

Minutes JPUN General Membership Meeting
1/5/10

Meeting called to order by Tom at 6:35 p.m.

Councilman Rick Garcia was present to discuss City Council activity regarding Medical Marijuana Dispensaries. The proposed regulations were passed on first reading last night. The second reading will be held next Monday, 1/11/10, at which time public comments will be heard. The proposed regulations address issues such as taxing, licensing, spacing of dispensary locations (proximity to schools, licensed daycare facilities and other dispensaries), hours of operation, etc. No sales tax licenses will be issued in a residential zoned area. The City of Denver first started issuing sales tax licenses on 12/1/09. The proposed bill requires any facility licensed after 12/15/09 to be subject to the new rules. There are currently 33 licensed dispensaries in District One; eight of these will be impacted the 12/15/09 effective date. Councilman Garcia reiterated that the voters in the State of Colorado approved the legalization of marijuana for medical purposes in 2000. He is supportive of the process currently being addressed by City Council. He also indicated that we may see some proposed legislation in the upcoming State legislative session.

Officers Valdez and Bloom presented the District One police report, and provided statistics for reported offenses in the Jefferson Park neighborhood for November 2008 and 2009. Currently, the biggest concern is the increase in tagging activity. Officer Valdez reminded the membership to report tagging by calling 311. It will be especially beneficial to report any suspicious activity, as the police need to catch the offender(s) in the process. It is believed that one suspect is responsible for the majority of tagging incidents in the neighborhood. There is no additional information to report on the church at 25th and Clay. The officers believe things have quieted down since the arrests reported at last month's meeting.

Tom mentioned that the City will clean graffiti from private property if a 'Graffiti Removal Authorization Form' has been completed by the property owner. This form is available on the City website at the following link:
<http://www.denvergov.org/DenverPartnersAgainstGraffiti/Forms/tabid/384249/Default.aspx>

A request was made for volunteers to pick up areas for newsletter distribution. Katie Sullivan and Cristen Couzens both volunteered to help.

Tom expressed appreciation for the benefits garnered by our community activities. The recent compromise worked out between developers Allied Real Estate and the Brinkerhoffs regarding the vacation of Alcott Street between Speer Blvd and 26th Avenue is an excellent example of how the voice of the

community can make a difference. He encouraged everybody to stay informed by signing up for email communications.

The holiday party at Hotel VQ was a huge success. Much appreciation to the Hotel for their hospitality and a big thank you to Esther Meehan and Joan Bondy for making this event happen.

Lauren Brockman from Allied Real Estate spoke about the compromise reached between his company and the Brinkerhoffs as respects the proposed vacation of Alcott Street between Speer Blvd and 26th Avenue. A Memorandum of Understanding between the two developers will spell out details of the vacation and subsequent creation of a private street in the subject location. The private street will allow vehicle access as desired by the Brinkerhoffs, but will also allow features desired by Allied, which would not normally be approved for a city street, i.e., narrower width, more tree lawn, etc. Lauren presented a graphic illustration of what the proposed development will look like. According to the MOU, the Brinkerhoffs will assist Allied in the process to obtain vacation of Alcott Street between Speer Blvd and 27th Avenue. A temporary easement will be provided to the City of Denver, which requires Allied to pull a building permit by 1/1/2015. Alcott Street between 27th and 26th Avenues will be vacated at a later date when the Brinkerhoffs begin the development of their project. The private street will be maintained by the developers.

No official Treasurer's report was available. Tom indicated that donations totaling \$22 were received at the holiday party.

Tom mentioned that this is the beginning of a new year with new board members. Plans for the upcoming year will be made at a board meeting to be held on January 23rd. Some events to plan for the upcoming year include Jefferson Park Day in May and National Night Out in August.

Katie Sullivan from Groundworks Denver indicated that her organization will be going door to door to get input from neighbors for ideas on how to improve the community.

Concerns were expressed about poor lighting in the neighborhood and how this can provide an environment conducive to tagging activity. The concerned neighbor asked about the proper forum for addressing these concerns to the appropriate authorities. Tom indicated that concerns should be addressed to the City, with a CC to JPUN. JPUN can provide additional letters of support, which may give more weight to consideration for enhancements. Tom mentioned the response received to community concern about poor lighting in the park. EXCEL Energy has agreed to work with Denver Parks and Rec to install additional lighting, although this has not yet occurred.

Concerns were also raised about the poor quality of neighborhood streets, in particular, Decatur between 23rd and 25th. A question was raised about how to request repaving of this street. At one time, a schedule for planned repaving was available. It was suggested that we find out if a current schedule exists and if so, publish this on the JPUN website. Lauren Brockman stated that this problem is not unique to the Jefferson Park neighborhood, but is a problem city-wide.

Both of the above issues can be addressed by reporting them to the City at the following website:

<http://www.denvergov.org/PropertyConcerns/ReportPropertyConcern/tabid/432924/Default.aspx>

Meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.