

WEST CENTRAL NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL Minutes

Wednesday, January 13, 2016

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: Mike Brakel, Naomi Flaherty, Shari Frankovic, Kay Howard, Steve Kounkel, Kimberly Lawrence, Jake Miller, Jessie Norris, David Reynolds, Milena Robison, Helen Sandifur, Don Swanson, Larry Swartz, Brian Thomas, Morgan Thomas, Sarah Tosch, Kenton Profant. Excused Absence: Arielle Anderson, Judith Gilmore, JoAnn Stewart. Guests: Patricia Rose Matisse, Council Woman Karen Stratton, Heather Trautman (ONS), George Dahl (City), Captain Thomas Hendren (Police).

Called to Order at 6:36pm

Welcome and Introductions

Introductions were made.

Approval of January 13th Agenda and October, November, and December 2015 Minutes

October Minutes edit: add "Eastern Washington University" to introductions. It was moved, passed and approved the October minutes with corrections. No corrections to November. It was moved, seconded, and approved to accept the November minutes. It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the December minutes without edits.

Edits to tonight's agenda: add the Long Term Housing Ordinance Presentation. It was moved, seconded and approved to accept the Agenda with edits.

City Council or Police Report if present

Heather Trautman from Office of Neighborhood Services reported. There is a training here at the West Central Community Center on January 28 from 5:30-7:00pm. regarding the Neighborhood Notification Ordinance. This training goes into more depth than previous ones. There are also traffic calming trainings coming up this month and next on January 26th at the NE Community Center and January 27th at the SouthSide Senior Center. There is also one here on February 3rd at the WCCC. All of these are 5:30-7:00pm. Traffic Calming Applications are due March 7, 2016. Neighborhood Clean Up is happening again this year. There is training available regarding this as well. We will also be getting an email from the city soon regarding how to track the traffic coming to our neighborhood website. She reminded us there is a calendar on the city website regarding these trainings. It is spokaneneighborhoods.org.

Officer Tom Hendren, new commander for the North Precinct. His desk number is 509-625-4049. This is not to report a crime, but rather if you have a question or concern regarding the precinct. He shared that we saw some significant reductions in property crimes last year. He didn't have the specific report with him for West Central tonight. Commercial Burglary he stated was one of the areas they had an increase in. He asked us to pass on to our neighbors that the more we talk to the neighbors, the better and safer our neighborhoods will be. He encouraged us to report to Crime Check as they do utilize that information as they seek to improve our areas.

Councilwoman Karen Stratton reported. She spoke regarding the process of hiring a firm to investigate issues within the Police Department. She also noted that City Council passed the Safe and Sick Leave Ordinance this week. She informed us that if there

are small business who are concerned regarding this ordinance, she would be happy to meet them and go over it with them. She also spoke regarding the first parklet that was placed on W. 1st. There is a possibility of neighborhoods using parklets come spring in connection with other events.

She will be speaking on Counsel Connections in March on TV and wants to speak on West Central. She may be in touch to see if anyone wants to participate with her or help her develop it.

A resident asked how to be informed regarding the Comprehensive Plan for our neighborhood. Heather Trautman informed us we can ask for a training to help us understand what this plan is for our neighborhood.

George Dahl: Sidewalks

He gave a presentation regarding the sidewalk program for Spokane. This program is a proposal and is presented for our conversation. Goals of the program are to repair dangerous sidewalks and repair right of way violations. Currently, for a sidewalk to be repaired, it must be in a qualifying block group as determined by income. The proposal would state that the individual owning the property would need to qualify based on income and then they could apply to the city for the sidewalk repair. To qualify, it must be the residential home owner who's income is less than \$36,150 a year. They are seeking to give priority to right of way violations, disabled, elderly and lowest income. The program would be funded by taking the lump sum available for neighborhood allocation and directly allocating some of this specifically to sidewalks. This sidewalk allocation would be managed by the city. Currently, the neighborhoods decide individually how much, if any, they want to allocate to sidewalks.

Nomination's Committee

Kimberly Lawrence and Morgan Thomas volunteered last month. Stephanie Swan and Brian Thomas volunteered this month. It was moved, seconded and approved to accept these four as our nominations committee.

Bylaws Committee

Further editing was done on officer positions that were already in progress. There will be further information next month. There will be pieces of the bylaws available next month for a non-binding advisory vote.

Letter to Parks Board Draft

It has been decided to revise the letter to broaden the request so as to use the funding for the masterplan that is being created in conjunction with EWU students. The revised letter will be sent out ahead of time next month so that it can be voted on. They had a great turn out for the parks committee last month. Council Woman Karen Stratton brought her husband who is on the Parks Board. He encouraged people to come and keep the momentum up. The masterplan is intended to include the greenway plan to connect the park to Kendall Yards. They are looking at this being a Senior Capstone project for EWU students starting in April. The city, parks and ONS, has agreed to pay for services from EWU for the services rendered to develop the masterplan for Dutch Jake Park.

Standing Committee Reports

CDBG - the CA/CD committee did not meet in January in order to be available to attend the CA meeting and participate in conversation regarding the sidewalk program presented above. There is not much else to report at this point. We have not been informed as to how much money will be allocated to our neighborhood yet. She asked that we contact her with any ideas for projects. She also stated that questions regarding the sidewalk proposal can be sent to her. She was part of the subcommittee that worked on the proposal. It was asked if the Dutch Jake Park project could be funded by CDBG funds. Larry Swartz stated that we couldn't fund the majority of it this way.

Community Assembly - Arielle Anderson could not attend. Sarah Tosch presented as she has been on the Long Term Housing Ordinance sub committee the last few months. She explained this is a brainstorming group and so far they have listened to several presenters. She informed us that if we have something we would like to add to this discussion please contact Sarah Tosch. You can get her email from the Secretary. The March meeting will include presentations regarding other concerns around the ordinance.

Communications Report: encouraged people to pay attention to the city website for calendar items.

Treasurer - upcoming expense regarding filing with the Secretary of State of \$10.

West Central Urban Fun Committee - not presented.

Bylaws Committee (see above).

CDBG: vote on \$12,600 allocation

The West Central Community Center's Garage project is now fully funded and is not in need of these funds. Dutch Jake's lighting is already funded and we cannot put this money towards Dutch Jake. The money must be allocated to a project that already had money allocated. This means it needs to go to Sinto Senior Center or to Sidewalks. It was moved and seconded to allocate \$5000 go to Sinto Senior Center and \$7600 to sidewalks. This was passed. Yes 16. There were no votes for "no" or abstentions.

Old Business

Reminder that there is a special meeting on January 28th at 6:30-8pm in the Salem Lutheran Gym on West Broadway.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:00pm