

# WEST CENTRAL NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MINUTES

Wednesday, July 8, 2015

6:30 PM @ West Central Community Center

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

**Remember non-members, attending 3 out of 4 consecutive meetings qualifies you for membership. On most items, when votes are taken, one vote will be for members only and a second, non-binding vote will be taken which including all participants.**

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

***For excused absences, please call, or e-mail, Mike Brakel at 509-993-3339 or at [wenc.chair@gmail.com](mailto:wenc.chair@gmail.com)***

Attendance: Arielle Anderson, Jeff Barnes, Mike Brakel, Keven Brownlee, Kelly Cruz, Judith Gilmore, Laura Hathorn, Kitty Klitzke, Steve Kounkel, Harry Lawrence, Kimberly Lawrence, Jake Miller, Jessie Norris, David Reynolds, JoAnn Stewart, Sarah Tosch. Scott Grayban, guest, second meeting; Ben Sedgwick, guest, second meeting.

Meeting called to order at: 6:32pm

## Welcome and Introductions

**Approval of July 8 Agenda and June 2015 Minutes:** Agenda: It was agreed to remove the recall and read the letter of resignation into the minutes. Moved, Seconded, and approved the June minutes with the following corrections: Under the CDGB section, important dates, the workshop on the 16th was actually about CDBG process.

**Recall Election:** It was moved, seconded, and approved to accept the resignation of Bonnie McInnis as Community Assembly Representative. The email stating her resignation was read into these minutes as follows:

Good Morning,

I write to notify you that effective today, July 7, 2015, I tender my resignation as Community Assembly Representative.

Sincerely,  
Bonnie McInnis

**CDBG Application Process:** Jessie Norris introduced herself as the interim chair of Community Development Block Grant Committee and explained the process for applying for the CDBG money. She had a packet that was passed out with information. This packet included a paper with the Menu Items pertaining to West Central that were pre-approved by the city. She discussed each item briefly. It was asked whether we had an existing sidewalk list. It was stated that an envelop with this list did exist. JoAnn stated that she took that list to the city and if they do not have it that it has been lost. Kimberly suggested that we put the sidewalk list on our website with an email they could send pictures and descriptions to about sidewalks residents are concerned about. Jessie noted that the city engineers will vet our submitted list of sidewalks. Also, Kevin noted that sidewalks have to qualify by being in a block that qualifies for funding based on income. We were informed by Larry Lawrence that according to the new map, the entire neighborhood qualifies. We will link to this map on the website when we put sidewalks on the website. A resident stated that a group of students at WSU had documented a map for the transportation district regarding elements of sidewalks such as curb cuts, barriers, change in elevation, etc. This is on the Spokane Regional Transportation website. We are pursuing ideas from residents through July 31st. This gives us a chance to vet them through the city before the deadline to submit them to the city. Jessie Norris presented the application for projects we may come up with as a neighborhood. All projects have to have a minimum allocation of \$10,000. We can contact other neighborhoods to partner with us on mutually beneficial projects. Also, HUD is implementing a conflict of interest policy. If you submit a project and the neighborhood chooses to vote on funding this project, you must abstain from the vote. Also, you have to fill out a conflict of interest form. However, you can educate the neighborhood on the projects. This includes if you submit to have your sidewalk repaired. All ideas should be submitted to Jessie Norris. Jessie Norris said we will contact people who have applied for funds in the past.

Ideas from residents tonight:

- Lighting for the Nettleton Triangle.
- Dutch Jake Park Lighting
- Maple Street Gateway Project. This was discussed by the Greening Grant Committee and the idea was presented to have a WSU Student Project do this. Keith Kelly suggested we contact Greenstone to see if they want to partner with this corridor project.
- Park Equipment

**Neighbor request for Neighborhood Cleanup Assistance:** A neighbor has expressed frustration to the council regarding Pinch Magazine delivery to abandoned homes causing clutter. Mike brought it up that this may help us start a greater conversation around furthering our involvement in neighborhood clean-up. It was suggested we, as the executive council, write a letter to the Spokesman requesting deliveries to abandoned addresses be discontinued. It was also mentioned by a neighbor that delivery had stopped to his area and he will check into how that happened. It was also mentioned that there may be a city ordinance that may address this. We also discussed interest in a Fall Neighborhood Cleanup. It was suggested that we partner with churches, local business, and organizations to make this cleanup even bigger than the Spring Cleanup. Mike will contact Jackie at ONS and get information regarding how much money we have to spend.

**WCCC Building Use Contract Renewal:** Mike informed the council that he signed the contracts with the community center to use the two rooms we normally use for the coming year. The city has assured us that there is no conflict of interest involved in signing these contracts and the community center applying for CDBG Funds.

#### **Standing Committee Reports**

- a. Parks Report:** there was no parks report due to the absence of Larry.
- b. Community Assembly Report:** Long Term Housing report from Arielle. Currently, the stakeholder group is in a educational phase around what the situation is. Right now, they are trying to figure if there are issues in Spokane around renting and the relationships between renters and landlords. Spokane Police Department spoke to them and informed the stakeholders that there is one officer in Spokane trained in Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design. She suggested it may be good to have this officer present to us at some point.
- c. Transportation Committee:** They meet next week. Nothing to report. Kelly Cruz mentioned that the city passed their six year street plan and it includes bike lanes on Mission and Maxwell from the light at the hill at the 7/11 on Maple and Ash east to Washington St.

#### **New Business**

It was suggested that the council ask the city for what accounts and how much money we have in CDBG accounts. We need to know what projects this money is for, if the projects are viable, and if the money is in danger of being flagged due to age anytime soon.

It was mentioned that there was an article in the Spokesman Review regarding a walking loop attached to the Centennial Trail by way of the Sandifur Bridge and go through Peaceful Valley.

#### **Old Business**

Nettleton Triangle: We did a press release and KHQ came out and did a piece on the plants being stolen. No plants have been stolen since then. An organization came out last week and planted flowers in the urns. One of the ideas that has been mentioned is doing an Event, perhaps called Harvest Days, to celebrate, have fun, and make the council visible. Another idea tonight was to invite the neighborhood for a neighborhood/community photo. Also, a raffle could be done to raise money. We are asking if the community center would want to partner with us. One resident mentioned he had a black powdered raffle that could be auctioned

off. It was also suggested we could do a ribbon cutting and invite elected officials and get some publicity for the project. It was also suggested that in the future, we have ribbon cutting events ahead of time for projects. The Inlander is in our neighborhood and may want to cover this. Judith informed us that there are rules around who can hold a raffle, how many people have to be involved, and what the stakes are. However, we can put a can out for donations. Mike asked if people were interested in pursuing this idea of a ribbon cutting event. There was interest. It was moved that we create a committee For this event. It was seconded and approved. This committee is: Arielle Anderson, Kitty Klitzke, Dave Reynolds, and Laura Hathorn.

Kelly Cruz announced the COPS Shop will have a national night out and block at Cannon Park August 4th.

Concerts at Audubon Park tomorrow and another on the 23rd.

Sarah announced she has a lost pit bull at her house. She has announced this on [nextdoor.com](http://nextdoor.com)

Meeting Adjourned at: 7:45pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Naomi Flaherty, Secretary