

Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council Meeting  
January 21, 2020  
6-7:30 pm  
Southside Community Center

Carol Tomsic, Council Chair, led the meeting.

**Roll Call-** Neighbors and Guests introduced themselves around the table.

**Approval of Minutes** November minutes were approved.

### **Neighborhood Updates**

#### **Police Update – Detective Bob Mosman**

- Detective Mosman told us a story about a recent estate sale. The family of the deceased placed items outside of the home with “free” signs around it and locked the items they wished to sell inside the home.
- After three days, they returned to the home to find that the front door was kicked in and many things were stolen (including, unfortunately, the urn that contained the ashes of the deceased man). A neighbor caught suspects on a Ring video camera while they carried items to their vehicle. The video did not show a wide enough angle to show them entering or exiting the home. The video did capture the vehicle license plate number.
- All three suspects were found, however, they all said in separate interviews that they had taken the items from the yard with “free” signs on it. The police didn’t have enough evidence beyond a reasonable doubt, since so much time had passed that anyone could have already broken in before these suspects and left the items on the lawn with the other free things. One of the suspects was arrested for a different warrant and meth was found on her upon being booked into jail, so she is off the streets now. On the way to book her, Detective Mosman noted that she faked multiple seizures and had to take a trip to the E.R., where they determined that she was not having any seizures.
- *Takeaways; Det. Mosman recommends Ring video cameras, and he recommends that people not leave an estate for that long (72 hrs) without checking on it, otherwise you could risk losing the reasonable doubt needed for a conviction.*

#### **City Council Update – Lori Kinnear**

- Lori Kinnear was re-elected as our representative to the city council. Since Councilmember Beggs was elected as Council President, his seat needed to be filled. Out of 32 applicants, and after interviews that were open to the public, Betsy Wilkerson was hired to fill the vacancy. Councilmember Kinnear notes that we now have a female majority on council.
- The downtown precinct is being moved to the core of downtown, and an additional four officers are being added. The police department is excited about this change.
- The urban tree ordinance discussed at our last meeting was passed.
- The 5G installation happening in town has become a big controversy. This is due to Verizon’s lack of communication with citizens. They are regulated by the FCC, so Council has no power over what they are doing. A new committee will try and make them follow the rules. Complaints can go to Verizon and Carol will have the contact information for this.

### **Standing Updates**

### **South Hill Library – Dana Dalrymple**

- Dana Shared with us the calendar of upcoming events. This can be found on the Library's website as well. Of note, there is now a daily story time at the South Hill Library. Also, on March 30<sup>th</sup> there will be a volunteer fair at the SH Library from 2:00-6:00 PM. There will be a book sale at the Downtown branch Feb 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>.
- She discussed the upcoming bond projects and their status. The Shadle Library was moved into the Northtown mall (across from the Blue Zoo). The Downtown Library will be moved into the STA Plaza on February 28<sup>th</sup>. The Hive will break ground in the spring of this year.
- Tickets to Mobius and the Museum are now available for check out.

### **South Perry Business Neighborhood Association – Emily Wenzel**

- Please think about attending the SPBNA meetings on the second Tuesday of even months at Emmaus at 6:30 PM. It isn't just for businesses, it is for ALL South Perry Neighbors and anyone interested. There are often snacks!
- The South Perry Street fair will be July 18<sup>th</sup> this year. VOLUNTEERS are needed.

### **Climate Impacts Research Consortium - Trenton Miller**

- Trenton is a volunteer for the Sustainability Action Sub-Committee. They are focused on environmental conservation & adaptation efforts in Spokane.
- They have five major focus areas that are impacting Spokane
  - Temperature- Warmer temperatures all year long.
  - Precipitation- Wetter winters, drier summers
  - Wildfires- Higher fire danger & more smoke
  - Snowpack- More rain, less snow
  - Streamflow- Warmer stream temps & lower summer flows
- They have the following work groups created; Sustainability Action Plan, Natural Resources, Built Environment, Planning & Land Use, Waste/Recycling, Energy, and Transportation.
- As a volunteer based group, they are trying to come up with ideas and provide recommendations on policy or practices the city can adopt to address these concerns. They are reaching out for citizens to share concerns with them, join one of their sub-committees, or help with outreach.
- A neighbor asked if his group is working on looking at wildfire danger. Trenton said that they would like to. He also mentioned that the City has discussed a potential solution of using goats to bring in and have them eat the brush back. Many groups are working on this because the City has said we are not prepared for wildfires within the city.
- A neighbor asked about the danger of accumulation of pine needles and asked what to do when you see this on properties owned by the City or by other residents. Other neighbors suggested that calling 311 was the best option to have that addressed.

### **Traffic Calming project update – Dash Cotton**

- Our Gonzaga student group working on this for us compiled our responses from last meeting about which projects/problem areas were most important to us. The number one concern was the hawk light being put in at the Rosauers crosswalk on 29<sup>th</sup>.

- A neighbor mentioned that it is dangerous when traffic backs up from people traveling S-bound up the Altamont hill, as they try to turn left at the top of the hill. That corner is difficult, and a few ideas were discussed. Mainly, it is most important that it becomes a one-way since two vehicles cannot turn at the same time from that corner.
- The next traffic committee meeting is on February 4<sup>th</sup> where these will be discussed. Changes are coming to the traffic calming application process.
- A neighbor asked if we could add speeding near Ferris HS to the list of concerns. Carol said that she would add that to the list and look into the idea of a traffic camera there.

### **Comp Plan Zoning Amendment – Dwight Hume**

- Dwight Hume spoke with us about the NE corner of Ray that has a vacant lot. The Planning Commission originally approved a Zone Change there, years ago, but council reversed it.
- A new request was filed for office zoning. Nov/Dec of this year is the projected “finish line” for the decision to be made. The Planning Commission will look at the request in July.
- It is a right in/right out property in terms of access from the street. Traffic will not be impacted by this being a commercial property and it will likely be an appointment type service, rather than a convenience business.
- A neighbor asked if creeping zone change will follow. Dwight assured us that it is unlikely. In his experience, that isn’t what has happened in areas like Francis. The city is very strict about how that happens.
- A neighbor asked why office zoning and not multi-family? Dwight answered that the site is really too small for apartments and there wouldn’t be room for parking.
- A neighbor asked what inquiries have been made so far. Dwight said that someone inquired about putting a coffee shop there but that it can’t have a drive through. He also mentioned that no one has inquired about multi-family units.
- A neighbor asked why the zoning needs to be changed at all? Dwight answered that there is no demand for it as a single family lot.

Meeting Adjourned 7:30 pm

Next meeting March 17, 2020

### **Neighborhood News**

Garden District - Greenleaf Landscaping is scheduled to trim and work on the trees in the walking corridor. Work will be done under the guidance of an arborist. It may involve a few trees that are too damaged to keep. Centennial Contracting is scheduled to begin rough grading of the entire site, including all of the roads. Vegetation from the areas that will be developed will be removed. Most of the aspens will be removed from the meadow west of Crestline Street. Work is estimated to start February 1st. Sidewalk work on Crestline Street will begin in Spring and parking will be restricted to one side of the street. The connection between 32nd and 31st will be moved slightly east to the end of 32nd cul-de-sac because of a big rock outcropping and in order to avoid the removal of several large ponderosa pines. Greenstone is advising neighbors to avoid walking through the site until they can establish temporary routes in the Spring.

Proposed South Perry or Monroe Street Urban Center – delayed until Summer 2020

New City Council District Two– Betsy Wilkerson was appointed but still needs to be sworn in.