

Harkness Heights

THE HEIGHTS
Our Neighborhood Newsletter

August 2022

HHNA Annual Meeting Recap

The Harkness Heights Neighborhood Association (HHNA) annual meeting was on Thursday May 19th at 6 pm at Leever's Locavore on W 38th Ave. New officers were elected: Amber Kraska accepted the nomination for President, and Rebecca Caldwell accepted the nomination for Vice President. Other neighbors volunteered to head up open chairs. Rob Gustafson is the new Chair for Safety and Security. Joanna Rosa-Saenz and Rob are the new co-delegates for Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation (INC.). Biographies of the HHNA board members—Amber, Rebecca, Karen Schwartz, and Suzy Barr—are on the back. Biographies of Rob and his wife Lisa and Joanna will be in the next newsletter.

The outgoing HHNA President Roberta Andersen began the meeting by giving great thanks to Tom Mobley and Karen Taylor for their long-term commitment to the neighborhood. Tom was the HHNA President in the past and is the outgoing Chair of the Safety and Security committee. Tom has given great support to the neighborhood in these positions and was a driving force in the conservation overlay process. Karen is the outgoing delegate to INC. For many years, Karen kept the HHNA Board updated on happenings in Denver and its neighborhoods.

Other tidbits from the meeting: Suzy Barr, the HHNA Treasurer/Membership Chair, reported that the HHNA is financially strong. The largest expenses are for the annual picnic. Crime in the neighborhood is low overall, but there have been recent reports of drug dealing in McDonough Park. Janet Elsila has volunteered to be the Chair of the new Welcoming Committee (see the next newsletter for a discussion of the Welcoming Committee). About 25 neighbors were at the meeting.

Amber and the other Board and Committee members thank Roberta for serving as the HHNA President for the last few years and for her continued dedication and support to the neighborhood

Membership Dues

As of the annual meeting on May 19th, there were 66 paid HHNA memberships, which is only 17 percent of all members. Membership dues help support the summer picnic, holiday luminarias, and other projects and functions of the Association. The annual membership of \$15 per household can be made in numerous ways: mailed to the HHNA, dropped off with your Block Captain, or paid at the picnic. You can also pay your dues using either of the QR codes to the right. Please contact the Membership Chair Suzy Barr at harknessheightsdenver@gmail.com or your Block Captain with questions.

SAVE THE DATES!

Annual Summer Picnic | Sun. August 28 | 3:00-6:00 pm

See below for more information.

Annual Luminaria Walk | Sunday Dec. TBA | 6:00-9:00 pm

Summer Picnic

The annual neighborhood picnic, the highlight for late summer, is Sunday August 28th from 3 to 6 pm at the 4200 block of Knox Court, the same location as last year. Mark McDonald is the Picnic Chair again this year, his final year as the Chair.

The picnic will be a potluck this year. HHNA will be supplying burgers, hot dogs, buns, condiments, water, lemonade, plates, silverware, and napkins.

If you would like to donate good and services for the raffle, please contact Roberta Andersen (roand4270@cs.com, 720-244-0865).

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: A volunteer is needed to coordinate the Dessert Contest; please contact Mark or Amber if you would like volunteer. Volunteers and equipment are also needed for such things as cooks and grills. Please see the volunteer needs at the genius link <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4CABA82EA5FFC16-harkness1> or contact Mark. Contact information for Mark and Amber is on the back.

Memembership Dues: Zelle, PayPal

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Harkness Heights Neighborhood Assn.

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Biographies

Amber Kraska: HHNA President: Vision for Harkness Heights

As the new president of HHNA, I have many goals and desires for what I hope to accomplish during my time in this role. Although I have only lived in Harkness Heights (HH) for 3 years, I have never felt more at home. I am honored to represent the community and hope to further strengthen our place in NW Denver. The association has just sent out the second round of Welcome Baskets with many more to come! The first annual garden tour is just behind us, and I hope to see more neighbor gatherings throughout the year. If you have ideas on what we could do, please share them with me! I would also love to encourage the neighborhood to be more eco-friendly through composting, recycling, reducing water consumption, and living in harmony with our beautiful surroundings. As the population of Denver grows, I hope HH can learn to grow with the city in a responsible way. My main desire is to continue to do what other presidents have done and make our community a close and tight-knit piece of paradise in the bustling city. As a Colorado native, I greatly value the place we all call home. Thank you for allowing me to serve you!

Rebecca Caldwell: HHNA Vice President

Rebecca moved to Harkness Heights in 1998. She has served as HHNA President in the past as has her husband, Travis. They have a daughter, Lucy, who just graduated from North High and a son, Dane, who is a sophomore at North this year. Rebecca has worked at Skinner Middle School for the past 12 years and also at North for the past 9 years as Marketing, Communications and Public Relations Director. She is a Denver native and moved to Sunnyside while she was in middle school and was part of North High's 100th graduating class. She graduated from Mills College in Oakland, California and has worked in corporate marketing and event planning.

Karen Schwartz: HHNA Secretary

The Schwartzes (Karen, Jim, Anna (5-1/2 yrs.) and dog Ryoke(1 yr.) moved to Knox Court in July 2018. Although Karen lived in Colorado from 1996-2005, their 2018 move came after spending 7 years in Milwaukee—where block parties, book clubs and progressive dinners are part of the fabric of Wisconsin neighborhoods. The Schwartzes have embraced the neighborhood friendliness of Harkness Heights, especially with so many kids for Anna to play with! Karen is a Registered Dietitian working as a Sales Director for Nutricia North America, and Jim is a Senior Director of Marketing for FARO Technologies; they both work from home. Anna will be entering kindergarten at Trevista Elementary in the Sunnyside neighborhood.

Suzy Barr: HHNA Treasurer/Membership

Suzy moved to Harkness Heights in 2016 after relocating back to Colorado from California. After searching in various neighborhoods, the old homes and quiet neighborhood with tree-lined streets drew her to Knox Court. You may have seen Suzy sitting on her front porch in the evenings with her large Bernese Mountain dog Bruno and her friendly orange cat Leroy. Unfortunately, both passed away last year due to old age, but Suzy still cherishes the amount of time her two sidekicks attracted neighbors to come say hi. Suzy is a professional community association manager and therefore understands the importance of being involved, volunteering, and being active in your community.

HHNA Block Captains

The full list of Block Captains will be in the next newsletter.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED for the following *OPEN* blocks:

4200 Federal-W *OPEN*

4200 Lowell-E *OPEN*

3100 W. 41st-S *OPEN*

Please contact Amber to volunteer.

CONTACT INFORMATION

HHNA BOARD MEMBERS, COMMITTEES & RESOURCES

President: Amber Kraska

amber.kraska@gmail.com | 720-224-6559

Vice President: Rebecca Caldwell

becksterdenver@gmail.com | 303-433-8686

Secretary: Karen Schwartz

karenpayne26@hotmail.com | 206-920-1222

Treasurer/Membership: Suzy Barr

Suzy_barr@yahoo.com | 970-274-1654

Block Captain Program: Lisa Gustafson

lisagus4128@hotmail.com | 303-455-7829

Communications: Nancy Bauch

nbauch1957@comcast.net | 303-653-1680

Kevin Prentiss

kevin.prentiss@gmail.com | 917-691-5659

Inter-Neighborhood Relations:

Rob Gustafson

rgustafson@casecommercial.com | 303-877-7681

Joanna Rosa-Saenz

Joannarosasaenz | 720-422-3539

Luminarias: Liz Rosso and Camron Assadi

liz@denverliz.com, camron@camronassadi.com |

970-919-0447

Annual Picnic: Mark McDonald

mjmbridge93@yahoo.com | 303-808-5441

Public Works & City Services: Steve Nolan

steve.nolan@comcast.net | 303-870-7962

Safety & Security: Rob Gustafson

Zoning & Licensing: Greg Sader

gsader.09@gmail.com | 720-254-2654

City Resources

General City Services: 3-1-1

City Council District 1: Amanda Sandoval

amanda.sandoval@denvergov.org | 720-337-7701

Denver Police Non-Emergency Dispatch:

720-913-2000

Community Resource Officer, District 1 Police:

Officer Michele Cooper

Michele.Cooper@denvergov.org

Harkness Heights Neighborhood Association

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