

University Neighbors Neighborhood Association
July 22, 2020 Monthly Meeting, held via Zoom
Minutes prepared by Paul Bloede

In Attendance: Margy Kennedy, Katie Fisher, Steve Fisher, Paul Bloede

June Minutes Approval: Since the June meeting, Paul's initial version of the minutes was significantly edited by Sean Uyeda, and then that version was slightly edited further by Paul, resulting in a final document satisfactory to both Sean and Paul. Sean, absent tonight, submitted his vote ahead of time, via email, to approve this final June minutes version, and everyone present tonight voted unanimously to approve those minutes.

Treasurer's Report: UNNA bank balance remains unchanged at \$839.90. Margy will get a \$10 check to Paul, out of her own check stock, made payable to UNNA, as a donation to UNNA, before Monday, July 27th. She convinced everyone that approach is superior to the prior plan of having UNNA issue a check to Paul, and she assured us she hasn't lost the UNNA checkbook. Paul will deposit the check before August 1st, so as to avoid the monthly \$10 inactivity fee, that occurs after 6 months of no deposits.

(1) Civil Unrest in the City

Paul B expressed concern over violence against licensed pro-police demonstration, Sunday, July 19th, at Civic Center Park, by people at a non-licensed anti-police demonstration at the State Capitol. He stated that accusations have emerged, against police, for them allegedly having not done enough to prevent the violence, due to various theorized reasons.

Paul also expressed concern that the police use of force standards, current standards in themselves not enough to prevent significant vandalism at the state capitol during the protests after the death of George Floyd, and the funding of police, possibly now may be sought to be too greatly reduced, since results of City Councilman Paul Kashmann's investigation into the matter, have not yet been communicated to UNNA.

Paul expressed concern about the movement at the state level, with the governor appointing a committee to study renaming places and objects, and there being comparable efforts at the Denver, along with damage to statues throughout the city and state.

He stated that Paul K's assistant, Brent, recently said over the phone that both he and Councilman Kashmann approve of arresting and prosecuting all violators of the law during this unrest, including those who vandalize or topple statues, regardless of whom the statues depict. However, he said both of them hope that a civil discourse over statues and names will, at a minimum, result in the removal of Confederate names, symbols, monuments, etc.

Paul B therefore expressed concern over our neighborhood's historic South High School Rebels school and building (its architecture dating from the 1920s) being affected, only to be told the name has already been changed, without yet a replacement name, and without changing the colors or architecture. He was informed Parks and Rec has already removed statues for their

safety in the city, and that the police don't have the resources to protect them where they are, all until what Paul K advocates, civil discourse and resultant decisions on all these issues, can occur.

Everyone stated that the best conclusion is to accept everything for now, aforementioned, ahead of civil discourse and hoped for additional solicitation of individual people's feedback. The primary problem is the complexity of jurisdictions, with the Mayor taking over Civic Center Park administration from Parks & Rec Dept during the Covid crisis, the state having jurisdiction over the capitol, and arguably the feds having jurisdiction over Denver's federal government buildings, along with the possibility of the feds putting in security personnel in the city, despite mayoral and gubernatorial opposition, as in the examples thus far of Portland and likely Albuquerque and Chicago. Between Mayor, City Council, State Legislature and Committees, and Governor, there is so much jurisdictional and levels of government and internal bureaucratic lack of clarity on all these issues, up until this point, but clarification is still expected.

Therefore, all that UNNA can ever do is share information, anyway, which it encourages Paul Kashmann to do, in his newsletters, etc. but any conclusions, or even special focus, about the whole situation discussed in these Minutes point 1, needs to wait, until aforementioned intergovernmental clarity, findings, and announcements all occur. This is also the exact same position on all of these matters as currently espoused by INC (Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation).

(2) Yale Corridor Project and Report on Paul's Work with Coloradans for Safe Technology

No developments on Yale Corridor Project. Next public Zoom meeting is Monday, July 27th, at 1pm. CO4ST is developing talking points with which to contact all Colorado legislators, those vying for seats on the November ballot, and some federal politicians, to gauge and persuade them on anti-5G and pro-safe technology policies, along with establishing a study commission like New Hampshire's stellar model, on 5G safety issues, and along with promoting the cause of the minority of people in the United States and the world, who are electromagnetically sensitive.

(3) Website and Annual Meeting Issues

Margy will contact Steve Greenlee, to determine the correct URL for our website, none of us knew it offhand, to see that the requested color change and other changes have been made, and to discuss getting the site up and running, including getting regularly updated by one of us. A first step will be to get our Shutterfly website to refer to that url, and the first update in new website content needs to be that the annual meeting has been postponed indefinitely. On a side-note, someone has expressed interest in joining UNNA to Margy, and she will inform both Sean and Paul of that person's contact information.

(4) INC Report by Katie

INC has elected new officers. Their website is still denverinc.org, where much information can be found. Zoning and Planning (ZAP) committee met recently. Katie, on our behalf, joined the majority, in voting for 3 things. They all relate to the Group Housing Arrangement changes finalized by City and County of Denver (CCD) and set to be voted on by City Council in the fall. Items 1 and 3 approved, were that the bill before City Council will be too dense and complicated for a single vote; separate votes should at least be held on household rules and regulations and residential rules and regulations. Also, distribution of information on the changes, and the general group housing issue itself, especially to Latino and African-American portions of the city

was voted on (no 3 issue) as far too meager, in order for it to be viewed as legitimate, or at least ideal, at this point, for a vote on this matter by City Council as soon as this Fall.

Additionally voted in was ZAP's no 2 issue: to request CCD create an all-city-housing registry. Included in the newly-sought database would be, for each residential address in Denver, is it rental or owner-occupied? Who is the owner contact and the property manager contact (if different)? Number and names of renters apparently must be excluded/not collected. Air BNB & short-term rental licensing is already strict, and so it is time to bring all properties into a registry/database, in order to facilitate communications and streamline the provision of services, etc.

(5) Zoning and Police

In Sean's absence, there was no report on zoning. Police meeting was typical; vehicular robbery and bicycle theft crimes are the most numerous. So lock your car doors and remove valuables and any valet key. To stop bicycle theft, submit to the police a photo with you, the bike, and the bike's VIN; if recovered, that should be enough for them to return to you your bike. I-25 automobile racing, in particular its noise, remains an issue. Speeds of 115-117 mph have been recorded. After much discussion at police meeting, only call 311 if you hear the noise. If you can give vehicle visual details and approximate speed, you can call 911. Apparently therefore in neither case call non-emergency police at 720-913-2000. There is a state task force for which there is some emphasis on them adding to their membership, a representative from our neighborhood.

(6) University of Denver (DU)

DU is in a tremendous amount of uncertainty and financial strain, due to the ramifications of the Covid crisis. No one knows the answers to any of the following questions, come start of fall 2020 quarter: (a) must every student be in a single dorm room and so be forced to pay the higher fee? (b) The chancellor's earlier announcement fall quarter will be fully in-person has been subsequently significantly challenged. How can social distancing be maintained in classrooms, hallways of academic buildings, the dorms, and dining rooms? Must all meals be boxed and delivered? Must classes be online? To the extent classes are online, should students skip coming to the dorms, and if out of state, coming to Denver, even to save extra costs to them of being in dorms? What about foreign students who may be ordered to leave the country if there aren't in-person classes, per the recent presidential executive order? Will students be allowed to cook in their dorms, even though most of them have kitchens? (d) DU is suffering from no current and no yet definitely foreseeable revenue from Newman Center concerts, DU Bookstore sales, or Dorm revenues. (e) No fall athletic programs (varsity sports) will occur at DU. That hasn't been formally announced but heard through the grapevine is that DU athletes in fall sports have all been already told this. However, since they are viewed as starting later in the year, major DU athletic programs of hockey and gymnastics, and others typically starting later, have had no cancellation yet.