

# WEST CENTRAL NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL Minutes

Wednesday, December 09, 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](mailto:wcnc.chair@gmail.com).*

**Attendance:** Arielle Anderson, Mike Brakel, Kelly Cruz, Naomi Flaherty, Shari Frankovic, Mary Fryback, Judith Gilmore, Steve Kounkel, Kimberly Lawrence, Jake Miller, Jessie Norris, Don Swanson, Larry Swartz, Sarah Tosch. Members-to-Be and Guests: Morgan Thomas, Brian Thomas, Dustin Shupp, Marshall Cuthbert, Jamlan Horner, Milena Robinson, Justin Mauger, Erin Burt, Jolly Chebruab, Daniel Chebruab, Jae Colvin, Kenton Profant. Excused Absence: Dave Reynolds, Jen Hussey.

Meeting began without a quorum at 6:36pm. We did not have a quorum at any point during the meeting.

## **Approval of November 11 Agenda and October 2015 Minutes**

Unable to approve minutes or agenda due to the absence of a quorum.

## **Welcome and Chair's Report:**

Mike Brakel made announcements regarding his health and why he was absent the last two months. Also, he informed us our neighborhood Traffic Calming Projects were approved by the city, one at \$130,000. Lastly, he announced a special meeting regarding the Alcohol Impact Area on January 27th.

## **Introductions**

Introductions were made. Still no quorum.

## **City Council Report**

Comments by Council Karen Stratton informing us regarding the public hearing process for the Sarff Development on Boone, Gardner, Maple and Ash.

## **Approval of October and November Minutes**

Though we could not vote to approve minutes, we took corrections.

On both months, change "Agenda" to "Minutes". On November Minutes: noted to indicate which statements were made by Larry Sarff towards the beginning of that section. Morgan Thomas should be corrected from Thomas Morgan. Also, Mike Brake should be Mike Brakel. Remove "Approval of October Minutes". Note Laura Hathorn as excused from November.

## **Park's Report**

Dutch Jake discussion regarding creating a plan to renovate the park. The committee is working with a professor from Eastern Washington University. It was also discussed that perhaps the council could write a letter to the Catholic Diocese regarding the sale of the convent land. This is of interest to the Park's Committee because this land is the last pristine river bank stretch near downtown and parts of our neighborhood over look it.

Dutch Jake Park Letter: discussion was had. Some felt we shouldn't send the letter due to not having a specific plan yet. Council Woman Karen Stratton suggested we send the letter. Others suggested we could be less specific regarding what we would use the money for since we are developing a plan. Judith Gilmore suggested we ask for more money and remind them of the Riverfront Park's Bond that was passed and was supposed to help with parks. She also said we should ask them (the Park's Board and Department) to help us with the design. If we have to spend money to have someone design the plan, they should help us pay for

it. It was requested that we add a sentence about how we're putting together a master plan. Kelly Cruz recommended that Larry ask someone from the Park's Board/Department to come to the Parks Committee Meeting.

Nominations Committee: Kimberly, Morgan Thomas, Arielle Anderson volunteered. Couldn't vote to create the committee without a quorum.

#### **Committee Reports:**

CDBG: see attached report. Additionally, the funding cycle for 2016 is beginning soon. The CDBG committee is already on the search for capital projects for this neighborhood that qualify for CDBG funding. Please contact Jessie Norris with questions or ideas. It was suggested that Jessie give us a short tutorial in the next couple months regarding what type of projects qualify and what the timeline is. Kelly Cruz requested information regarding whether two specific projects (sidewalks and trashcans), had any follow up and if the money is actually being used for those projects. Judith Gilmore pointed out that it was a business person who made us aware of the the trashcan and sidewalk improvements needed in front of his business. She pointed this out to new people attending who are business owners in the neighborhood. A new attendee informed us there are no street lights on Boone in front of Bong's, pretty much the whole of Boone.

Community Assembly: City Council passed their budget. As part of that, they allocated \$15,000 to Community Assembly (CA). Part of what CA will do with this is accept applications from neighborhoods. Each neighborhood can get \$500 for things like licensed childcare for the Neighborhood Council meeting, capacity building, brochures, etc. Also, the CA will be allowing each neighborhood council a free concert. George Dahl, from our city, will be requesting to come and present to us regarding the proposed change in funding sidewalk repair. The city will be holding a training on December 28th at the West Central Community Center regarding the new Neighborhood Notification Ordinance.

Treasure: \$7 for printing this month

Bylaws Report: presented sections sent out with this meeting announcement. Kelly Cruz recommended we have someone with a law background review the final version before it is fully ratified to make sure that the language in the bylaws allows us to continue being a 501c3. It was brought up that some of us feel it may not be appropriate to be a 501c3. Judith Gilmore pointed out that as far as she knows, we have never filed annual tax forms required from a 501c3.

#### **New Business:**

There is a tree that has been snapped off and some dead trees we spent funding on as a council a few years ago. Council Woman Stratton and Mike Brakel will check into how to replace these trees.

Judith Gilmore shared with us that due to funding from us and other neighborhoods they will be able to start putting the security system in soon. Additionally, they will be able to begin offering an apprenticeship program for low income people soon. This is in large part due to funding from our council. Ash Street Station 1925 North Ash.

Adjourned at 8:00pm