

Draft

Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council

September 19, 2017

Welcome

Carol Tomsic welcomed all attending and mentioned the council secretary position was vacant.

Roll

All present did introductions. No quorum.

Approval of Minutes

Deferred to next meeting.

Neighborhood Resource Officer Update

Officer Dion Mason presented. He addressed the panhandling on 29th/Regal. He said there is no ordinance so it was not illegal to solicit/panhandle, except near ATMs, public pay phones or transportation stops. If a panhandler steps into a roadway or stops traffic a resident can call crime check. He also talked about theft. He said to secure possessions or lose them and motion light sensors and alarms system stickers help. He said not to keep garage door openers in cars. He said there were not “hot-spots” in Lincoln Heights. He also stressed residents watch out for self and neighbors. The Altamont loop was traffic was also discussed. He said a motor officer could be assigned for at least an hour. Neighbors could contact him at the COPS southeast location 625-3326.

Council update

Breean Beggs gave an update on the city’s 311 phone number. Potholes can be reported using that number. He also talked about the city’s new snow removal plan. It will require residents to clear a 3-foot wide sidewalk during snow storms or have a fine on their utility bills. He said the elderly would be connected to help. He said the city council cleared their meeting agenda on October 25 to just discuss homelessness. He gave an update on his sidewalk initiative and an upcoming poll would be available to help decide how the sidewalk initiative would be funded.

Surprise Visit by Four Neighborhood Fireman

The fireman introduced themselves and asked if anyone had questions. They said traffic should pull over to the right to let the fire trucks pass. They said their trucks are dispatched when there is evidence of a fire/event. They could not guarantee a visit every council meeting.

South Hill Public Library Update

Becky Mace, librarian, gave an update on the library. She said she can connect people to the information they need. She also said there were two upcoming events; fire safety on October 2 at 6 pm and home preparedness on October 14 at 2 pm.

SNAP Presentation

Kim Kreber, a conservation education coordinator of SNAP presented on 36 programs offered by SNAP including weatherization and heat assistance. She talked about the essential home repair program; a program that received extra funding from the city and helps low-income residents with minor home repairs and accessibility modifications. The contact number is 456-7627.

Traffic Calming Update

Marilyn Lloyd gave an update on the traffic calming projects that were approved by the city council; a sidewalk at the west end medium on 35th Ave/Fiske St and a safer corridor for pedestrians and cyclist traveling between Lincoln Park and the Ben Burr Trail. A previously approved Altamont traffic calming project was discussed as there is a problem with traffic and safety at the Altamont circle. Shirley will be contacted for an update.

Spokane Matters Update

Deferred to next meeting.

Community Assembly Update

Deferred to next meeting.

WSDOT Update on the Interstate 90 Operations Study

Larry Frostad, assistant traffic engineer and Mike Bjordahl gave an update on the Interstate 90 Operations Study. The goal of the study was to improve safety and performance, enable efficient management and operations and enhance traveler information. There was a lack of engaged citizens. Some ideas were cost prohibitive. They looked at tech, including self-driving cars, and practical solutions with less funding. A free gallon of gas is available to stranded drivers because of a focus on clearing incidents within 15 minutes to reduce secondary crashes. For every one

minute there is a three percent probability of a secondary crash. Metered ramps were suggested as well as the off-table Walnut and Monroe ramp closures.

City's New Snow Removal Plan

Melissa Whittstruck mentioned the new snow removal plan and will speak at the November meeting on the plan.

Meeting was adjourned at 8 pm.