



Happy Holidays Neighbors!

Jeff Baker, CPN President

With warm weather through most of November, I wonder if December will feel more like winter. What a strange and difficult year 2020 has been, and I know we all hope 2021 will be much different. I hope your holiday season is great, although different, and we can look forward to bigger family time next year.

Curtis Park Neighbors Annual Holiday Potluck and Members Meeting will not be held in person this year, but we will hold a virtual members meeting. That meeting will take place on December 7th, at 7:00 pm, and can be accessed virtually (see info in sidebar).

Even though 2020 brought us a pandemic and completely changed the way we live, Curtis Park Neighbors was able to get much accomplished in 2020. I would like to note some of the projects we worked on and completed.

One of the most visible pressures that Curtis Park and Denver witnessed was the exponential increase of people experiencing homelessness. The Homelessness Solutions Committee spent thousands of hours on the street, in our parks and public spaces, and in multiple weekly meetings discussing solution based efforts to address this crisis. Thank you to these volunteers!

The Five Points Housing Option Team, which is the “on the street” team of the Homeless Solutions Committee, worked

to maintain Sonny Lawson Park, the Blair-Caldwell Library and other areas of the neighborhood. These “on the street” teams were deployed on Wednesday and Sunday mornings. Much of this time was spent doing outreach and working with these camps alongside outreach workers from St Francis Center.

Other pilot Programs, like the S.T.A.R. program were developed to help address this crisis people on the streets are experiencing. We worked to develop relationships with these workers to help people who need it most.

We also worked on addressing the media to show the reality of the current homeless crisis and its effects on both the un-housed and housed. The current situation is not good for anyone living in our city whether you live in a house, or on our streets.

CPN worked with Parks and Rec on the development of two new plans for upgrades to both Mestizo-Curtis Park, and Stout Street Children’s Park. We should see the changes implemented in the next 24 months.

John Hayden and Keith Pryor were able to have another very successful Ice Festival, and socially distanced Great Pumpkin in October. Thank you both for continuing to run these family oriented events!

Continued on Page 2

Curtis Park Neighbors Meet Thursday, November 5th 2020

CPN Annual Members Meeting, December 7th,
7:00pm via Zoom Click [here](#)

Or enter in your browser: [https://us02web-zoom.us/j/3572396571?pwd=WWdWd-VZQsXR6bGo2TmZzckxuL0NGZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3572396571?pwd=WWdWd-VZQsXR6bGo2TmZzckxuL0NGZz09)

Meeting ID: 357 239 6571

Password: CPN-2020

- Use your real first name as an attendee!
- Stay on mute unless you are speaking
- Post questions in the chat
- Be kind and patient with others

CPN Annual Members Meeting
December 7th, 7:00-8:30

Next CPN General Meeting January 7th, 2020

**CPN Board Meeting
December 21st-6:00-7:00pm
Location and Format T.B.D.**

Neighbors (continued)

We worked through the Women's Bean Project rezone, and through a much-appreciated process with them we arrived at the best available zoning for this building. We are happy to have had the Women's Bean Project work so closely with us and to give us the opportunity for input to have a voice in the final rezone.

CPN Design Review Committee, the Community Advisory Committee, and DHA worked closely to develop a system for the lots that came available across the street from Mestizo-Curtis Park and the others facing Stout Street between 30th and 31st streets. A system was developed in order to produce the best designs of these new homes to fit into the character of our historic neighborhood. Curtis Park is a Landmarked District and the design has to be reviewed and approved by both CPN Design Review and Denver Landmark Commission. These reviews are still continuing as well as other infill, additions, and ADUs. Thanks to Keith Pryor, and all the folks involved in this process as this is a tremendous amount of work and it benefits all to keep our neighborhood preserved and gently add the new to it.

A dream of many of the people who have lived in the neighborhood for decades, as well as the newcomers, the Greyhound maintenance facility and parking lots have been sold. This came to us with short notice, and we did not have any formal controls like Landmarking, or a rezone, but we made every effort to propose what we wished to be built there. At this time we still do not know who the property is under contract with, but once we know we will encourage a development that benefits the community.

The Flagstone Committee was able to sell back salvaged flagstone and many sidewalks were repaired in the neighborhood this year. Thanks to those who repaired their sidewalks with the original stones that were laid down on our sidewalks 130-150 years ago. These "new" up-cycled sidewalks should last another 100 years if not more. CPN still has a good stock of flagstones left, so please contact me at 970-759-4023

if you would like to inquire about repairing you historic sidewalk.

CPN Branding Committee was awarded the Action Fund grant to add more of the cast iron Historic Curtis Park signs into additional locations in the neighborhood. COVID has stalled this, but we anticipate it being revived again in 2021 to bring this project to fruition. Thanks to Lindsay Schneider for heading this up!

CPN and the Five Points BID, developed a stronger relationship and will continue to work on projects together as our neighborhood and the Five Points BID are directly connected. We really appreciate the collaboration that has developed to work on neighborhood efforts together.

In the spring, Ben Reisler, formed Curtis Park Meal Train with CPN to help local restaurants through the downturn in business they were experiencing from COVID. This was a delivery service that selected a different restaurant each week, delivering meals on Friday evenings. Ben has moved to the Netherlands, but thanks Ben for this great program you started!

This will be my last President's newsletter article, as my term has ended. I will still remain active with CPN, by participating in some of the numerous committees we have. Thanks for your support over the years and the board will continue their hard work to make Curtis Park be the best place to live and raise your family. Thanks everyone!

Other Board Exits

Lindsey Sullivan and Andrew Spinks are also leaving the board this year. Lindsey has moved out of the neighborhood, but we say thanks for your service and good luck in your new home, not too far away. Thanks Lindsey!

Andrew Spinks has served on CPN board for 9 years and has termed out. Andrew has been a constant asset to CPN, with his wisdom, advice, and by helping us address the homelessness crisis. Thanks for your enduring contributions to CPN!

Trees Need Help

Curtis Park Neighbors Tree Committee

We have such beautiful trees in our neighborhood, AND they need our TLC through our often very dry winters. This year will be a La Nina year, and although it will be nice to have warmer weather, it also means that we will have less precipitation.

"...having prepared their buds against a sure winter, the wise trees stand sleeping in the cold."
William Carlos Williams

Link to this superb article, **The Importance of Winter Tree Maintenance** by Michael Swanson, City Forester, Denver Parks and Recreation, <https://beasmartash.org/2020/11/16/the-importance-of-winter-tree-maintenance/>, to see important tips for winter tree care. Here are some highlights from the article:

- Trees need water year-round, especially in our arid climate.
- For every inch in diameter, trees use 20 gallons of water per week.
- A new tree will need focused watering atop the root ball and then throughout the rest of the planting area.
- Portions of Southern or Southwestern-facing trees are subject to sun scald.
- Learn more about winter tree care by watching the third episode of *Water, Trees, Life*: https://youtu.be/Ff3wqWv6R_I

Please Support CPN

Please consider a donation to support the Curtis Park Neighbors and this newsletter. You can make your tax deductible contribution online by visiting squareup.com/store/CurtisParkNeighbors.

Music Helps Communities Thrive

El Sistema Colorado continues virtual programming in the Curtis Park Neighborhood! In October 2019, El Sistema Colorado (ESC) began programming in the King Trimble Center and is thrilled to be partnering with the Curtis Park community at the first hub location. ESC is an intensive after-school music program focused on using the music ensemble to teach students valuable life skills through the joy of music.

At El Sistema Colorado, we believe that music helps communities thrive, so we want to play our part by providing equitable access to the many benefits of music for Denver's youth through totally free music education programming. ESC teaches pre-kindergarten through 12th-grade students life skills using the music ensemble offering both choir and string instruments (violin, viola, cello, and bass). Programming is available five days a week, Monday through Friday, and is completely free for families.

We are preparing to begin our Winter programs and are looking specifically to recruit students who are either older beginners or hold previous musical experience on the cello, violin, viola, or bass. All of our programs will continue to be fully virtual for the foreseeable future.

Are you interested in getting involved, wanting to make a donation, or curious to learn more about enrolling your child?

Call Music Education Coordinator, Jamie Wolf at 720-722-1372 or email questions to info@elsistemacolorado.org. Visit our website for more information: www.elsistemacolorado.org

Thanks for the Tulips!

Curtis Park Neighbors would like to say THANKS SO MUCH to Swart & Company for their generous donation of 2500 bulbs to Sonny Lawson Park and other planting beds in surrounding areas. The bulbs will ensure a beautiful spring showcase for 2021 in our beloved neighborhood. A thank you goes out to all the volunteers as well, who helped get these bulbs in the ground!



The Five Points Holiday Stroll will take place on December 5th from 3-6PM.

Local businesses will be offering treats while people work their way up and down the street checking out local businesses. We will also be celebrating the lighting of the trees in the heart of the district. In addition to lighting holiday lights and treats, there will be small, socially distanced, activities for groups and families (if COVID conditions allow). Ticket information, for the small group activities, can be found at FivePointsBID.com



ADU4U

YOUR MODERN CARRIAGE
HOUSE BUILDER

Are you ready to build your
accessory dwelling unit?

So are we.

youradu.com
970-759-4023

FIVE POINTS HOLIDAY STROLL

Bring your family and friends to Five Points for festivities!
Stroll the Welton Street Corridor, enjoy activities and treats, and donate a pair of socks in order to collect stamps and be entered to win a prize.

**Saturday, December 5
3 - 6 PM**

- Holiday Storytelling
- Treats & Drinks
- Gingerbread House Making
- Warm Sock Drop-Off
- Cookie Decorating
- Kinara Making (for Kwanzaa)

Check the website for latest info & register for activities
www.FivePointsBID.com
FivePointsBID@gmail.com

Masks and social distancing strongly encouraged.
Activities contingent upon most recent COVID-19 safety regulations.

Resources

Denver City Government
www.DenverGov.org, or call 3-1-1

Blair-Caldwell Library
2401 Welton Street, (720) 865-2401
Mon./Wed.: Noon – 8 p.m.
Tue./Thu./Fri.: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Sat.: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Denver City Council
District 9
Candi CdeBaca, (720) 337-7709
candi.cdebaca@denvergov.org
Elbra M. Wedgeworth Municipal Building
2855 Tremont Place, Suite 201

At-Large
Councilwoman Robin Kniech
Robin.Kniech@denvergov.org
(720) 337-7712
Councilwoman Debbie Ortega
Deborah.Ortega@denvergov.org
(720) 337-7713

Denver Public Schools
(720) 423-3200, www.DPSK12.org

Homeless Outreach
Police non-emergency: (720) 913-2000

Mayor's Neighborhood Liaison
Shawn Johanson, (720) 913-1311

Police
Emergencies: Dial 911
Non-Emergency: (720) 913-2000
Dist. 2 (north 25th Street) RSO:
Hana Ruiz (720) 913.1089
hana.ruiz@denvergov.org
Dist. 6 (south 25th Street) RSO:
Teresa Gillian (720) 913-2908
teresa.gillian@denvergov.org
Austen Munson (720) 913-2906
austen.munson@denvergov.org
Elected RTD Representative
Shontel Lewis, (720) 935-8284
shontel.lewis@rtd-denver.com

Trash Pickup - Overflow Pickup
The next Large Item pickup is
Jan 25th to 29th
For free appliance collection, call
800-479-4159.

Xcel Energy
Electric Emergency/Power Outage
(800) 895-1999
Gas Emergency / Gas Odor
(800) 895-2999

To report non-permitted exterior work
to Landmark email: abigail.Christman@denver.gov or call
(720) 865-2908.

Short Term Rental Enforcement
Brian Snow (720) 865-2750



Support Local Small Businesses

With the holidays right around the corner, please support the many small businesses in our neighborhood for your holiday gift giving. This has been an extremely difficult year for everyone and many of our local businesses are suffering. Many of these have become staples in our daily lives and we want them to stay in the neighborhood.

Thank you to all the neighborhood volunteers! We couldn't do this without you!

Neighborhood Internet Resources

CurtisPark.org

Provides a wealth of information: History of CP, info in Curtis Park Neighbors, info for ALL homeowners in the historic district, home alterations, ADUs, home styles, tax credits, and a very comprehensive resource list of special products, services, links, and so much more!

Curtis Park Neighbors on Facebook

[www.facebook.com/groups/curtisparke/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/curtisparke)

Curtis Park Neighbors "Announce" Group
Just the basics! We encourage everyone to join this e-mail group. Receive the Curtis Park Times & special announcements. To join, send an email to: Curtis-Park-Neighbors-Announce+subscribe@googlegroups.com

Curtis Park Neighbors "Notices" Group
Super-detailed! Receive all of the notices that the City and other organizations send to Curtis Park Neighbors. Zoning notices, liquor license applications, etc. all come through here. To join, send an email to: CurtisParkNeighbors+subscribe@googlegroups.com

Curtis Park Design Review Committee
Receive updates on new development and building modifications under review by the Denver Landmark Commission. To join, send an email to: cpn-drc-announcements+subscribe@googlegroups.com. Questions about projects, email Keith Pryor: KPryor13@gmail.com.

DHA / Curtis Park Community Advisory Committee
Provide feedback and guide the Denver Housing Authority's plans for their property holdings in the Curtis Park area. Write to: CPN-DHA-CAC+subscribe@googlegroups.com

Curtis Park Safety and Security Group
Collaborate on finding solutions to current and long-term safety and security topics in the neighborhood. Write to: cpn-security+subscribe@googlegroups.com

Curtis Park Neighbors is an officially incorporated non-profit neighborhood organization bringing our neighborhood together to share in preserving the past and future of Curtis Park. We welcome all neighbors in Curtis Park and encourage participation in Curtis Park Neighbors and in the life of the community. Please pass along this newsletter and bring a neighbor to the meetings!

The spirit of the *Curtis Park Times* is to communicate information about topics and concerns of our neighborhood. The opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of Curtis Park Neighbors. To provide newsletter articles or place advertising, contact us at cpn-newsletter@googlegroups.com or (720)273-0623. The next newsletter deadlines are Dec. 23rd for ads, and Dec. 26th for articles.

Special Thanks To
Hugh and Lynne Brown, Gerald Horner and Jeff Baker for newsletter content. Thanks to Hope Communities and Mile High United Way for donating our meeting space, to Therese Rasmussen for coordinating newsletter distribution, and many thanks to neighbors assisting with newsletter deliveries.

CPN Board of Directors
Jeff Baker (President), Patti Smith, Ben Mendenhall (Treasurer), Paul Davidson, Robbie Hobein (Secretary), Andrew Spinks, Ryan Cox, Beth Bianchi, Lindsay Schneider, Lindsey Sullivan and Randy Vetter. Contact the CPN President by writing to: jeffbakercurtisparke-denver@gmail.com or call (970) 759-4023. Write the CPN Board at curtis-park-neighbors-board@googlegroups.com.

