

## Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council Meeting

Zoom

Feb 16, 2021

6-7:30 pm

### **Welcome**

#### **Virtual Sign-in:**

Shirlee Robert's-Downey

Adam & Nikki Miles

Marilyn Reimann

Marilyn Lloyd

Sally Phillips

Carol Tomsic

Makaya Judge

Diane Birginal

Chuck & Marcia Milani

Ruth

William Bidowski

Annica Eagle-ONS, City of Spokane

Michelle Weaver- SPNBA

Jake Willard- NRO

#### **Neighborhood Updates:**

Giacobbe Byrd - City Council - [gbyrd@spokanecity.org](mailto:gbyrd@spokanecity.org)

\*Water conservation plan puts us at a target of a %5 reduction, but they would like to expand that goal this spring.

\*Our aquifer and river are very connected. When we pump a lot of water in the summer peak months (sometimes 3x as much as usual) it becomes an issue because it pulls our river flow down. In July and August that can be critical for trout spawning and for recreational activities. Water conservation can also reduce the need for infrastructure like water towers.

\*Ruth asked about education for citizens about better use of water (such as watering at night and early in the morning). Giacobbe stated that yes, we need more communication campaigns about water conservation. Miles suggested

adding a note to the water bill.

\*The Docketing Committee will meet tomorrow to review 7 proposed Comp plan amendments. The one on the Palouse Highway could have an impact on traffic flow and also a proposal for bike lanes on 37th.

\*There was a discussion of traffic calming near Freya due to expansions of multi-family dwellings.

#### Jake Willard – neighborhood resource officer

\*He works with the homelessness POD throughout the city. Now, SPD is no longer doing the enforcement piece, but are still focusing on providing resources and connecting people with programs in conjunction with code enforcement and Frontier Behavioral Health.

#### Tim Sigler – presentation on homeless/panhandling

\*Tim is the director of the city's Community, Housing and Human Services. They manage and monitor funds which support the homelessness services here in Spokane.

\*His advice about panhandling is Don't Give Money to Panhandlers- instead, donate to services. Not all people with signs are actually homeless. Some of them are housed and taking advantage.

\*There was a discussion of services, and how we can best help. Carol asked about using the Community Block Grant.

\*Shirlee asked about the issues of camping on the Ben Burr Trail near Altamont. Jake explained that City Council would have to make some decisions about the camping rules. SPD is in a holding pattern with attorneys because the illegal camping problem is really complicated right now and they are not enforcing. He reiterated that the more voices and more complaints will help to encourage the City to do enforcement.

\*The Boise vs Martin case and COVID have each had a huge impact on the process of dealing with illegal camping. Until the city can definitively prove that there is space available in shelters, SPD is unable to follow through with illegal camping enforcement.

\*When 311 is notified of Homeless camps, the camper is sent to community court (which is a connection to social services). They are able to receive services and if they agree to take advantage of these services, the ticket is dropped.

\***How do we give help in a positive way?** On an individual basis, you can volunteer with agencies that help the homeless or you can give money to programs like the Cities "Give Real Change," UGM, or to other agencies that help work with homelessness

solutions.

### **Standing Updates**

#### Michelle Weaver -VP of South Perry Business and Neighborhood Association

\*Currently, they are focusing on outreach to the businesses to help promote business and see what they need during this COVID crisis.

\*Beyond that, Michelle plans to coordinate with the LHNC and connect our two groups.

#### Carol Tomsic – Public Meeting 2/17/21 at 5:30 pm Ray-Freya Alternative Analysis

\*Link to the meeting was emailed out. We may end up with a roundabout so if you have any input attend that meeting for comment.

\*Adam commented that traffic is really increasing on Freya and Ray, and mentioned that the Ray/Freya crossover is really important to help with traffic calming for school walking routes.

\*Sally mentioned that the City site also has a link to a survey that asks about this.

#### Carol Tomsic – PeTT meeting 2/23/21 at 6 pm on Traffic Calming

\*Of note for LH, the bike path on 37th will be discussed.

### **Adjourn**