

WEST CENTRAL NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MINUTES

Wednesday, October 14, 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 attending 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 wcnc.chair@gmail.com.

Attendance: Arielle Anderson, Kevin Brownlee, Steve Corker, Kelly Cruz, Naomi Flaherty, Shari Frankovic, Evan Fuller, Judith Gilmore, Laura Hathorn, Daniel Herbers, Kay Howard, Hannah Fuller-Kimball, Steve Kounkel, Jake Miller, Jessie Norris, David Reynolds, Helen Sandifur, Ben Sedgwick, Jo Ann Stewart, Stephanie Swan, Don Swanson. Excused: Mike Brakel, Jen Hussey.

Welcome and Introductions

Heather Trautman: The city is working on changing the abandoned property registry. There will be an update going to the Plan Commission for a hearing. It will be called a foreclosure ordinance. There is also work moving forward with an ordinance around animals and noise. They will be going to City Council about junk vehicles and enforcement. Our greening grants were approved. There is work going on to pair our council with Eastern Washington University students around re-planning Dutch Jake Park.

Approval of October 14 Agenda and September 2015 Minutes

Corrections: Judith Gilmore will be marked excused. CDBG voting: due to rules from the city regarding Conflict of Interest. Vote counts were changed to account for three members who did not want to sign a conflict of interest form. These votes were moved to abstentions. It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the minutes for September with the noted edits.

Approval of the Agenda: it was moved, seconded and approved to accept the motion.

Presentation: Alcohol Impact Area Presentation by Police Department

This is an involved process and does not happen overnight. There are strategies used ahead of implementing an Alcohol Impact Area. This includes increased enforcement, community involvement, education, and business involvement. There are two Alcohol Impact Areas currently: East Central and Downtown. Logan is pushing hard to become another one. Geographic boundaries have to be easily understood by the public at large. It has to be explained why the geographic area is what it is. It must not include the entire city of Spokane. Boundaries are usually set as streets, usually including both sides of the street. We have to provide a clear enough boundary that the Alcohol and Cannabis Impact board can tell what businesses are affected. Voluntary Agreements and efforts must be tried for six months before the state will receive the petition.

Traci Ponto followed up by speaking to us about the history of the Alcohol Impact Area request that was previously before our council. She informed us that last year the Police Department had the hours available to them to patrol the parks. This year, they didn't have resources to do this.

It was noted that we would need more time for discussion on this topic next month.

Presentation: Access for All - 15 minutes

Dave Reynolds presented. Provided facts and statistics regarding the disabled community and how there is an economic impact to making our communities more accessible to all. He demonstrated how some types of accessibility features are helpful for obviously disabled individuals, while totally unsuccessful to making a location accessible for other types of disabled individuals. There is a need for education and awareness in the general population. They now have materials they can bring to businesses to help them in this effort. They need referrals to businesses that would welcome them to bring this material. They are also looking

for volunteers to learn more of what makes locations accessible. There was a question from a business owner as to ways and ideas to be more accessible.

CDBG Chair resignation and Alternate's Role

It was noted that Jessie Norris will continue to serve as alternate and we will address the need for an election next month.

West Central Community Center Report - Jo Ann Stewart

Letter to Parks Board, update

It was noted that the Executive Committee had postponed the writing of the letter as we did not feel we understood the process well enough to draft an appropriate letter. Kelly Cruz offered to write a draft for the executive committee to work with. Another resident offered to send templates or other tools that had been used by another neighborhood. Due to timing regarding the Parks Department Budget, it was noted that a draft should be present at the next meeting.

Council Woman Mumm - The city needs a new Police Chief. They are committed to a very public process in selecting a new police chief. There is a new school speed zone camera on Northwest Blvd. She also noted that there are a lot of boards and commissions with vacancies and they are seeking for more equity in gender and other areas as they fill these positions.

Standing Committee Reports

CDBG - the process for 2016 funding allocations has been completed. The committee is now working towards next year's process. Community Assembly Community Development committee meeting in January will be a forum for organizations interested in getting funding during the next allocation. She also shared about a handout regarding ideas for sidewalk funding improvements.

Motion made, seconded, and approved to extend the meeting by 10 minutes.

Community Assembly - Arielle Anderson, CA Rep. stressed the importance of this body because it speaks directly to the City Council around policy making. The time of the CA meeting will change to 5:30pm in January to make it more accessible to working people. She also noted you do not need to be a member of the CA to sit on committees for the CA. She also spoke to the need to fund raise to make our ideas possible. She shared with us that we will be able to make brochures for the Neighborhood Councils. There are classes available to learn to make the brochures. A template is needed by later this month. It was moved, seconded and approved that the communications committee will work on this. It may have to be approved over email. Combined Sewer Tank process to put these into our community. She will bring it before the executive committee that we have Marlene Faust speak to our council about this. She also mentioned the candidates forum downtown. Council Woman Candice Mumm was asked to speak about the new Neighborhood Notification Ordinance. She states that the new rules should be emailed out for us too.

It was moved, seconded, and approve for 5 more minutes.

Communications Report - Facebook and nextdoor.com are being used as outlets to communicate more widely to the neighborhood.

Treasurer - \$4 spent on printing materials this month.

Parks - no one present.

West Central Urban Fun Committee - there will be a meeting on Monday with Director of the Community Center.

Bylaws Committee - Meeting on October 22nd. A meeting announcement will be sent.

New Business

Dump Passes available and celebration of the success of the recent Neighborhood Clean Up event. So far this year, we have gotten rid of 44.05 tons of garbage between the spring and fall cleanups, not counting all the dump passes.

It was moved, seconded and approve to adjourn the meeting.

Adjourned at 8:13pm