expert to provide more information at a later date.

Paul Kashmann (Yale bike lane and update on Dinosaur Park (20 mins)

Other related General Meeting business. Question about when can we get in to the school? Should we do a social hour beforehand? NO. Maybe for Spring?

Need to target getting UpWords out a week before the General Meeting to try and get people there. In the future, maybe consider having someone to talk about important ballot issues. Homelessness is an issue so maybe having someone coming to talk more about the things that affect the overall City. Information sessions. UPCC can help direct people to larger meetings that are happening in the community.

5. **Sing and Sleigh Update/Events.** DAS submitted info for UpWords. Got Legacy permit info from the City. Need to send directly to the point of contact. Have to submit by the end of Sept. If we made it a special/social event would that make the permitting process easier. Would that still qualify for sponsorship from Paul Kashmann? Waiting to hear back. Accelerated Schools donation? $500? Treasurer has $250 ear marked currently for end of 2024 expenses. Standing donation in the budget for $500 for Food Trucks. For Food Truck Nights, it was a good idea to pair the August night with the UPark school supply drop off night. August was the most well attended, but also the best weather. Trash clean up was a problem. Consider adding a 4th one in September maybe? As we get closer to Spring, let's revisit adding a 4th Food Truck Night for September or maybe a 2nd one in August due to less sunlight.

   Call for Vote for increasing donation to $500 for Accelerated Schools. Seconded. Unanimous. Passed.

   Let Elise know to increase budget in future to $500. Kate will write a thank you card. Need a check for $500 from Elise.

   John will volunteer to walk Sing and Sleigh line for donations. John will put together Holiday music for Sing and Sleigh.

6. **Zoning.** John listened to ADU presentation. Currently have to ask for a re-zoning permit.

Will be doing presentation at the October Meeting. Some interesting information included:

Current costs and logistics of prefab units:

- Minimum cost is $250,000.
- Sizes can range from 500 to 1000 square feet, depending on the lot size.
- Likely limited demand In UPark

Regarding Short-term rentals and owner occupancy:

- Units can be used for short-term rentals.
- Owners must occupy the property when applying for the permit but can rent out both units after moving away.
- Enforcement is challenging and often relies on community reporting.

Current policy on rentals:

- Short-term rentals require the owner to be the primary resident for most of the year.
- A license is required for short-term rentals.

7. **Membership.** New list of past 180 days. Approximately 39 properties. JEss and Kristin will put together Welcome packets and ask for help to deliver.

8. **Historic Preservation.** Committee is getting an award from Historic Denver on October 10. Additional properties are still eligible and the committee will keep talking to people to see if they want to be added to the district. Now there is a new proposal to increase tax credits to 100k. In 2027, it will be a rebate, so there's more incentive. For the "research your historic home" meeting, only 2 people out of 12 that RSVPed showed up.

   Property plaques for designated properties

   - Discussion on the city's discontinuation of providing plaques and the cost for homeowners to purchase them.
   - Mention of specific properties and the costs involved.

   Idea from Rosemary on doing 12 person salon ideas on certain topics. Another idea is to do a neighbor spotlight in UpWords and E-news.

9. **Secretary.** Kristin created a **"**Sign in Sheet" for the General Meeting. She has a notebook now with printed copies of notes for all of 2024 to bring to meetings for reference. We need to add event pics to google drive. Need a "Photos" folder. Kate will set up. Kristin will dump pics in.

10. **Treasurer.** Everything is looking on track to break even at the end of year or do better.

Motion to close meeting. Seconded. Adjourned 8:53pm.

Action Items

Mike to send the President's letter to Laura for UpWords. (Completed)

Mike to follow up with the contact for the nonprofit bulk permit to understand the savings and usage procedure.

Laura to send final draft of UpWords for review and then to send to the printer. (Completed)

Tyler to provide any park-related updates and confirm the attendance of a tree person for the general meeting.

Mike to confirm Paul's attendance and specific topics for the general meeting.

Mike to prepare the agenda for the General Meeting, including topics like Kate Young, the tree committee, ADU presentation, Historic Denver, survey results and Paul Kashmann.

Laura to include the Urban Forest Strategic Plan link in the next E-news.

Jess and Tyler to compile a list of specific park-related questions and concerns from the community survey to address in future meetings.

Elise to give Kate a $500 donation to Accelerated Schools to send along with a thoughtful letter of appreciation.

Elise to formalize adding the $500 donation to Accelerated Schools in future budgets.

Community Preservation Committee to help coordinate the purchase and installation of property plaques.

All help coordinate volunteers and decorations for the Sling and Sleigh event. (Ensure banners are present at all events to encourage donations.)

Jess and Kristin to complete Welcome Packets to new property owners.

Kate to add event photo folder in the Google Drive. Kristin will help populate.

Rosemary and Steering Committee members to accept the award from Historic Denver and have a photo taken for upcoming newsletter

Future Business

Schedule Joel to present his proposals at the November meeting.

Consider organizing small salons with experts as community engagement and potential fundraisers.

Consider adding a second food truck night in August if feasible.

Improve logistics for future community events, including more volunteers and garbage cans.

Find out the dates for Denver Days to inform the community about the opportunity for free block parties.

Invite a planning expert to discuss ADUs and provide more information to the community.

Consider organizing a future meeting focused on homelessness and housing affordability, potentially inviting Mayor Johnson or his representatives.

Explore the possibility of making the neighborhood event a social event to simplify the permitting process.