UPCC June Board Meeting

Meeting Information

- Date & Time: June 4, 2025 Meeting begun 7:09pm
- Location: Kate's House
- Attendees: Kate, Elise, Kristin, Mike, John, Jess

Meeting Notes

1. UpWords and E-newsletter planning and neighborhood engagement

- **Newsletter Content and Format**
  Discussion on the content and format of the upcoming newsletter, including the 'Good Neighbor' theme, zoning issues, sidewalk access, block party reminders, and inclusion of helpful tips and articles.

- **Zoning and Neighborhood Issues**
  Questions and clarifications about zoning rules for structures like treehouses, playhouses, chicken coops, and fences, including a specific case about a neighbor requesting a variance for a fence.

- **Sidewalk and Alley Access**
  Concerns raised about overgrown bushes and sidewalk accessibility, with suggestions for friendly communication and reminders to residents about maintenance responsibilities.

- **Noise Complaints and Construction Hours**
  A resident's complaint about construction noise from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. was discussed, including the process for addressing such issues with the city and builder..

- **Community Updates and Pending Developments**
  Updates on local developments, such as the U-Hills shopping area and the farmers' market, and the importance of keeping residents informed about changes even if outside strict boundaries.

- **Membership Incentives and Fundraising**
  Ideas for incentivizing membership dues, such as offering Dinosaur Park art prints and

thank you cards for donations of $50, $75, or more, and possibly including local business coupons in welcome packets.

- **Local Business Partnerships**
  Discussion about including coupons or perks from local businesses in welcome packets, with boundaries set for which businesses qualify.

Conclusion

1. Multiple articles will be included, such as a letter from the president, zoning information, safety reminders, and community updates. The 'Good Neighbor' theme will be central.

2. The council decided not to take a position on the latest variance request but to provide information about existing rules and conditions.

3. Preference for a friendly, informative approach rather than enforcement; reminders will be included in the newsletter.

4. Updates will be included in the newsletter or e-newsletter, with possible use of QR codes for more information.

5. Six Dinosaur Park prints will be offered to the first six people who donate $75 or more.

6. Only businesses within or adjacent to University, Evans, and Yale will be considered for inclusion of perks.

2. Neighborhood event planning, urban forestry education, and logistical coordination for upcoming community activities.

- **Inclusion of Information in E-Newsletters and Event Promotion**
  Discussion on whether to include certain information in the July e-newsletter and other communication channels, such as QR codes for membership at food truck nights and posts on the Facebook page.

- **Denver Urban Forestry Strategic Plan and Neighborhood Involvement**
  Review of the first-year strategic plan for urban forestry, focusing on increasing canopy, promoting stewardship, and recalibrating practices. The neighborhood is not in the priority zone for new trees but can focus on education and awareness.

- **Tree Watering and Care Guidance**
  Discussion about the amount of water trees need, differences between new and mature trees, and the feasibility of holding workshops or providing guides for residents.

- **Tree Selection Preferences**
  Residents shared experiences and preferences regarding types of trees planted by the city, with a desire for fruitless or non-seed-dropping varieties.

- **Water Table and Tree Survival**
  Curiosity about how large cottonwoods survive in the neighborhood, possibly due to the water table, and whether watering recommendations apply equally.

- **Event Planning: Food Truck Nights and July 4th Parade**
  Coordination of logistics for summer events: June 12, July 4, July 17, and August 21 including trash management, sound system, chair pickup, and setup.

- **Chair Pickup and Return Logistics**
  Detailed planning for picking up, transporting, and returning chairs for the July 4th parade, including coordination with the church

- **Barricades and Event Equipment**
  Discussion of barricade rental, payment, and insurance for events

- **Restroom Access for July 4th Event**
  Clarification on restroom availability, with porta potties in the park and locked public restrooms.

- **AED and Medical Support for Events**
  Securing an AED for the July 4th event and need for a qualified medical professional to operate it.

- **Communication with City and Other Organizations**
  Updates on contacting the church for chairs, city for barricades, and coordination with Masha from the Kashmann's office for event tabling.

- **Water Restrictions and Good Neighbor Practices**
  Discussion on including water restriction reminders and good neighbor practices in newsletters and Facebook posts.

Conclusion

1. Agreed to include relevant information in the e-newsletter and Facebook posts, with a focus on tree care and event reminders.

2. Neighborhood will focus on promoting tree care education and awareness, possibly through workshops or online posts.

3. Workshops may not be well-attended, but providing information online and during events is preferred.

4. Preference for fruitless or ornamental trees noted for future plantings.

5. Roles assigned for trash, chair transport, and setup; specific dates and times confirmed for events.

6. Plan to pick up chairs on July 2 or 3, store at a volunteer's house, and return on Monday, July 7.

7. Payment to be processed using card on file; insurance contact to be provided.

8. Porta potties will be available; public restrooms remain locked.

9. AED secured; need to confirm availability of a doctor or nurse.

10. Ongoing communication; Kashmann's office approved for a table at June food truck night.

11. Agreed to include reminders in upcoming communications.

3. Community Event Planning and Neighborhood Updates

- **4th of July Event Planning**
  Discussion about logistics for the 4th of July event, including setting up tents, PA system, cones, supplies, gear, and popsicle distribution. Consideration of decorations, bikes, and recruiting volunteers, especially from the PTA and parent community.

- **PTA and Parent Involvement**
  Exploration of ways to increase parent and PTA involvement in events, including reaching out to specific individuals and groups such as the dad group and new PTA members.

- **Yard Sale Update**
  Update on the neighborhood yard sale: 33 residents have signed up as of the meeting date, and advertising for the map has started. Residents can still sign up with officials as soon as June 1st.

- **Financial Status**
  Discussion of the organization's finances, including a recent transfer from PayPal and confirmation that funds are available.

- **Native Roots Opening**
  Notification that Native Roots, a marijuana business, is opening at 2431 South University, with the opening slated for June 20th. Discussion about the exact location and possible business neighbors.

- **Zoning Variance Appeal at 2222 South Adams**
  Discussion of a zoning variance appeal for 2222 South Adams regarding garage placement and proximity to an existing fire pit. The appeal is based on conflicting code interpretations and prior approval.

- **Chamberlain Observatory and DAS Relationship**
  Update on the positive relationship with Chamberlain and DAS, including plans for open house nights with telescopes to engage the community.

- **Volunteer Recruitment for Daytime Activities**
  Need to recruit two or three additional volunteers for daytime activities at Chamberlain, targeting those with flexible schedules or retirees. Plans to use Facebook and e-blasts for recruitment.

- **Welcome Packet Materials**
  Mention of preparing a card with Observatory open house dates and website information for inclusion in welcome packets.

Conclusion

1. Funds are available and the organization is financially fluid.

2. No action required from the group; the appeal appears legitimate and is being handled according to code.

3. Relationship is positive and will be promoted further.

4. Neighborhood event planning and coordination

- **Seed Packets and Welcome Packets Coordination**
  Discussed obtaining approximately 50 seed packets from the Seeders and Weeders group for inclusion in welcome packets, with delivery not needed until September. Communication with Seeders and Weeders indicated their willingness to contribute, and there was mention of a plant swap event and possible promotion to community..

- **Neighborhood Signs and Event Promotion**
  There was a discussion about whether new signs are needed for upcoming events, such as the garage sale or e-bike event. Kristin offered to post information on Facebook if provided by the relevant groups.

- **Observatory Tour for Silent Auction**
  Discussion of organizing a private observatory tour for up to 10 people as a UPARK elementary silent auction item. Discussion included the need for training to operate the observatory and the potential for themed nights.

- **Neighborhood Social Events and Singles Meet-and-Greet**

  There was an extended discussion about organizing a singles meet-and-greet event, possibly with RSVP limits (e.g., 20 people), and the idea of hosting at a bar or private home. The need for at least 6 committed attendees was mentioned.

Conclusion

1. Seeders and Weeders exploring providing seed packets for welcome packets, with delivery expected by September distribution.

2. The Observatory tour idea was positively received by all members..

Next Arrangements

[ ] Draft and circulate newsletter articles on 'Good Neighbor' topics, zoning, and safety.
[ ] Gather zoning and treehouse information for newsletter inclusion.
[ ] Include updates on local developments and events in the newsletter or e-newsletter.
[ ] Offer six Dinosaur Park prints to the first six donors of $75 or more.
[ ] Coordinate with Rosemary regarding Fourth of July event participation and book sales.
[ ] Clarify and enforce boundaries for local business partnerships in membership packets.
[ ] Include tree care and watering information in the next e-newsletter and Facebook posts.
[ ] Coordinate QR code for membership at food truck nights.
[ ] Consider online guides or posts instead of in-person workshops for tree care.
[ ] Assign volunteers for trash management at food truck nights.
[ ] Pick up chairs for July 4th parade on July 2 or 3, store at volunteer's house, and return on Monday, July 7.
[ ] Coordinate with the church for chair access using the back door and doorbell.
[ ] Process payment for Barricades using card on file.
[ ] Provide insurance contact information for event coverage.
[ ] Confirm AED operator (doctor or nurse) for July 4th event.
[ ] Contact Kate Young to confirm medical support for events.
[ ] Follow up with sign vendor for food truck events.
[ ] Masha from Kashmann''s office to set up a table at June food truck night.
[ ] Include water restriction reminders in summer or spring e-newsletters.
[ ] Sound system to be provided for June 12 food truck night; DJ Bishnois to test equipment in advance.
[ ] Set up tent, PA system, and cones for the 4th of July event.
[ ] Reach out to Eric for the Upark owl suit and to current panel and PTA members for popsicle distribution help.
[ ] Contact Josh Cashman and the dad group for volunteer support.
[ ] Continue advertising the yard sale and allow sign-ups.
[ ] Monitor the opening of Native Roots at 2431 South University on June 20th.
[ ] Recruit two or three volunteers for Chamberlain daytime activities via Facebook and e-blasts.

[ ] Prepare and distribute welcome packet cards with Observatory open house dates and website info.

[ ] Follow up with Seeders and Weeders on seed packets for welcome packets by September.

[ ] Potential organization of a private observatory tour for up to 10 people as a silent auction item, pending training.

[ ] Consideration of a singles meet-and-greet event with RSVP limits and possible venue selection.