

WEST CENTRAL NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MINUTES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

6:30 PM @ West Central Community Center

For accuracy, members and guests, please sign in before taking a seat

Remember non-members, 3 out of 4 consecutive attended meetings qualifies you for membership.

If you have attended at least 4 meetings in the last calendar year you may be by written request, become a voting member.

For excused absences please call or e-mail: Mike Brakel at 509-993-3339 or at mbrakel36@gmail.com

Attendance: Steve Kounkel, Jeremy Williams, Jessie Norris, Bonnie McInnis, Steve Corker, Helen Sandifur, Kelly Cruz, Stephanie Swan, Jake Miller, Kitty Klitzke, Laura Hathorn, Arielle Anderson, Don Swanson, Jen Hussey, Sarah Tosch, Larry Swartz, Kay Howard, Mike Brakel, Naomi Flaherty, Judith Gilmore. Excused Absence: Kevin Brownlee. Visitor: Dave Reynolds

Called to Order 6:39pm

Judith Gilmore informed us that Judy Craig passed away, a long time member of our neighborhood.

Approval of Minutes: It was moved, second and approved to accept the January minutes with two edits. Note the confusion of the traffic calming discussion and that traffic signs are only up for two weeks. Moved, Second, and Approved to accept April Minutes without any corrections.

Council Woman Karen Stratton was recognized. Patrick Striker is the new executive director of C.O.P.S. and has a lot of energy for his work in his new position. He plans to attend future neighborhood council meetings to introduce himself. She also commented on the Earned Sick and Safe Leave community group discussion from earlier today. She felt very confident at the end of this first meeting that we have good representation from the community and she is glad to see this moving along. The City Council is putting together a task force to look at leveling the playing field around unequal pay based on gender.

Heather Trautman spoke regarding Greening Grants for the neighborhoods in order to plant trees or other greenery on public right of way areas. They are accepting a new batch of applications for this year's grants. The deadline is June 30. She also informed us that we could have a mini workshop at our June meeting if we wanted information regarding the upcoming CDBG process. A resident brought up the orange cones near the public pool at Cannon Park and the safety of the crosswalk there. Heather said she will follow up with the contractor as the contract has already been let. She will follow up as well around lighting for that intersection. It was requested that it be on record that our council has brought up this safety concern many times. It was pointed out that at Gonzaga there's been stop lights installed. It was pointed out by another resident that Gonzaga paid for those measures. Heather Trautman informed us that stop light type measures are based on volume and so far it doesn't seem that the Cannon Park area has the volume based on the counts that have been done.

Community Assembly Report: A large portion of the oral reports at the CA regarded the goals of the community assembly which they are revisiting to have a more comprehensive voice. The vehicle outdoor storage ordinance amendment is under consideration with the CA. The code is enforced if it can be seen by neighbors or from the street. It was requested that we have someone speak to us about the Short Term Rental Ordinance. These type of ordinances come up due to complaints to the city.

Park Committee Update: Tomorrow is the pre-construction meeting onsite between the city and contractor. It was requested about what types of plants will be planted and such. It was confirmed that it

was the same design as was passed around some time ago at another meeting. The Nettleton Plans were completed by AHBL. It was noted that the next park meeting is at 6:30pm next Wednesday here at the Community Center. Regarding Greening Grants, trees are dying around the Nettleton sign on Pettit and it was suggested we should consider this. Motion was made and seconded to allow Arielle and Kitty to fill out these forms. Discussion was had. It was moved and seconded that Arielle and Kitty form a temporary committee to gather potential greening grant projects and fill out forms to present to the council at the June meeting. 15 yes. 1 abstention. It was moved that we suspend the bylaws and allow an email vote on this issue provided that there is no quorum at the June meeting. 14 yes. 1 abstention. It was noted that this may not be necessary if we do a consensus vote and validate it the June General Council Meeting. This motion came up because we originally thought the due date for greening grants was June 1.

Public Safety Committee Update: Long Term Rental Ordinance. Mike was asked to attend the stakeholder committee as a representative of West Central. He asked Arielle to go in his stead. She asked to be a stakeholder representing West Central and was accepted as such. She will be participating in the process for the 9 month period of these stakeholder committee meetings. She committed to keeping us informed and asked us to inform her of our concerns regarding this issue. It was asked what the stakeholder group hopes to accomplish. The directive from the community assembly is that the neighborhoods have acknowledged that long term rental housing safety needs to be addressed and feedback is requested from stakeholders.

Neighborhood Clean Up: We filled ten, 30 yard dumpsters in less than four hours. We had people from Geiger helping load. People from Lighthouse assisted with traffic. Broadway Foods allowed us to use their parking lot and helped as well. We took out over 17 tons of trash. Arielle, Mike, and Kay showed up and helped as well. Youth For Christ had about 50-60 volunteers and kids helping clean up our streets. Many of the kids reside in our neighborhood, but other volunteers came to our neighborhood to help. Kay received calls with people thanking the council for making this happen.

West Central Community Center report: Jo Anne reported that West Central Community Center Auction was this last weekend. The totals are not in yet, but they were able to raise significant funds. Also, the Northwest neighborhood donated money to the center to build garages at the center for the transit vans used here. There is also a WIC office here and recently there were 40 nursing mothers here for an 8 hour session to learn how to nurse. A resident noted that she had a wonderful experience with the WIC program here at the center. She also recognized David, the maintenance man here at the center who has been known to change a flat tire for someone in the parking lot.

Treasurer's Report: nothing this month.

CDBG Report: Dave Dahl, founder of Dave's Killer Bread is coming to Spokane and participating in a Partnering in Second Chances to Create Positive Change event. This will be with the mayor and business leaders. The Ash Street Work Force Training Station renovation is coming along. Forms were handed out at last month's meeting for the HUD funding process. Next month we will pass out the follow up forms to those who requested money from us last year.

New Business:

Judith brought a request from the Community Service Team (CST) to present to us for about 15-20 minutes regarding ideas for organizing in our neighborhood. It was moved and seconded to accept their request to speak to us next month. It passed unanimously.

Sidewalks: It was suggested we speak to other groups such as Spokane Center for Independent Living who may be doing work or have advice regarding sidewalk repair. A resident is asking for accessibility assistance surrounding her sidewalk. We set aside \$10,000 for sidewalks last year and could use some of this for that project. It was noted that if we do one corner with handicap accessibility, we have to do the opposite corner. It was moved and seconded to transfer \$4000 per the city request from the Cannon sidewalk project in order to create an ADA ramp on Boone for this resident. It passed.

Old Business: none

It was noted that the ONS Friday Updates emails have many important dates. Currently the secretary is forwarding this, but Heather Trautman informed us that there is a link to subscribe individually to this email.

Kelly Cruz noted that ambulances will no longer exit on Broadway with patients due to the state of the street. He suggested we form a resolution to send to the city asking for this to be repaired.

The North Wall (in the old Bryant School building) has an event and needs volunteers so that the teachers can enjoy it. Jen Hussey has info on this.

Bob Peeler at SNAP may be able to help the resident who's house burned down with relocation. Heather Trautman informed us of this.

Adjourned at 8:00pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Naomi Flaherty, Secretary