Baker Historic Neighborhood Association
General Meeting
July 14, 2020  6:30pm MDT
Via Zoom teleconference

Call to Order
Luchia Brown called the meeting to order at 6:33pm. Present: Luchia Brown, Chair; Anette Anderson, Vice Chair; Kathleen Morris, Treasurer; Jason Marsden, Secretary; James Bertini, Loretta, Marieka; Gertie Grant; Dorothy Norbie, Little Ninja, Steve Harley, Ozi Friedrich, Patrick Schmitz, Laura@Strada, Adrian Brown, Lizzi Makovec, Maggie, Jean T, Charleen Hyde, Phil Wade, Shelley Hull, Emily@saskia.com, Adam E., Roger Day, Michael (Maple Ave)

Police Update
No report was provided.

Review of May and June 2020 General Meeting Minutes
Adrian moved and Marieke seconded approval of the May minutes. The motion carried, 9 aye, 2 no, one abstained. Kathleen moved and Anette seconded approval of the June minutes. The motion carried, 14 aye, 2 no, one abstained.

Standing Rules for Virtual Meetings
Steve moved and Adrian seconded that the standing rules be amended to allow that when meetings are held virtually in whole or in part that motions need to be in chat (writing) and votes should be held by roll call — for virtual members that would mean in the chat (or via similar function yes/no); and that motions should still be read aloud. The motion carried unanimously.

Council District 7 Update
Maggie reported that virtual RNO meetings are being tried out in a number of ways across the neighborhoods and that she is gathering some examples of how to carry them out effectively. Friday there will be an all-day virtual meeting of the Council to discuss the budget. It is posted on the Council website with participation information. Next, while a final decision has not been made on the Halloween Parade, it is looking increasingly likely it will have to be cancelled. She suggested BHNA consider what might be feasible in the way of a replacement online event. Maggie also encouraged members to send her questions ahead of the meeting so she can gather information. She confirmed that Denver Days and block parties have been canceled due to Covid-19; she will distribute an up-to-date dashboard. She also summarized current mask-wearing regulations.

Parks & Recreation
No report was provided.

Library
Libraries are open for curbside pickup only. Byers Branch is closed for renovations.

Treasurer Report
Kathleen reported the prior month had only a Zoom payment and a storage unit payment - with a $16,761.16 balance.

Old Business
- **Mask Contest**
  Luchia shared photos of the three contestants in the mask decoration contest and the link for voting. Voting closes tonight at 11:59pm.

New Business
- **Take DOTI Survey**
  The links to participate in the survey are:
  - N Galapago - [http:// surveymonkey.com/r/C2HNQ9N](http://surveymonkey.com/r/C2HNQ9N)
  - E 3rd Ave - [http:// surveymonkey.com/r/CC8LW5K](http://surveymonkey.com/r/CC8LW5K)
  - W Bayaud - [http:// surveymonkey.com/r/CJ6SQHP](http://surveymonkey.com/r/CJ6SQHP)
  - N Delaware/W 5th Ave - [http:// surveymonkey.com/r/CWVR8ST](http://surveymonkey.com/r/CWVR8ST)
  - S Cherokee/1st Ave - [http:// surveymonkey.com/r/CR2RRFX](http://surveymonkey.com/r/CR2RRFX)

- **Hector Flores Park**
  Jason summarized the history of the park and Mr. Flores's military service and his tragic loss of life in police custody for which an officer was suspended. Jason suggested developing signage of some sort to tell his story and celebrate his life and his valor.
  Steve moved and Lizzi seconded that we ask Jason Marsden to coordinate with city agencies and bring us a proposal for an appropriate memorial to Hector Flores at the park named for him at 621 W. 4th Ave., to which BHNA may make a contribution. Phil suggested the existing bus station on the corner may be another potential location. The motion carried unanimously.

- **GNAs during Covid**
  Lucia reported the inquiry we received from Adam Hodak about whether a temporary change could be made to the Good Neighbor Agreements during Covid-19 to extend nightly operations of patios and garage doors by one hour nightly, in an effort to extend operations during the economic difficulties businesses are experiencing during social distancing. The GNAs are legally attached to the liquor license and are co-signed by the West Washington Park Neighborhood Association, so this would not be in our sole purview. Members discussed elements of the idea including noise, compliant mechanisms, how long the temporary period would last, and whether the city would agree to a temporary amendment. Adam had said he would be reaching out to the nearest neighbors on Irvington. Steve summarized some of the factors unique to the building itself. He suggested if we tackle this it needs to apply equally to all businesses
in the neighborhood. He noted that the city has already issued about 250 street permits and those requests do not even go before the RNOs. Members reached a consensus that Adam needs to provide a written proposal which BHNA could potentially provide guidance about. Dorothy strongly suggested that we start with Excise and License to determine whether and what they would consider regarding any temporary changes.

Adrian moved that the Baker Historic Neighborhood Association generally supports extending operating hours for open-air restaurants and bars for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic in the neighborhood. The motion lapsed for lack of a second. A lengthy discussion ensued as to the prospects for the public health situation in the coming months, the prospects for further city action to shut down bars and restaurants again, and the means for measuring noise complaints.

Committee Reports
- Zoning
  Steve noted the next meeting is July 22.

A special exception permit for 713 W. 4th for a coffeeshop, deli and grocery outlet is under consideration. BHNA offered support for a previous owner’s permit in 2016. Ozi pointed out that BHNA has previously supported a full rezone for the site, but that is a more time consuming and expensive prospect. Ozi moved and Dorothy seconded that the BHNA support the zoning use permit for coffee shop / deli / groceries at BOA Case #60-20 - 717 / 713 W 4th Ave. The motion carried unanimously. Members discussed the ongoing problem of small commercial properties overlooked in the 2010 rezoning and the cost and inconvenience to the owners.

Denver Health has issued a comprehensive sign plan which regulates signage on large campuses. Each time the plan is changed it requires public notification and input. The biggest issue Steve reported was the sign on the north face of the new parking garage on Acoma. If it were to have an impact it would be to the people in the condos at 6th and Acoma. We do not know if it will be illuminated. There are also “temporary” banners that have been there for years but the plan does not change those.

Steve summarized the process leading to the DOTI survey. He found the plans bold. They move strongly toward safer streets. It will require removal of some parking on Third Ave. east of Cherokee and on Cherokee south of First. Some of those residents do not have garages and will be impacted. Galapago north of Third is contemplated as a “friendly street” to cyclists without needing designated bike lanes. Street calming measures are also being considered including street platforms. We should be aware of the potential for backlash and help the city with outreach. Members held a larger conversation about parking during growing density.
Atlantis has mostly completed their first building at 420 W. Cedar and they have an insufficient loading space for the disabled residents. The two buildings are sharing loading zones and the city is considering them separately. Steve will monitor the situation.

Steve updated the members on 5G tower placement applications. Almost all have been on major streets. Some applications now appear to have failed to generate notifications. Some are in tree lawns and we may take an interest in those. Steve has information on how to find these proposals.

The ADU overlay process is moving ahead and Ozi and Steve would like to invite members to participate in a preliminary proposal.

At 50 S. Kalamath the rezoning request has been scheduled for the Planning Board with some new details. Patrick reported that overlay is the result of a community input process. They involve greater setback and higher transparency requirements.

The committee is still researching how parking permits work for some of the multi-unit structures.

- **Landmark**
  There were no new design reviews this month. There is a large new duplex proposed at 431 Acoma; the committee provided constructive feedback. Landmark staff currently opposes the project. An addition at 350 Bannock has not been given to the committee for input; staff also opposes that project. Ozi is thinking of preparing a list of ADUs in Baker for people to do self-guided tours; West Wash Park is interested.

- **INC**
  Loretta reported INC elections are now proceeding virtually this week.

  Jolon has proposed delaying the group-living proposal and some people want to separate the various elements such as unrelated adults. There is a resolution before INC recommending debundling the residential care portion and the household definition and that a rental registry be created. It seeks mandatory outreach by Community Development to minority populations not previously reached to gather more input. She believes this resolution is contrary to Baker's position and she voted no. Members expressed strong agreement, while also recognizing the unresolved nature of the residential care issue still being addressed. A long discussion arose as to the timing and input opportunities surrounding the process.

**Adjournment**
Jason moved and Loretta seconded adjournment. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:06pm.
Respectfully submitted,
Jason Marsden, Secretary