

Neighborhood Advisory Committee to Denver Botanic Gardens (NAC) Meeting Minutes

TYPE OF MEETING	Quarterly Meeting
DATE, TIME, LOCATION	March 7, 2011 5:30pm Waring House
FACILITATORS	Jim Hannifin, NAC Co-Chair / Art Blomberg – NAC Co-Chair
NOTE TAKER	Dean Bartell, NAC Secretary/Treasurer
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVES	Mayoral Neighborhood Trustees: Roger Armstrong, Beth McCann, Morgans: Jay Kenney, Charles Wellso CHUN: Roger Armstrong, Debra Adams East Cheesman: Steve Lang, Dean Bartell, Timothy Hepp 7th Ave: Dan Braun, Jim Hannifin, Svein Reichborn-Kjennerud Community Gardeners: Linda Smoke, Congress Park: Bill DeMaio, John Sutherland Denver City Council District 10: Nora Kimball
DBG ATTENDEES	Brian Vogt, CEO AJ Aljinovich, Operations Director Jennifer Riley-Chetwynd, Dir. Of Marketing, Pub Relations and Special Events Sarada Krishnan, Director of Horticulture
OTHER ATTENDEES	Caroline Schomp, CHUN Michael Henry, CHUN

AGENDA

Old Business

1) November 1, 2001 Meeting Minutes: Approved

New Business

1) Brian Vogt – New Staff Introduction:

- Robin Doerr no longer w/ DBG
- Jennifer Riley-Chetwyn is new Dir. Of Marketing, PR and Special Events

2) North Lot

- DBG installing several dog waste signs and containers
 - Some observations were provided that park being used as “off-leash” dog area at times.
 - DBG will look into possible benches. Depends on budgeting.
 - No lighting or CCTV needed based on East Cheesman feedback
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3) Waring Green

- Waring Garden Report prepared by Jay Kenney (See Addendum). Jay verbally summarized:
 - New plan addresses majority of concerns
 - Several open issues remain: parking, zoning, events, use
 - Zoning – non-conforming use converting from parking to open space: Zoned R0 (may be different under new Zoning Code)
- Design Concept provided by DBG – Based on neighborhood input, shifted from a “Green” to a “Garden”
- DBG Schedule
 - NAC feedback (project does not require “NAC approval” – March 2011)
 - Board Approval – March meeting
 - Construction – Q3/Q4 2011
 - Completion – Spring 2012
- Process – Brian Vogt
 - DBG submits plans to the city
 - Wording would provide clarity on usage
 - New design does not lend itself to “events”
- Motion
 - ***“General concept approval of design contingent upon review of limitations as defined in a document to be prepared and sent out to NAC based on recommendations of the NAC Waring Garden Committee.”***
 - Following items specifically discussed:
 - Parking does not impact neighborhood
 - Space usage is not intended to be “event based”
 - Any activity that does occur should “size controlled”
 - NAC will receive language prior to March DBG Board meeting
 - NAC will have the opportunity to provide further feedback to DBG prior to the March Board meeting
- Michael Sutherland offered assistance to DBG on the land use issue since he has professional experience in this area.

4) Large Events

- DBG restated that agreement allows for 17 amplified events annually, but only 15 total events are scheduled
- Concerts
 - Swallow Hill will provide line-up and concert management
 - Twelve concerts for the season
- Other Events
 - Gardens, Grapes and Hops – Music will be more Jazz/Classical
 - Hispanic Chamber
 - Fete de Fleur
 - Derby Event
 - Moved to Glendale due to conflict w/ Plant Sales
 - DBG most likely will not allow the event in the future
- DBG will attempt to have all dates to city to get non-concert events included in restricted parking dates on signs
- Suggested that signage be posted when garage is full
- Free Days – DBG will bring in contractor to assist when necessary
- Blossoms of Light – Member weekend will be eliminated to spread the member attendance throughout the season

5) Community Gardens

- No current issues
 - There is a waiting list for plots
 - Neighborhood relations are good at this point
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6) NAC Sponsored Mayoral Forum

- Wednesday, March 30th @ Mitchell Hall (Capacity 450)
 - 6:30 – 7:00pm Candidate Mix and Meet
 - 7:00 – 8:30pm Forum
- City Certification of Candidates: Friday March 11th
<https://www.denvergov.org/elections/ForCampaignsandElectedOfficials/MunicipalCandidateFilings/tabid/438456/Default.aspx>
- Additional Sponsorship
 - League of Women Voters (Assistance with Forum process)
 - Channel 8 - Denver TV (Not Live - Will tape and broadcast periodically)
 - Neighborhood/Community Associations
 - Country Club
 - South City Park
 - Cherry Creek North
 - Capitol Hill Ministries
- Professional Moderator will be engaged (Potential – Beverly Weaver)
- NAC agreed on maximum of 8 candidates
 - Agreement that more than eight would diminish the effectiveness of the forum
 - Five early “top” candidates were invited and have agreed to participate (Boigon, Linkhart, Hancock, Mejia, Romer)
 - Three additional will be invited based on certification and financial filings being complete
- Neighborhood Associations Questions
 - Submit to Jim Hannifin by March 18th
 - Will assess w/ League of Women Voters to help categorize
- Forum Logistics – Michael Henry provided an overview/document that will assist in making the forum effective. See addendum to minutes
- Brian Vogt will kickoff the forum by introducing the sponsoring groups

7) Neighborhood Trustees – Roger Armstrong / Beth McCann

- 2010 was a financially successful year for DBG
- Membership is in excess 29,000 households which surpassed goal

8) DBG Report

- Neighborhood Programs (See Addendum for detail)
 - Plant of the Year
 - Front Yard Makeover
 - Streetscape Makeover (York St between 11th and 12th Aves)
- Exhibit – “Native Roots Modern Form” – Allan Houser will be installed throughout the gardens
- Public Art / Greenhouse West Patio – No plans at this point.
- Chatfield Visitor Center has been approved
- COP Payment \$1.1M made two months early in November
- Cheesman Gate:
 - Brainstorming session occurred w/ neighborhood representatives.
 - Would be a member accessible entrance/exit
 - Future meetings to occur

Meeting adjourned at 6:45pm

Next Meeting: June 6, 2011 @ 5:30pm - Waring House
