

Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council Meeting Minutes
September 15, 2026, at 6-7:30 pm
Southside Community Center

Members: Carol Tomsic, Shawn Terseson, Marilyn Lloyd, Ruth May, Jim May, Carol Landa-McVicker, Mary Stohr, Craig Hemmons, Chuck Milani, Marcia Milani, Mark Simonds, Dan Hauer, Marilyn Reimann, Hank Reimann, Marcia Tunik, Claire Beagle

Guests: Chris Averyt, Mica Prim, Ben Peterson, Kate Tellis

Carol Tomsic called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

Approval of the July and August minutes was deferred to the November meeting to correct an error on the website with the minutes.

Carol reminded people of the neighborhood cleanup event on September 23 and 24 and the Transportation Commission will discuss the traffic calming projects. Information is in the Neighborhood New of the email notification. Now is the time to email a comment.

Chris Averyt, City Public Works, gave an update on solid waste rate proposals. He also answered questions regarding recycling plastics, including red solo cups are recyclable. See attached PowerPoint.

Mica Prim, Neighborhood Resource Officer, gave an update on crime statistics in our neighborhood. Detailed information is available on the Spokane Police Public Dashboard <https://my.spokanecity.org/police/data/public-dashboard/> He also reported there was a big homeless camp at the water reservoir on Ray. The city cleaned up the camp and gave out trespass citations. Two homeless individuals were offered and accepted services. He emphasized that the police rely on public reporting of illegal camping and other crimes.

Ben Peterson, Spokane Conservation District Firewise, gave a presentation on the fire prevention readiness services they offer that are free to the public, including Firewise. He urged people to keep a five-foot firebreak from their home. Be careful of what they plant, including juniper, as it is a fire hazard, protect houses from embers, especially gutters, and have an evacuation plan. <https://spokanecd.org>

Kate Tellis, City Council, reported that the city council is working on state legislation with Senator Marcus Riccelli that would prevent insurance companies from cancelling house fire insurance in the city. She reported the deadline for comments on the Comprehensive Plan update is Friday, October 2 at 2 pm. She said that the City Council relies on the Plan Commission

recommendations. She said Avista is relying on cutting power during fires and the city is looking into safety issues with that including a policy on generator use. Fire safety in Hamblen Park was discussed and a joint engagement to clean up the park was discussed, including boy scout troops. Prayer during events at the community center was also discussed.

Mary Stohr and Craig Hemmens representing Spokane2046, a group composed of members from Spokane Urban Nature, Friends of Spokane Trees and others, reported on the work they are doing to urge an extension of the comment period for the Comprehensive Plan and their opposition to various elements of the draft Plan that would significantly increase density in single family residential neighborhoods and decrease environmental review and protection. They raised questions about neighborhood safety including traffic congestion and safety. Kate Tellis said that the new law dealing with density was passed by the legislature. A handout was provided with more information on Spokane 2046 and a link to their website that provides interactive maps of every neighborhood. Spokane2046.com.

Shawn Terjeson announced that he was taking up a collection for Nicolle Caballero who recently received the Community Assembly Good Neighbor Award.

Thomas Herrlinger, manager of the South Hill Library, emailed an update that was printed and shared.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Next meeting will be held on October 20 at 6 p.m. via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted by Carol Landa-McVicker, Secretary