

Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council Meeting
Southside Community Center
Minutes January 21, 2026

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

Attendance:

Members: Rob Reneau, Ginnie Henry, Andy Gorton, Charles Milani, Hank Reimann, Marilyn Reimann, Richard Sola, Emma Kronen, Daniel Zapotocky, Jael Stebbins, Mysti Reneau, Carol Tomsic, Carol Landa-McVicker, Merry Fougere, Sally Phillips, Jim Maxwell, Marcia Milani, Mark Simonds, Tim Bourne, Darylann Craddock, Diane Shuman

Guests: Thomas Herrlinger, Micah Prim, Alex Gibileco, Ginny Ramos, Tirrell Black, Brendan Finch

Minutes approved. Shawn Tergeson moved to approve the November and December meeting minutes and Hank Reimann and Chuck Milani seconded the motion to approve the November and December meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Ginny Ramos. Legislative Assistant to Paul Dillon was introduced and gave a brief Council update.

- The State legislature is in session, and the Council is working on it passing a bill, 5703, that would give the Waste to Energy Plant an exemption from the Climate Control Act. Without this exemption, the city will face a fine of \$8 million or have to close the plant and landfill our solid waste. Landfills are exempted.
- The City is engaged in a pilot program with 311 for traffic calming. They are also taking requests for funding for projects, including previous ones that were not funded.
- Committee assignments for Councilmembers have been determined.
 - Paul Dillon will represent the Council on:
 - VP Finance and Administration
 - Budget Workgroup
 - Legislative Workgroup
 - Aging and Long-Term Care
 - Park Board
 - E Sprague BID Bd
 - GMA Steering Committee
 - Kate Tillis will represent the Council on:
 - Public Safety and Community Health
 - Regional Fire Authority Workgroup

- PSAP Work Group
- Neighborhood Council Workgroup
- East Sprague BID Bd
- Transportation Commission
- Police Pension
- Fire Pension
- Human Rights Commission

Officer Mica Prim gave the South Precinct update.

- Call 509 625-4150, Traffic hotline, to report traffic concerns. He reported that there has been an increase in activity of enforcement officers in the area.
- Call 3 1 1 to report illegal camping. A dedicated city outreach team can be dispatched to address the issue and connect the “campers” to community resources. The emphasis is on public safety while helping those in need.

Tirrell Black from City Planning was introduced and gave a presentation on Plan Spokane.

- The Comprehensive plan, as required by state law under the Growth Management Plan, is undergoing its 20-year update and must be completed by December 31, 2026. The next update will be in 2046, with an interim update in 2036. More information can be found at [PlanSpokane Periodic Update | Engage Spokane](#)
- Comments on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) are due February 18. Documents on the EIS and upcoming public listening sessions can be found at [Draft Environmental Impact Statement - City of Spokane, Washington](#)
 - Community listening sessions in our area include:
 - Liberty Park Library – February 5, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.
 - South Hill Library – February 12, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Brendan Finch from the Edible Tree Project, [Spokane Edible Tree Project](#), gave a presentation on his organization’s efforts to glean unwanted fruit from trees in neighborhoods throughout Spokane. He also offers training and free help with maintaining fruit trees to maximize production.

Alex Gibilescu, City Council Manager of Equity and Inclusion introduced himself. He is the staff member of the [Equity Subcommittee - City of Spokane, Washington](#). He talked about the importance of belonging. He talked about equity in data processing, normalizing, and operationalizing, and equitable budgeting. He said it is important to have community days celebrating our city’s many cultures and having community partnerships.

Thomas Herrlinger from the South Hill Library was introduced and gave an update on library activities. [South Hill - Spokane Public Library](#). He said the library now has four car

chargers, a lantern exhibit through 2/13/26, limited-edition library cards and merchandise with art from the Hive's artist-in-residence program, a Scottish Country Dance on 1/31/26 at 2:30 to 3:30 pm, and Tech Talk (free help with computers, phones and more) on 2/3/26 from 3-5 pm.

<https://www.spokanelibrary.org/south-hill/>

Polly Anne Birge, our new ONS liaison, was introduced and gave a brief update including the upcoming Point in Time Count that will take place on January 2. She also gave kudos to two of our attendees, Jael and Shawn, for their Good Neighbor Awards.

A presentation on our Mobile Speed Feedback trailers was deferred to our next in-person meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Next meeting will be on Zoom on February 20 @ 6 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Landa-McVicker, Secretary