

Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council Meeting – draft minutes

May 21, 2023

6-7:30 pm

Southside Community Center

Welcome

Chair, Carol Tomsic, welcomed everyone to the meeting. She reminded everyone about the Meet Your Neighbors in the Park Sponsored by the Parks Foundation on the third Saturday in August.

Attendance

Members – Carol Tomsic, Ginnie Henry, Mallory Yandell, Josh Yandell, Richard Sola, Shawn Terjeson, Myriam Munson, Lori Freshman, Jacob Cain, Nadine Timm, Brian Kennedy, Chuck Milani, Marcia Milani, John Spencer, Jessica Adkins, James Pearson, Danny Pearson, Hadley Morrow, Hank Reimann, Marilyn Reimann, Joe Koczaski, Ryan Kelly, Erin Meuer, Ginny Ramos

Guests – Lili Navarrete, Annie Deasy, Angela Richardson, Nicolle Cabellero

Approve Minutes

Shawn Terjeson motioned to approve the March and April Minutes. Chuck Milani and Richard Sola seconded the motion. There were no nays or abstains. Minutes were approved.

City Council Member Lili Navarrete and Ginny Ramos, Legislative Assistant to Paul Dillon

Lili Navarrete was introduced. It was noted it was her first meeting with our council. She said she has lived in the East Central neighborhood for over 30 years. Lili said the Latah building moratorium passed city council 5-2. It was noted that the Altamont Traffic Study improvement recommendations will most likely be swapped with a project in the district two cycle 12 traffic calming projects. An ordinance to establish cooling requirements will be voted on at their

6/3/24 meeting. The ordinance with the new minimal notice period for rent increases will take effect on 6/12/24. She also said the council is trying to define an emergency ordinance. Lili also said she will meet with Sgt Rhian Wilkerson on Thursday to discuss the increase in violence occurring at Lincoln Heights and Regal. She shared her encounter with a shoplifter at Ross which resulted in the return of \$500 of merchandise. It was stated that many businesses are dealing with theft. It was also stated that there are restrictions the police must follow. A resident said to let cops be cops again. Lili said baseball fields were the top sites requested to be patrolled.

Angela Richardson, Customer Experience Manager, South Hill Library

Angela said the library is having a summer reading program. It is for adults as well as children this year. She said children and adults who read 15 days out of the month, June 1 thru August 31, can enter to win a prize, including coffee, tattoos, and rock climbing. She said audiobooks count too. Angela said there were many summer-related activities items that can be checked out of the library, including paddle boards, discover parks passes, yard tools, yard games like pickle ball, volleyball and croquet. Pickle ball sites were discussed. It was stated that tennis courts could be used to play pickle ball. She said to call the library to see if an item could be transferred and picked up at the Liberty Park Library. Angela also said there were vegetables, herbs and seeds you can take at the library. You can donate seeds too. It was noted that the purpose of the library has changed to beyond books. It was also noted you could still pick up the special edition expo '74 50th anniversary card at the South Hill Library. She said there were also many activities we could attend at the library including a chess club, Friday night paints, book club, and chair yoga.

Nicolle Cabellero, Director of the Southside Food Pantry

Nicolle introduced herself. She said the food pantry serves 300 residents every Saturday. She said forty percent of the residents served are Ukraine, Russian, Columbia, Mexican and Congo. She said their food bank partners with Second Harvest and eight grocery stores. The donations are tax benefits. She said they get thousands of pounds of food a month. She was asked if there were missing opportunities and she said there were 26 outlets missing. She said our residents could help by volunteering. She said her volunteer base is aged 6 up to 90 years old. She said you can donate a food item Monday thru Friday 8-10 am. Monetary donations are accepted. She said residents with trucks or SUVs could pick up donations. She said they accept vegetable and fruit donations, so plant an extra row of vegetables in your garden. Nicolle said they follow the state Department of Agriculture guidelines. They don't require documentation or zip codes from people using the foodbank. They have been at their site for 19 years. The church gave the site permanently to them three years ago. For more information on volunteer opportunities or any questions contact Nicolle at nicollec@southsidespokane.org or call 509-508-0131.

Altamont Loop Traffic Study Improvement Recommendations Resolution

Carol read the resolution. She stated the resolution asks city council to add the Altamont Loop Traffic Study improvement recommendations to the four-year neighborhood traffic calming list and be promptly funded by the traffic calming fund. She stated those who had attended two out of six regular meetings could vote. But even if you could not vote you could make a comment on the resolution. A discussion ensued. Annie said there was still fluidity in the already approved Cycle 12 projects. Annie said Council President Betsy Wilkerson and Council Member Paul Dillon supported the improvement recommendations. She said the Cycle 12 projects have not gone to the engineer yet, so they are easily adjusted. The definition and background of the Altamont Loop traffic study was discussed. It was stated the resolution did not address alterations to the recommendations. Any alterations would occur after the improvement projects were funded and looked at by the city's engineers. The availability of COPS speed sign trailers was discussed. Annie said the two blue trailers used in the Mobile Feedback Program could be used for a two-week period for construction traffic too. Annie said she could work with the city's construction relation manager to make that happen.

Shawn Terjerson motioned to support the resolution. Richard Sola seconded the motion. There were no nays or abstains. The resolution passed unanimously.

Franklin Elementary School PTG and APPLE program Mural Resolution

Carol read the resolution. She said she was excited at the prospect of the mural.

A discussion ensued. It was noted that the picnic shelter was dark and bright paint would be a good option. It was stated that a special paint to deter vandalism was mentioned at the March meeting. Carol said the resolution was to support the Spokane Arts grant application.

Shawn Terjeson motioned to support the resolution. Chuck Milani seconded the motion. There were no nays or abstains. The resolution passed unanimously.

Street Mural Location Vote

Carol asked for any comments on the proposed street mural locations. She said that everyone could make a comment, even if they were not an eligible voting member.

The eligible voting members were handed a sheet of paper with seven locations: 30th/Fiske, 30th/Myrtle, 22nd/Thor, 11th/Fiske, 35th/Crestline, 34/Crestline, and 35th/Cook. The eligible voting members were advised to rank their top three choices. After a tally of votes, the top three street mural locations were first, 11th/Fiske, second, 34th/Crestline, and a tie for third place, 22nd/Thor and 35th/Cook.

Community Engagement Grant Vote

Carol said Marilyn Lloyd, vice chair, was going to present on the topic but had emailed prior to the meeting to hold the approval last on the agenda because she may be late.

Since Marilyn was still not present, Carol read a list of proposed items to fund with this year's community engagement grant from a text: Thursday Market booth \$250, Zoom \$163.69, Place banners on poles, \$100, Food for events \$100, 4 A-frame inserts without date \$100, Black/White copies \$11, and color copies \$40. She said they wanted to include anything else necessary up to the \$850 grant total.

Carol said the grant will be used to fund items and activities to boost resident awareness and participation in neighborhood councils. She said the Thursday Market was to replace the South Perry Fair since the fair was cancelled this year. It seemed like a lot, but it would reach old and young residents. She said she would continue to have events to meet our council with a booth at neighborhood businesses again this year, just like the one we had last year at Nothing Bundt Cakes. We used a part of our food budget to buy a dozen bundtins, first come-first served. She said our council is still hoping to install the banners, free of charge, again this year. She said she hoped the items funded by the community engagement grant would bring more residents to the meetings so they could see our wonderful council, city council members, library, residents and food pantry.

A vote was taken on the grant. There were no nays or abstains. It passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting is 6/18/24 on Zoom.