

Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council Meeting
May 19, 2021
6-7:30 pm

via Zoom

Welcome

Announcement that meeting is being recorded.

Virtual Sign-In

Carol Tomsic, Sally Phillips, Marilyn Lloyd, Ofc. Jake Willard, Marcia and Chuck Milani, Teresa and William Bidowski, Diana Gulick, Kathleen Weinard, Morgan Rockey, Marilyn and Hank Reimann, Annica Eagle, Trenton Miller, Diane Birginal, Mark Carlos, Michelle Weaver, Ruth Mincks

Neighborhood Updates

Dianna Gulick discussed her efforts to get a cold case investigative unit established at the Spokane Police Dept. A dedicated unit would deal with murders, unidentified remains, missing persons, sexual assault (using DNA evidence). Diana has spoken to Chief Meidl, most City Council members, and to Mayor Woodard, and they have been supportive. Find more information at coldcasebase.com as well as on the cold cases of spokane facebook group. People are encouraged to join the group. Emails of support for the project would be appreciated.

Officer Jake Willard told us most crimes in LH have been burglary, prowling or drug-related. Be sure to lock your car and home. Don't leave valuables in the car or bikes in the yard. Just make it as difficult as possible for thieves. He urged citizens to keep calling in reports of suspicious activity or about homeless camps, or abandoned trash.

Spokane Transit Authority representative Kathleen Weinard thanked the Council for previous feedback. Changes planned for Routes 43 and 44 have been postponed until next year. Suggestions for improved east-west service on the south hill will be considered when they are next able to add service. No fare increases are currently planned. This summer, STA is giving away youth passes. There was a question about parking meter rate increases. Mark Carlos will check into this and provide info to Carol Tomsic

Mark Carlos, Council member Betsy Wilkerson's assistant, reported with Council news:

- Spokane has a new flag, after wide consultation on the design.
- Please let him know if people are having issues with the new collection schedule for recycling bins.
- We have a new City Administrator, Johnnie Perkins who would be willing to present at our Neighborhood Council.
- In the works is a plan to dispense vaccines at fire departments and thru School District 81.
- The City's sustainability action plan is available online. Workshops are planned, and an informational video is on-line. Citizens are encouraged to provide email comments. Details at: <https://my.spokanecity.org/bcc/committees/public-infrastructure-environment-and-sustainability/sustainability-action-subcommittee/>
- Non-profits should look at the possibility of qualifying for COVID recovery funds.
- Goats are coming back to city land to eat weeds.

- A new location is being discussed for the additional south side water tower, originally planned for Hamblen Park. Instead it may be located on a parcel owned by School Dist 81, at the northeast corner of Hamblen School grounds. Details at: <https://www.spokesman.com/stories/2021/may/20/with-three-finalists-narrowed-down-spokane-still-h/>
- Mark's email: mcarlos@spokanecity.org.

There was a question about a recent zoning request for multi-family housing on Moran Prairie in the vicinity of Palouse Highway and Freya. Though denser housing would help with housing affordability, this location lacks the needed infrastructure to support it.

Michelle Weaver – Perry Business District representative reported:

- Perry St Market started on 5/6, now has 75 vendors.
- The Grant Park community garden has space for new gardeners. Avista is providing a drip system, and a better fence, the latter costing \$28k.
- A renovation permit has been filed for the empty decaying building on Perry, adjacent to the Windmill. The business group is hoping that there will be follow-thru, though previous permitting at that location has not resulted in renovation.
- Group is working on a walking map of the district, highlighting local business, with graphic help from Spokaloo map designs (<https://www.spokaloo.net/>) They expect it will be available mid-summer.
- Perry Street Fair will not be live this year – look for an on-line presence.
- Meeting House Coffee Shop has applied for a license to sell wine and beer. Details: <https://my.spokanecity.org/projects/meeting-house-cup-requested-condition-change/>

Morgan Rockey introduced herself as the legislative assistant to Andy Billig. She and Senator Billig are a resource for state-wide issues, and welcome ideas for the next legislative session.

A couple safety issues around Lincoln Heights shopping center:

At 27th & Mt Vernon, a mugo pine shrub has grown large enough to block line of sight onto 27th.

At the Lincoln Heights shopping Center, next to the Coldstone Creamery, the lavender plants are also creating a line of sight issue for motorists exiting at the adjacent driveway. Annica Eagle and Carol Tomsic will notify the City.

A couple planned presenters – David Graves (Safe Water Spokane) and George Hollwedel (SCC instructor) were not able to attend.

Meeting ended at 7:20 PM

– Submitted by Sally Phillips