



Sept. 23, 2024

Minutes

1. After quite a bit of difficulty, e.g., being locked out of the Public Works building, President Whelan called the meeting to order at about 6:55pm, outside of the building. The building was locked until Council member Don Sheehan drove home to pick up his pass to allow access. We went right into guest comments.
 - Attendance (A quorum was present.)

Algonquin Acres	Arapahoe Highlands	Chapparral
Cherry Knolls	FoxRidge	Hanover Place
Heritage Place	Heritage Greens	Jackson Farm (2)
Mill Creek	Monterey	Nob Hill/Ridgeview Hills South
Palos Verdes (2)	Smoky Hill	Tiffany
Village at Centennial	Walnut Hills	
 - Arapahoe County Commissioners' Office, Arapahoe Library Dist., Centennial City Council, Cherry Creek Schools (2), Colorado State Legislators (2), South Suburban Parks & Rec. Dist.
 - **Highlighted areas** below are good information for neighborhood newsletters.
2. **CenCON Business**
 - A. President's Report, [C.J.Whelan](#)
 - Not reported
 - B. Vice President, Plans: [Rhonda Livingston](#).
 - No report.
 - C. Secretary, [Andrea Suhaka](#) (by Zoom)
 - No action taken.
 - D. Treasurer, [Jill Meakins](#)
 - Current bank balance is \$2,560.99
 - We have 2 new members.
 - The Treasurer's Report is attached with these minutes.
3. **Centennial Government and Special Districts**
 - A. Cherry Creek School Dist. led off the presentations, Ashley Venille (sp?), Dir. Of Communications; John Boltz, Citizens' Committee
 - CCSD representatives spoke about the District's bond & budget ballot issues and answered questions from the audience. Flyers were available and are attached with these minutes.
 - B. Arapahoe County Commissioner: Commissioner Jeff Baker, Dist. 3
 - The Commissioners have placed deBrucing of the County on the ballot.
 - The recent Point-in-Time count found that there were 600 unsheltered people in unincorporated Arapahoe County.

B. [Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office](#), Bureau Chief Lt. Adam [Burson](#)

- ACSO is focused on election security measures. Contingency plans are in place in the event of problems. He encouraged everyone to take the tour of the elections office when offered.
- Venezuelans: He said there is no takeover of Aurora properties by Venezuelan gangs but, the TdA (Tren de Aragua) are present but not in large numbers. 6-8 arrests have been made in unincorporated Arapahoe County for possession of drugs, stealing expensive jewelry, etc. It is organized crime. Those arrests lead to prison. Once those individuals are released, federal agencies take over to process these individuals.
- Accidents are down in Centennial since motorcycle patrols have started.
- Question: What about car thefts? Burson: Colorado is in the top 5 states for car thefts in the country but, it's low in Centennial. The thefts are not due to individuals but to organized groups.
- Question: What about cracking down on expired license plates? Burson said they have written 1000's of tickets for this violation.

C. [South Suburban Parks & Rec. District](#), [Michelle Kitchens](#)

- Kitchens' report is attached with these minutes.
- She also added that the district is in need of lifeguards.

D. [Arapahoe Library District](#), Holly Whelan, Manager of Community Relations & Strategic Events was ill but sent her update.

- **'Geek Out' creative contest**

- When: Nov. 1-30

- Where: Enter online or in person

- Who: ages 11-18

- Teens can unleash their creativity with the annual "Geek Out" creative contest.

- To enter, submit an original piece of art inspired by your favorite fandom or something you love. Submit any form of art — cosplay, drawing, music, writing — the sky's the limit!

- Enter by Nov. 30 for a chance to win exciting prizes.

- Winners will be notified Dec. 12, and all participants are invited to the party and awards ceremony Dec. 14 at Koelbel Library.

- To learn more, visit arapahoelibraries.org/geek-out.

- **A 'Wicked' night of Broadway hits**

- When: Friday, Nov. 15, 7-9 p.m.

- Where: Wings Over the Rockies Exploration of Flight (13005 Wings Way, Centennial)

- Who: tweens, teens & adults

- Enjoy beloved musical numbers from *Wicked* and other hit Broadway shows, performed by the talented artists of Give 5 Productions.

- Come at 7 p.m. for *Wicked*-themed crafts and treats.

- **'A Story and a Song' with Mountain Sam Wheelock**

- When: Wednesday, Nov. 20, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

- Where: Koelbel Library (5955 S. Holly St., Centennial)

- Who: adults

- Arapahoe Libraries invites you to "A Story and a Song," a one-man show by Mountain Sam Wheelock.

- Part music, part memoir, the show will blend modern, eclectic folk music with stories of growing up in the Southern Appalachian Mountains.
- **Community Conversation: 'Privilege, Power & Poverty'**
 - When: Thursday, Nov. 21, 6-7:30 p.m.
 - Where: Koebel Library (5955 S. Holly St., Centennial)
 - Who: adults
 - The Arapahoe Libraries Community Conversation series continues on "Privilege, Power and Poverty."
 - We'll be joined by an expert facilitator and diverse thought leaders who invite us to explore the topic more deeply.
 - The Community Conversations series is designed to foster listening and connection.
 - Light refreshments will be provided, and everyone is invited to participate.

E. **City of Centennial**, Council member Don Sheehan, District 4

- Sheehan's „Newsletter“ is attached with these minutes.
- The ACSO Open House was lots of fun.
- The dedication of the mural under the [Arapahoe bridge](#) over Little Dry Creek will be held on 10/29, 11am-1pm.
- Look for the new City monument sign on Yosemite, south of Arapahoe Road.

4. **Planned Program: Two of our State Representatives: Chad Clifford, Dist. 37 & Eliza Hamrick, Dist. 61**

- Reps Eliza Hamrick & Chad Clifford (by Zoom) provided handouts (attached with the minutes).
- They spoke about HB 24-1108, Insurance Commissioner Study. This bill primarily focuses on rural and mountain towns, but audience members requested that the bill include ALL towns and cities in the state.
- HB 24-1337, HOA past due collection limit up to \$5000. Concerns from the audience were mentioned regarding this amount being too restrictive and cumbersome for HOA's to financially support their required duties.
- HB24-111, Senior property tax reduction is now portable when they move.
- The Special Session called by Governor Polis, on 26 Aug., was regarding property tax relief and the bill proposed during this session will be enacted in Oct., 2024. The bill includes a revenue cap for cities of 5.25% & school districts of 6%. These taxing (mill levy) entities can opt out of this restriction with favorable ballot measures by the voters within that city or district. Fire districts have concerns for future funding.
- A lengthy discussion on HOA topics and the Property Taxes took place. Reps Hamrick and Clifford answered questions from the audience.

5. **Plans**, Rhonda Livingston, 2nd Vice President

- ***Rhonda can email site plan details to anyone who requests them.*** You can also check www.centennialco.gov/Residents/Have-Your-Say-Centennial to see what's happening.

6. Whelan adjourned the meeting at 8:30 pm.

**28 October meeting:
Trails Recreation Center,**

16799 E. Lake Ave., Centennial, 80016