



CENTENNIAL COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOODS

Virtual Meeting

April 26, 2021

www.cencon.net

Minutes

1. Call to order: President Cummins called the meeting to order at 6:47pm.
 - o Attendance (A quorum was present.), Members:

Cherry Knolls	Fairways @ South Suburban	FoxRidge
Greenwood South	Hanover Place	Heritage Place
Hunters Hill Condos	The Knolls	Mill Creek
Nob Hill/Ridgeview Hills South	Orchard Valley	Palos Verdes (2)
Smoky Hill (2)	Smoky Ridge	Walnut Hills
Willow Creek 2	Village @ Centennial	
 - o Guests: 18th Judicial District (2); Arapahoe Library Dist., Centennial Council Member Dist. 4, South Suburban Parks & Rec. Dist., Ting, Rhonda Livingston
 - o Highlighted areas below are good information for neighborhood newsletters. CenCON Business
2. CenCON Business
 - A. President, Gerry Cummins
 - A few CenCON officers had a meeting with Don Provost (Alberta owns the rest of SouthGlenn) and Brian Cleary (Northwoods owns Sears property) on the SouthGlenn plans. They plan to submit both plans in the next month or two.
 - She submitted the annual periodic filing with the Secretary of State.
 - She attended the District 2 chat last week.
 - Election of officers: All the current officers agreed to run for another term. Gerry Cummins, President; Rhonda Livingston, Vice President; Andrea Suhaka, Secretary; Jill Meakins, Treasurer
 - o Cummins called for any nominations from the floor.
 - o There being none, a motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to elect the current officers for a further term. (Stone/Kirrane)
 - B. Secretary, Andrea Suhaka
 - A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve the March minutes as emailed.(Doerr/Groth)
 - C. Treasurer, Jill Meakins
 - Balance Forward: \$2,164.97
 - Deposits: 400.00
 - Expenses: (0.00)
 - Interest Income: 0.00
 - Ending Balance: \$2,564.97
 - Notes:
 - o 2020: 37 paid members
 - o 2021: 14 paid members
 - o Dues for the year are \$40

D. Guest: DA John Kellner, [18th Judicial District Update](#)

- The courts are not yet at max capacity; limitations will supposedly be lifted mid-May. We've already tried 2 murder cases. We'll be open to the full extent by July at latest. Auto theft is still very high; one reason could be that bonds for auto theft are catch & release but, repeat offenders can be arrested and held.
- Though the DA's Citizens Academy has already begun, you can still.
- The final Sexual Assault conversation will be held 4/29.
- Cummins: Are you having problem getting jurors? Kellner: No, not really, especially in Arapahoe County, people take their community service seriously.
- Hamilton: How do you feel about SB-62 now in the State Legislature? Kellner: I don't support it. One reason I'm against it is that if a felon doesn't show up for his court hearing, s/he suffers no consequences. There is no warrant for their arrest issued. They need to keep working on it.

2. **Regular Guest Presentations**

A. [South Metro Fire Rescue](#), Kerri Erickson (not present)

B. [South Suburban Parks & Rec. District](#), Lindsay Robinson

- The 2021 Summer Catalog is out. It can also be found online at [register.ssprd.org](#)
- Registration is also open for all of our summer camps.
- All of our pools will open on 5/29, registration is open for swim teams. Practice starts on 5/17.
- We're hiring for seasonal & part-time positions. [careers.ssprd.org](#)
- There are two park closures for improvements for May & June, Fox Hill Park is being updated now, to be done by late summer. Also the ball field at WHS will be replaced and relocated in June & July.
- Goodhard: Will there be swimming restrictions? Robinson: Right now, yes, depending on Tri County Guidelines.
- Doerr: Will Active Adult tours start soon. Robinson: Yes, registration opens on Wed.. See the blog post on our home page.
- Hamilton: Are there restrictions on team sports? Robinson: Again, that depends on county restrictions.
- Cummins: What's going on on the edge of Cherry Knolls Park, is that by SSPRD or someone else? Robinson: I don't know. Groth: I asked one of the workers, it's SEMSWA.

C. [Arapahoe Library District](#), Holly Whelan

- **Expanded Hours:**
 - We are working toward expanding hours at all locations. By mid-May they should be open 10-7, M-Th; and 10-5, F/S/S.
- **A Conversation with the Authors: Chris Bohjalian and Alice Hoffman**
 - Join two award-winning authors in conversation with one another on Thurs., May 6, 6 pm via Zoom.
 - Authors Chris Bohjalian & Alice Hoffman will focus on their historical fiction novels that feature women and witchcraft.
 - Hoffman will talk about her book *Magic Lessons: The Prequel to Practical Magic*, regarding a woman accused of witchcraft in 1600s Salem.
 - Bohjalian will discuss *Hour of the Witch*, a novel of historical suspense concerning a Puritan woman trying to escape her violent marriage.
 - The hour will conclude with a Q&A session.

- Both featured titles can be purchased from BookBar and will include a signed bookplate. This program is for adults. Register here.

- **Living Room Conversations: American Culture**

- We invite you to virtually gather with us to discuss American culture and what it means to you on Wed., May 12, 6 pm via Zoom.
- This guided conversation is a great way to make meaningful connections with others in a safe space.
- Come prepared to share your thoughts on questions like: What is your cultural heritage? What experiences have you had with cultures other than your own? What did you appreciate? What made you uncomfortable? What value do you see in having a single, shared American culture? What would that look like?
- Living Room Conversations are designed to help us be curious, listen to others and share differing perspectives, but are not debates.
- All voices are welcome. This program is for adults. Register here.

- **Meet a Broadway Star**

- Meet actor & singer Ben Fankhauser, best known for his role as Davey in *Disney's Newsies: The Broadway Musical* on Fri., May 14, 4:30 pm, and again on Thurs., May 20, 4:30 pm, via Zoom.
- His credits also include roles in *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical*, *The Flamingo Kid* and many other productions.
- Fankhauser will perform a few of his favorite Broadway hit songs followed by a Q&A session about his acting career and insights on the industry. This program is for teens and adults. Register here for May 14 and here for May 20.

- Cummins: Will the meeting rooms be opening up to groups? Whelan: In Phase 5. our meeting and study rooms will be opened. We're not there, yet.

D. **Ting**, Gretchen Geary, Ting, Business hookups

- In Ting Around Town not much has changed. She gave the list of upcoming neighborhoods that will be going live.

E. **City of Centennial**, District 4 Council member Don Sheehan (Smoky Ridge)

- **Upcoming meetings:**

- 5/3, City Council @ 6pm and 5/4, Meet the Mayor @ 10am
- 5/10, Study Session on housing @ 6pm and 5/11, Meet the Mayor @ 10am

- **American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)**

- The Dept. of the Treasury is still in the process of finalizing allocation amounts and will provide further guidance for the use of funds. Funding will be released to local governments by the Treasury in 2 buckets: half the funding each city is entitled to will be released by May 10, and the second half will be released one year the first bucket. The act states that funds for local governments will "remain available through Dec. 31, 2024."

- Xcel Energy is in the process of renegotiating their franchise agreement with the City. 3% of all revenues collected in the City goes to the general fund. The existing agreement expires in 2022.

- Q: Is some money Xcel pays the City used to underground electrical wires? Sheehan: The money doesn't come from the franchise fees but from all money collected in Centennial. 1% of money collected (from bills) can be used for undergrounding projects. It's in a fund Xcel holds for the City. It can't be used for the large transmission lines (carrying higher voltage) but only for the smaller distribution lines and the City must pay half of the cost of the project.

- For Earth Day, the City has had a Tree Program for a few years. This year 9 different types of trees were offered, for \$70 each, and a total of 86 trees were sold. Due to COVID, the City will again be delivering the trees to individual households as opposed to having participants pick them up.
- RTD has a FlexRide/Metro Taxi pilot program in our area, Mon. – Fri., 10am-2pm, riders who book a FlexRide may be served by Metro Taxi, if that bus isn't available. The largest benefit of this pilot is the ability to book a ride between 2 FlexRide zones on the \$3 standard fare. Riders can book online (www.rtd-denver.com/services/flexride), by phone (303.299.6000), or with the FlexRide mobile app.
- For the 5th consecutive year, the City was recognized by the Gallup organization with the Gallup Exceptional Workplace Award. Centennial is one of 39 winners worldwide called out for our high employee engagement and resulting strategy, leadership, performance, accountability, communication, knowledge management, development, and ongoing learning. The City remains the sole local government globally to receive this award.
- For the 11th year in a row, the Government Finance Officers Assoc. of the US & Canada (GFOA) has awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to City of Centennial for its 2019 comprehensive annual financial report.
- 4 Neighborhood Traffic Management Program projects are in process for 2021.
 - E. Easter Pl. in District 3
 - E. Orchard Rd. in District 1
 - E. Geddes Dr. in District 2
 - S. Flanders St. in District 4
 - NTMP managers are Rolando Melgoza at RMelgoza@CentennialCO.gov & Lindy Howard at LHoward@CentennialCO.gov
- Street & Concrete rehab started in Feb. in Districts 1 & 2. That will be done by Nov, followed in 2022 by asphalt paving.
- The City has kicked off the Smoky Hill Transportation Corridor Study, similar to the University Blvd. Corridor Study, to be completed this fall.
- 2 new traffic signals should be operational by the end of April: Gibraltar & Himalaya and CO & Nobles; they're currently flashing.
- The Orchard Rd widening project (south side of Orchard from Ogden Ct. to the Highline Canal) has pushed back, to begin early fall. It will include adding curb & gutter, sidewalk, and an underground storm sewer. Xcel Energy will be taking down poles & undergrounding their power lines, while Comcast & CenturyLink are currently designing their undergrounding, as well.
- Arapahoe Bridge project over Big Dry Creek is underway. It's in final design, coordination with utilities & local businesses/organizations, and easements are being finalized. The City's website will be updated regularly to reflect progress.
- The City will have elections this year: one Council member in each District and the Mayor.
- The Census will give Colorado an 8th Congressional Dist.
- Cummins: What does a traffic signal cost? Sheehan: From the City's Public Works Director Jeff Dankenbring, a signal with mast arms costs \$450K.

3. CenCON Dialogue on Housing
 - Cummins: There is currently a bill in the state Legislature allowing local governments to promote affordable housing.
 - Cummins: The south end of the Streets @ SouthGlenn will have 650 apartment units. The Northwood/Alberta plan will be submitted to the City in the next month or 2.
 - Hamilton: I've seen on NextDoor that the Portola rents are going up. Suhaka: As is all of the Denver area. (Keeping up with the Joneses)
 - Meakins: The City currently doesn't have definition of affordable housing. It's needed now.
 - Manning: HUD lists affordable housing as costing up to 30% of a person's annual salary.
 - Manning: I've heard that the senior complex at Fair & Parker plans to use CHAFA (?) funds.
 - Sheehan: You should plan to attend that Council Study Session on 5/10, 6pm, on housing. Suhaka: [You will listen in on Zoom](#) (not in person at this time)
 - Biniak: Are residents able to subdivide a residential lot? Suhaka: Not at this time.
 - Cummins: Please, read through the housing definitions that were attached to the email with the call to meeting. It was put together by Livingston.
 - Cummins: HB-1229 increases the requirements for disclosure & transparency in the operations of HOAs.
 - Suhaka: My daughter runs a website with the legislation of all 50 states and the US, [BillTrack50.com](#). It's a great, free place to get information. If you want legislation information pushed to you, there's a fee but, with a free account you can search for anything. Don't use the HB or SB designation, just the number.
4. **Plans**, Rhonda Livingston, Vice President
 - University Corridor Retail Strategy
 - [CenCON was given 2 presentations \(Nov. & Jan.\) on the University Corridor Retail Strategy \(Arapahoe Rd. to County Line Rd.\). The Land Development Code would need to be amended to allow restaurants with a drive-thru option along the Corridor, in a limited amount with enhanced design & safety requirements.](#)
 - [You may make your comments at \[www.cenntennialco.gov/universitycorridor\]\(http://www.cenntennialco.gov/universitycorridor\).](#)
 - [Millenium Peakview](#), 331 Units, comments are due by 5/13, 7825 E. Peakview Ave.
 - Congregate Care, Fair & Parker, fence says 55+, feds say 60 or older
5. Adjourn: Cummins adjourned the meeting at 8:35pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Secretary Suhaka.

[Please inform Andrea Suhaka at 303-770-0058 or \[standy@ecentral.com\]\(mailto:standy@ecentral.com\) of changes in your CenCON Representative or Association President/Chair.](#)

Next Meeting, May 24, 2021 Virtual