

**University Neighbors Neighborhood Association (UNNA)
Minutes of Regular Meeting: May 13, 2021
Minutes prepared by Paul Bloede**

Attendance:

City Councilman Paul Kashmann, Margy Kennedy, Sean Uyeda, Paul Bloede, Matt Cirulli, Melanie Cashen

Times and Dates: The meeting began at the scheduled start time of 6pm. The meeting ended at 7:17pm. The next monthly UNNA meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 10, 2021 from 6:00pm to 7:30pm, via zoom.

April Minutes Approval: Because two people present last meeting weren't present this meeting, and another person present at both meetings had not yet read Paul Bloede's initial version of the April minutes, approval of those minutes via email in the next few days was called for.

Treasurer's Report: As is the case most months, there was no activity in the bank account this month, and the bank balance remains \$864.90. It was agreed that UNNA's Treasurer would receive 4 blank checks from the President, to improve UNNA's flexibility in how it can make various necessary payments throughout the year, including reimbursements. He would also receive a personal check of the President's, to deposit, in order for the deposit to be counted as activity by the bank, such that the bank wouldn't charge UNNA the inactivity fee.

I. Topics Addressed to City Councilman Paul Kashmann, who provided written comments ahead of meeting, in some cases, and live comments in latter part of meeting, when he was able to arrive, also, in some cases; additional discussion among members present throughout entire meeting also reported

(1) Yale Corridor Study

City and County of Denver Government Affairs Specialist, Jason Gallardo, will be invited to either attend the June UNNA meeting or provide information ahead of time. The topic will be the status of the Yale Corridor Study, and the extent he expects will be considered, feedback officially provided to the City by two UNNA members.

(2) Concept of the City Educating Homeless People about the Need for Better Budgeting and More Realistic Spending Habits

City and County of Denver head of Office of Financial Empowerment, Jay Salas, will be invited to either attend the June UNNA meeting or provide information ahead of time. The topic will be the nature of his office, its accomplishments and where it might be in its life cycle. Also, to what extent is Salas following the bill in the Colorado Legislature this session which would create a similar office at the state level, what is the status of that bill, and what would change at the Denver office should the Colorado office be created, and what would the Colorado office do?

(3) Creation of a Rental Registry

Councilman Kashmann confirmed, last meeting, that the following outcomes should be benefits of a Rental Registry: (a) safe living conditions, (b) dignified living conditions, (c) removal of slumlord type operations, (d) reduction of cases of fires caused by unnecessarily delayed maintenance, on the part of the landlord, where the fire department can't identify the owner of the structure, and (e) quick and easy instant notification by Denver to all landlords of any changes to codes. It would be good in general to have a database including information allowing people to know which properties are rented out by whom to how many people.

Councilman Kashmann's pre-meeting written discussion of this topic:

"The registry bill passed. A broad-based stakeholder group will work this summer on creating the inspection checklist. It will be based on our existing municipal code requirements for minimum safe housing standards. The intent is NOT to overburden landlords. We are NOT asking that homes built in the year 1896 be brought up to 2021 standards."

(4) UNNA member's, and other immediate neighbors' so far unfruitful efforts to get City and County of Denver to thoroughly study Buchtel Boulevard Corridor, including constructing sound barriers against I-25 traffic noise that were originally planned for the corridor, but successfully lobbied against at the time, and so weren't constructed. All that has been committed is bike and traffic lane re-design. Note also: there is another open house on the Buchtel Corridor Thursday, May 20th, at 5:30pm.

Councilman Kashmann's pre-meeting written discussion of this topic:

"The City received its full city and county allotment [from President Biden's \$1.9 trillion spending bill] of \$308 million. I have asked that the Buchtel sound wall be included in that money. Not clear yet what will be allowed under the terms of the allotment. We'll have a better understanding in the coming weeks and months."

Councilman Kashmann's live, in latter part of this meeting, paraphrased comments:

He will have one-on-one meetings, in the next 10 days, with finance people, advocating for how to spend the \$308 million. He has already asked for Buchtel Corridor thorough study and sound walls to be included in the spending of the money, three times. He has been having these discussions with CFO Brendon Hanlon and Mayor's Chief of Staff Sky Stewart. He encourages the UNNA member who lives in Buchtel corridor and possibly his neighbors to write physical letters requesting same out of the \$308 million, copying Mayor Hancock, Brendon Hanlon, and Paul Kashmann, himself.

(5) Rules approved by City Council seemingly as is, on Consumption-of-Marijuana Business locations: last UNNA meeting concerns were expressed about 2nd hand pot smoke having to be inhaled by pedestrians nearby, possible violations of the Clean Air Act, and impracticality and danger of mobile vehicles allowing passengers to smoke pot.

Councilman Kashmann's pre-meeting written discussion of this topic:

"The locations where consumption is permitted are specifically for that purpose. Not allowed in restaurants or bars or any other venue. The only people who will enter those premises will be there for the purpose of cannabis consumption. The consumption permits require no smell outside the venue.

On the topic of commercial vehicles on the roads dedicate to allowing their passengers to smoke pot, the driver and front passenger seat must be separated from the rest of the vehicle, physically, and also be supplied with separate ventilation.”

(6) Bryan Wilson’s Attempt to Create a regional RNO, within police District 6, consisting perhaps of Rosedale, UNNA, University Park and Other RNOs. Existing RNOs to be allowed to continue to exist, otherwise unaffected

A UNNA member said they would attend, perhaps either a small number of meetings of this organization, or join the organization, keeping their membership and role in UNNA intact, and to inform UNNA about this “District 6 Neighborhood Coalition.” Said member said it would another vehicle with which to promote their views, on various sensitive or political issues, views not shared and/or not significantly taken up ever at UNNA.

(7) Colorado Legislature Bill 21-1191, prohibiting discrimination in Colorado against people who refuse to ever take the covid vaccines. Would City and/or Kashmann himself promote it?

Councilman Kashmann’s pre-meeting written discussion of this topic:

“The bill was killed in committee yesterday, so it is a moot point. While Denver had not taken a position, my guess is the city would have opposed it.”

Note: other sources have indicated to minutes preparer Paul Bloede, that the vote was 8 to 5 in favor of killing the bill, and discussion was good and reassuring to advocates for the bill, despite them losing the debate, per the actual vote, after the debate had ended as late as 11pm.

UNNA member objects to private university DU, and public universities like CU-Boulder and CSU, prohibiting unvaccinated students from returning to school. Another UNNA member says UNNA isn’t the right place to further discuss these matters; legal groups challenging vaccination requirements and vaccine passports will arise; perhaps the concerned UNNA member might join one of those.

(8) Getting City Council to Consider, all with respect to official New Hampshire Commission to study 5G and 4T technology: their 17-page basic report, possibly whole report, and special 60 minute interview video of one of the commission’s members. Goal would be to have implemented some of the 15 goals included in the NH 17-page basic report, which are meant to be in reaction to federal law which prohibits the prohibition of 5G or 4G networks altogether.

Councilman Kashmann’s pre-meeting written discussion of this topic:

“I have been told by our Attorneys that we are not challenging the state and federal legislation. I am involved in other issues and do not have the bandwidth to take a deep dive in this area.”

UNNA member concerned about 5G indicated their membership in a Colorado lobbying group against 5G and for safer technology. His commitment was unaffected by actually a reasonable comment, perhaps, by another UNNA member: that living with cell towers is the price one needs to pay, such as also enduring heavy traffic, greater noise, and air pollution, all if one prefers to live in a city/urban environment.

II. University of Denver

Stephanie O'Malley and Fatima Rezaie, of DU, have agreed to meet with Margy and one or a very small number of additional UNNA members. Margy will select the other UNNA members and schedule the meeting. This will be an opportunity to share our concerns about being incorporated sooner in some DU decision-making processes/even being consulted, and any other subtle considerations to improve the joint effectiveness to their constituencies of DU and UNNA.

III. No additional DU news/Police News/INC News due to absence tonight of the Fishers

IV. No new zoning items

V. Driving traffic to the UNNA Website, and asking Steve Greenlee about all of that, approved