

## **Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council**

### **Minutes for meeting at Southside Center, May 20, 2025**

The meeting was called to order by Carol Tomsic at 6:05 p.m.

Member present:

Guests:

Carol reported that the murals at the shelter in Lower Lincoln Park are being completed. Final touch up will be May 24, 10-2.

Carol reported that the installation of the street mural on 11<sup>th</sup> and Fiske will be June 2-3.

After Shawn Terjeson added the announcement that the Scale House Market would be opening on May 31<sup>st</sup> to the April minutes, he moved that the April and May minutes be approved, Marcia Milani seconded the motion and the motion passed.

**Angela Richardson** from the South Hill Library gave a report of upcoming events including a program that will give kids free books and other prizes this summer. She noted that hours will be changing with the library closing at 6 p.m. She said that the library offers free tickets to soccer games and other events. She announced that In partnership with Spokane Public Library, Thrive International is developing at least 45 units of affordable housing on a 1.62-acre lot at 6980 North Nevada Street. [Press-Release\\_Thrive-Library-Partnership.pdf](#) She also said that they are working on an interactive survey for their 2030 plan.

**Amber Waldref, County Commissioner for District 2** was introduced and spoke of four items the County is working on.

1. Aquifer Protection- there will be ballot measure in August that, if passed, will provide funds for testing and education.
2. Interlocal Agreement between the City, County and Spokane Valley that would provide collaboration on addressing housing and homelessness issues to eliminate duplications and begin work on a 5 year plan. The Regional Health District website will provide data.
3. The Growth Management Plan in undergoing a 20 year update. Each City is responsible for developing their own plan, but the County has overall responsibility. There are two new chapters, Climate and Resiliency and Affordable Housing. Public workshops are being held.
4. Development of a task force to explore criminal justice initiatives including a new jail and other reforms. They are looking at successful diversion models including one in

Benton County and another in Miami/Dade County, Florida. There may be a ballot issue by the end of 2026.

**Meah Prim, Neighborhood Resource Officer** gave an update on traffic patrols on 29<sup>th</sup>. He asked that people report reckless drivers and suspicious behaviors in the parks to Crime Check.

**Paul Dillon, City Councilman** was introduced and announced that Councilwoman Lily Navarette has announced her resignation effective June 30 citing health reasons. Applications for the vacancy will open on Friday, May 23 and they hope to have an appointment by mid-July. The interviews of finalists will be public.

Under good news, Councilman Dillion reported that \$3.4 million will be allocated to Lincoln Heights from the Safe Routes Fund. This will provide for reducing 29<sup>th</sup> Avenue from SE Blvd. To Ray into two lanes with bump outs and 27<sup>th</sup> will also get a “face lift”. Also on the 6 year street plan, but not yet funded is a roundabout on 37<sup>th</sup> and Freya.

He reported that there is new funding in the City budget for removal of junk RV’s and asked that people report these. There is also a new regulation that homeless people applying for jobs aren’t required to provide a home address.

June 9 there will be a District 2 Town Hall at 6 p.m. at the MLK Jr Center. A recent survey showed “traffic safety/calming to be the #1 concern followed by housing, homelessness and growth. [City Council/ Neighborhood Town Hall Survey - District 2 | Engage Spokane](#)

He discussed efforts to address the opioid crisis including funding from the City and County, STARS doubling the number of sobering beds/chairs and funding of Maddie’s House. He said that studies show Spokane is a major drug trafficking hub, drug overdoses have gone up and most occur inside homes.

**Officers for 25-26** Carol Tomsic announced that the current officers for the Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council have been elected for 2 years.

**Marilyn LLOYD presented the request for Community Engagement Grant.**

Zoom Account \$175

Perry Street Fair \$150

Food Budget \$100

Pole Banner \$100

Banner Install \$250 (This would be near the street mural and Ben Burr trail)

Stickers w/QR \$60

Thursday Market \$250

Shawn Terjeson moved approval of the request. Carol Landa-McVicker seconded the motion and after Carol Tomsic determined a quorum was present, the motion passed unanimously.

**Gabby Ryan, Office of Neighborhood Services** was introduced and announced that Heather Hamblin has been appointed as their new director.

There will be a Neighborhood Summit on Saturday, October 25 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Hemmingson Center on the Gonzaga University campus. There is a call out for workshop proposals. [2025 Spokane Neighborhood Summit - Call for Workshop Proposals](#)

The New Block Party ordinance has been approved.

**COP Shop** Two representatives from the Cop Shop announced that they are open, but their budget has been cut by 75% and funds will only last through the summer. Carol Tomsic said she would add a Cop Shop report to the June Agenda.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30

Next meeting will be held on Zoom at 6 p.m. on June 17.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Carol Landa-McVicker, Secretary