

Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council
General Meeting Minutes
May 17, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Chair, Gary Schumacher.

Introductions were made of all present.

The minutes were read and approved as written.

The Treasurer's report shows that the council has \$806.38 in our checking account with no expenditures.

HHBL

Craig Anderson from HHBL came to talk with us about drainage and conservation projects in our neighborhood. HHBL is based in Tacoma. They are primarily civil engineers.

The Frog Ponds that are within our neighborhood boundaries are owned by Avista, the City of Spokane and private owners. The ponds are on 29th and Havana, toward 33rd. It is mostly rocky terrain with wildlife and wetland areas.

Some possibilities for use of the land is a playground for kids, trails with descriptive kiosk pointing out vegetation and animals that populate the area and storm water treatment facilities.

They offered to help us with shoreline sustainability, bike and pedestrian connectivity, designing of parks and landscape architecture.

Low impact development is a storm water management strategy that emphasizes conservation by:

- Reducing volume and manage high flows of water
- Removes pollutants from storm water
- Reduces size of storm facilities
- Increases open space
- Can increase public safety

Site Analysis includes topography, soils, hydrology, vegetation, habitat, surrounding land use, zoning, access and utility availability.

If the land needs any of the following, they can also help plan a fire access – a plan like this will have narrower streets with limited pavement, pervious paving, rehabilitate soil that has been disturbed, storm gardens, drought tolerant plantings, ornamental and wild grasses.

Redhawk

The Rotary Club is interested in partnering in the Frog Ponds project. They are partners with WSU and schools. The next step would be to get the neighborhood support and make sure there is enthusiasm. Funding is available through the Rotary, the Department of Ecology, DNR and Ducks Unlimited.

We need to start the steps of analysis, design and construction.

It was suggested that the neighborhood meet with Dale Arnold and JoAnn Wright. We can ask if we can do a clean up in the area and possibly, to tours of the park for neighbors.

City of Spokane Ombudsman

Tim Burns, the Ombudsman for the Spokane City Police Department came to talk with us to share the Citizen's Reference Guide and the 201 Annual Report. The report can also be viewed on line at www.spdombudsman.org under reports and documents.

The Ombudsman's job is to receive complaints, do interviews, certify investigations, make policy, make training recommendations, mediate complaints, respond to critical incidents and complete closing reports.

In 2010, there were:

- 134,615 police contacts made
- 4,391 arrests made
- 2,472 warrants served
- 19,863 citations issued
- 6,446 domestic violence calls taken
- 281 search warrants done
- 42 special weapons and tactics activated (SWAT)
- 580 mental health contacts

Street Patrols

- There were 49 police department members involved in 58 vehicle collisions
- 90 vehicle pursuits
- 42 suspects arrested
- 22 suspects escaped
- 9 pursuits terminated by officers
- 6 pursuits terminated by supervisors
- 4 accidents where the suspect collided with citizen's vehicles
- 3 stops using force
- 3 suspects surrendered
- 1 suspect shoot themselves

Community Assembly

A proposal to limit vehicle storage on private property is being submitted for opinions. This will include your own RV's, boats and vehicles. The question of "should storage be allowed on non-paved surfaces" and "method of storage, including fences and buildings" . The Community Assembly would like a consensus from the neighborhood by June 1st.

Clean Up

We most likely will have more dump passes for our July and September meetings.

Neighborhood Picnic

Our neighborhood picnic will be on August 16th at 6:30 at Thornton Murphy Park at 27th and Ray. Please bring your own plates, silverware and chairs. You can bring a dish to share with your neighbors and have a good time.

Respectfully submitted,
Colleen Dennis
Secretary/Treasurer