

## **Walnut Hills Civic Association**

### **ANNUAL MEETING - MINUTES**

**March 13, 2025 – 6 pm (in person Castlewood Library)**

1. Call to order: 6:02pm
2. Attendance (Five members constitute a quorum.)  
In attendance: Randy (1), Julie (6), Jenny (10) and Jeff (9), Myra (4), Barb (8), Aaron (11)  
Excused Absent: Mark (2), and Tyler (7)  
Absent: Mike (3), Donna (5)  
Introduction of board members  
Guests – 13 community members

3. Annual Meeting Presenters:

#### **Paula Hillman – Centennial YMCA Center of Generations**

Community center sponsored by the City and run by the YMCA (Tracks with virtual contracting style) serves older adults (daily 10am-3pm) and teens (daily 4pm-8pm or 9pm). Program in place 2 years in June. Free of charge for Centennial residents and YMCA members – there is a slight fee for exercise classes. Paula left schedules for the adult classes for the neighborhood. Activity examples are:

- CEN GEN story slam (partnering with the clue room) pre selected topics. This month is “Soundtrack of your life”. Show how story telling makes connections and practicing story telling builds skills.
- Partnering with Arapahoe Library and does programming “Book Talk”. Gives synopsis of 6-8 books. People are able to check books out then and there without wait list.
- Exercise and other activities include: Sliver Sneakers, chair yoga, mahjong, active minds, Spanish and German with friends, CSU extension presentations, poker game (3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month), Bunko (4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month)
- Youth activities include: cooking foreign foods with youth coordinator, video games (old and new).

Located at Streets of Southglenn 6972 S. Vine Street, Suite 366 (at the far east end).  
Contact info on calendar.

### **Nichole Wilhelm – Arapahoe Library District**

Nichole will email all the information for distribution. 8 community libraries, one at jail and one library on wheels. In addition to physical and digital materials, provide hot spots, laptops, assistive devices, etc. Programming and events =1,000 a year across the library district. Story times are the 'bread and butter'.

Opportunities at CASTLEWOOD (sign up online or in person) include:

1. Seed library of the month in April – flower herb and veggies (while supplies last) last year handed out 35,000 packets
2. Read and connect – 1<sup>st</sup> meeting April 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm for adults – an hour of quiet reading and socialization and light refreshments
3. Teen maker night – 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every month (12-18 years) focus on crafts and other activities April 13 make your own paper and seed bombs for earth day
4. 2<sup>nd</sup> Thurs of the month “book buddies” ages 5-8 with games and crafts. Next event April 10<sup>th</sup>
5. Kids bookmark contest is currently going on – ends end of April kids 5-12 (20 prize winners)
6. Snack-tivities 3-5 pm M-F can have 2 snacks while enjoying the library
7. Makers Space – screen printing class and upcycling glass and porcelain. Open 1-6 M-F and by appointment on the weekend. Can be used by anyone.

### **Ryan Thompson – City of Centennial Neighborhood Services**

Created in 2020 to engage with residents. Centennial is a city of neighborhoods – want to make connections between neighborhoods. Created community grant program - starting April 1 can apply for \$500 small grant for block parties, etc. Creates momentum and community connections – plants seeds towards larger \$10,000 grant to do community improvements. Large grant cycle is open now (monument signs, clubhouse improvements, etc.). Centennial movie night is available – residents can reserve the kit with screen projector speaker, etc for outdoor movie night – deposit for equipment. Movie night available starting April 1. The City has 2x kits – reserve early. Code compliance and animal services are contracted out and Ryan Thompson oversees both of those.

#### **Community questions:**

- a. Peculiar wire hanging from the telephone post. Sagging and in the trees. Hasn't been able to get anyone to help with that. Multiple neighbors have had similar issues and had to resolve the issue themselves.
- b. Trees: have every right to cut AT the property line – but if you kill the tree, you are responsible.

- c. Easement between the fences – have sliver that is full of cement chunks???
- d. Street closure/Neighborhood Block Party – if the street is blocked, the equipment has to be rented and it can be pretty expensive. Barricades have to be a certain size. Shop around and expect to pay +\$200 for the barricades.

### **CENCON – Andrea Suhaka**

CENCON was started by Mayor Kathy Noonan in 2001. Walnut Hills has been long time member. Monthly meeting agenda typical includes special districts (library, fire, etc.), city council member update, county commission, 18<sup>th</sup> Judicial district (new district serving only Arapahoe County) and voted in district attorney. Open to the public and have hybrid (Zoom) meetings. Special program each meeting – example – Cherry Creek School district has a trade school offering now programming is extensive.

4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month 6:45pm start. Meeting locations have varied due to renovations at the Arapahoe Admin building. This month meeting will be at Smokey Hill Library. Location is shown in the minutes and website is [cencon.net](http://cencon.net). Includes about 27 out of 103 named neighborhoods.

### **NEIGHBORHOOD QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS:**

- Fence status and next steps: Had meeting with City. Will continue to encourage neighbors to sign the easement. Will get pricing from title companies to do the research as early 1990's easements have not be located.
- NNO – request for something other than Mexican. Cost is the defining factor.
- Website vs membership – membership campaign – remind people that the Facebook and website are out there.
- How does the community members get information out to the neighbor. Use Facebook or email the membership email.
- “MidTown Centennial” – David King at City to present to board in the future
- Paint Recycling event offered by local church – reached out to membership email. Randy will distribute
- Does website show the correct location of meetings? Especially if they are changing month to month?
- Neighborhood Watch – Arapahoe County Sherriff – Freemont and Quince
  - Post “Arapalert” on Facebook again for reference
  - Julie will reach out to see what the deal is.

**Approval of minutes:** from 2/13/25: Approved (Jeff/Myra)

**Approval of GID Bills:** Approved (Myra/Jeff)

Julie \$1499.88 (contract, storage, insurance)

Matt \$1189.88 (contract, insurance)

Danley Tree Care \$530.00 (remove pine at Dry Creek and Quince, maple at Briarwood and Yosemite)

TOTAL \$3219.76

### **Bills/Reimbursement:**

Mark reimbursement for stamps \$146.00: Approved (Julie, Jeff)

Donna reimbursement from Beer Night \$277.52: Approved (Julie, Myra)

### **Committee Reports:**

- Treasurer report
  - Owe some money to the Scholarship
- Website
  - Would like to see more info on the fence – Julie will provide info to Randy
  - Meeting minutes are not up to date – Randy will work on getting it current
- Social Media
  - Only have Facebook (would like to expand to Instagram and tik-tok)
  - 450 members on Facebook
- Membership Report
  - 217 payments for 216 homes for 2025 year (starts April 1) A handful of additional memberships were paid at the meeting
  - Membership numbers are low and have declined over the last 10+ years.
- Welcome Wagon
  - Send out +/- quarterly as an intro to the Civic Association
  - Last round acknowledged that membership has been sent, QR codes and event.
  - Sent 20 last round.
- Compliance Calendar
  - Park reservations are made
  - Event Liability Insurance is paid
  - Membership mailing is completed
  - CENCON membership due in April
  - Financial review is upcoming
- Report from the Chair

- Always looking for board members and volunteers
- Have 5 vacancies. Will reelect board members tonight.
- Old Business
  - Dumpster Days – Donna not at meeting to provide status/update
    - Only 1 weekend this spring with longer hours and only one weekend this fall
    - Electronic recycle in the fall
  - Beer Night
    - Well attended – best one yet
    - Signage has been super helpful
- New Business
  - Easter Egg Hunt
- Reelection of odd # board members
  - Randy - yes
  - Mike - absent
  - Donna - absent
  - Tyler - absent
  - Jeff - yes
  - Aaron – yes
- Election of Officers
  - Tyler – Chair – yes
  - Jenny – Vice Chair – yes
  - Mark – Secretary - absent
  - Randy – Treasurer - yes
- Upcoming events
  - Easter Egg Hunt April 12<sup>th</sup>
  - Has bills for prizes for reimbursement \$235 – Randy provided check as budget had already been approved.

Adjourn at 7:45pm