

Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council
Minutes – December 17, 2024

The meeting was called to order by Carol Tomsic via Zoom at 6 p.m.

Attendance:

Members- Ginnie Henry, Shawn Terjeson, Marcia Milani, Chuck Milani, Marilyn Reimann, Hank Reimann, Sally Phillips, Marilyn Lloyd, Carol Landa-McVicker, Carol Tomsic, Theresa Bidowski, William Bidowski, John S

Guests – Detective Tim Schwering, Sara Thompson, Lili Navarrete, Paul Dillon

Councilwoman Lili Navarrete and Councilman Paul Dillon gave City Council updates.

Lili Navarrete reported that the City Budget was passed, and committee assignments made. Plans are being made for scattered shelters for homeless people.

Paul Dillon reported that the new budget increases money for code enforcement to tow junk vehicles and RVs and for efforts to stop retail theft. More funding will be available for emergency shelters and behavioral health. A new ordinance is being developed to address parkland dedication in conjunction with new middle housing developments and allowance for tree removal. In response to a question about fees collected from long term rental registrations, he said the money goes into a dedicated fund for code enforcement.

Sara Thompson, Community Court Therapeutic Court Coordinator

Sara gave a presentation on the Community Court. The Court is held every Monday at 10:30 at the Central Library. The programs focus first on treatment and stability of offenders and then employment. Violent offenders are not eligible, and completion of the program requires community service. They help offenders get ID's and Social Security numbers, but the biggest hurdle is securing housing. They see about 90 people per week. Data is collected and sent to the state which provides their funding. The Court is open to the public to observe proceedings and offer feedback and suggestions.

Detective Tim Schwering gave a presentation on avoiding online scams with the focus on “Pig Butchering” and cryptocurrency scams. These start with someone you don't know contacting you, trying to build a relationship and then asking for money either to help with an emergency or for investment in cryptocurrency through a cryptocurrency ATM. AI can also be used to make the caller sound like someone you know such as a relative asking for money in an emergency. He recommended letting calls from people you don't know go to voicemail, and

don't give money to anyone you don't know or cannot verify as legitimate. If you think you have been scammed, report it to your bank and crime check and put a freeze on your credit through a credit company such as Equifax.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Submitted by,

Carol Landa-McVicker, Secretary