

Southgate Neighborhood Council Meeting Minutes

Date: 9/13/2023

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: ESD 101 and Zoom

Attendees	Guests
Summer Beers	Maddie Sontag – Legislative Assistant to Andy Billig
Barbara Brassard	Sergeant Rhian Wilkinson – Spokane Police Dept
Carlos Castillo-Garsow	Patrick Striker – Office of Neighborhood Services
Rita Conner	Mayor Nadine Woodward – City of Spokane
Allen Edwards	<u>Katie Treloar – District 2 Council Candidate</u>
Brittany Fitzgerald	
Alicia Hegie	
Andy Hoyer	
Paul Kropp	
Dave M.	<u>Attended by Zoom</u>
Shelley O'Rourke	<u>Kris Neely</u>
Andrea Staly	

Presentations

Sergeant Wilkinson – Spokane Police Department

- ❖ Email him personally for faster attention to abandoned cars, etc. rather than calling 311. rwilkinson@spokanepolice.org
- ❖ New KIAs with push button starters are being stolen by youth with a USB. Police know who is doing it and are working up their case.
- ❖ There are issues at 2nd and State St/Division and a lot of manpower is assigned to this because it is the first view of the city for visitors.
- ❖ The jail is having trouble keeping up with arrests.
- ❖ Make reports to Crime Check as that helps the police in deployment of resources.
- ❖ Photos can be uploaded to evidence.com. If reporting online to Crime Check, photos can be added as well.
- ❖ Hot spots for Southgate:

- Shopko has loitering, drugs. A trespassing arrest is difficult because permission must be received from the owner.
- Target calls for shoplifting.

Patrick Striker – Office of Neighborhood Services

- ❖ The mobile radar units were vandalized a “ton”. Solar panels and batteries were stolen.
- ❖ If we want to host a “clean-up” in the park, equipment is available from ONS.
- ❖ There will be a leadership summit on Saturday, November 4 that will be free for neighborhood leaders. There will be some tours (dam, Forensics Dept.) the day before.
- ❖ Graffiti and river clean up are coming up.
- ❖ Barbara reported that the swales on both sides of Freya between 38th and 42nd have debris which is increasing standing water.
- ❖ Is it still possible to change the location of a future traffic calming project? Patrick will find out if that is possible and Southgate will discuss it at the next meeting.

Mayor Nadine Woodward – City of Spokane

- ❖ House of Charity wants to hire police officers and pay overtime.
- ❖ 6 lateral transfer police officers have been hired. The department is now almost at full staff but that is still 100 too few for a city of our size. The biggest portion of the general fund is police and fire.
- ❖ The city continues in its struggle to address homelessness and its impacts on our community. Many areas have become contaminated with fentanyl and hard meth, foils and broken pens. The city can’t continue to spearhead homelessness for the whole region. Homeless grants are not sustainable funding for the problem.
- ❖ The budget has a \$20 million gap due to inflation and rising employee wages.

Peperzak Middle School Walking Routes – Summer Beers and Carlos Castillo-Garsow

- ❖ Several neighbors brought attention to the distance that children, including 6th graders, are walking to the new Peperzak Middle School.

- ❖ Spokane Public Schools increased the distance that students must live before they are eligible to be bused to 1.5 miles. This is measured “as the crow flies” and is sometimes a distance closer to 2 miles and can take a student an hour each way.
- ❖ Sidewalks are missing and the route will become more difficult in the winter.
- ❖ The school year started without a crossing guard at 57th and Crestwood but one has been added.
- ❖ The mayor said she would bring this concern up in her upcoming meeting with the school district but cautioned that she has no control over the matter.
- ❖ Southgate will keep this issue in mind as we discuss traffic calming projects to apply for.
- ❖ Paul states that Safe Routes to Schools is a grant program for infrastructure.

Katie Treloar – Running in District 2 for City Council

- ❖ Katie was in attendance to learn more about the neighborhood and briefly introduced herself.

Legislative Assistant to Senate Majority Leader Andy Billig – Maddie Sontag

- ❖ Reach out with any issues. Senator Billig reads all his emails.

Neighborhood Business

Minutes – Allen recommended approval of the minutes for May. Andy seconded. **Approved.**

- ❖ The minutes for June were not yet posted to the website so they will be approved at our next meeting.

Treasurer’s Report – Andy Hoyer

- ❖ \$756.91 in checking. \$163 for zoom account to be reimbursed by Engagement Grant funds.
- ❖ \$3,000 in escrow.

Community Assembly Report – September 7 – See notes at the end of minutes

Other Business Brought by Neighbors

- ❖ Issue: There is a flight path over the South hill.

- Response: This is not new.
- ❖ Issue: Neighbor wants the city to approve replacement of the sidewalks in HOA.
 - Response: The city is not responsible for sidewalks in a private community.
- ❖ Issue: Application process for Street Art.
 - We will put this on the agenda for October.
 - We can pick the location but it cannot be on a main arterial because it wears off too fast.
 - The artist is picked from a list provided by the city.

Next meeting – October 11, 7:00 p.m. at ESD 101 and by Zoom

CA Meeting Notes – September 7, 2023 – at the HIVE

18 Neighborhoods present

The “Neighborhoods 3.0” committee will be led by the ONS department, not the City Council – this was a concept formed by ex CC President Beggs and has not been warmly adopted by the Council. Next meeting tba.

Comprehensive Plan Amendments can be submitted now through October 31. – contact Kevin Freibott 509-625-6184. Also contact Kevin for comments on the annual Capital Improvements Budget – must be in by October 2. This is available for review online – it is 600 pages long.

Neighborhood Council people are helping review RFPs for CDBG money.

Ryan Oelrich appointed for a 3-month term spoke briefly and said the CC is struggling with the budget.

Yvonne Trudeau spoke about the Spokane Parks Foundation – they have small grants available to help with park activities and also insurance. Grant applications are due November 30. 509-280-1664.

Spokane Neighborhood Summit – November 3,4. Tours on Nov 3 of the Water Treatment Center and Upriver Dam. Workshops from 8 – 1 at the Fire Department Training Center – 1618 N. Rebecca. Topics include Funding Streams, Speaking to City Council and Staff, transitioning leadership in neighborhood councils, facilitating meetings, social media and marketing. Lunch will be provided. Open to current and aspiring members of neighborhood councils. Registration online – login to spokanecity.org and look for neighborhood summit. I am a panel member regarding working with city staff and city council.

Fall clean-up begins September 16.

The CA is still working on its master strategic plan...an ad-hoc committee was formed.

Mary Winkes reviewed some of the activities of the Plan Commission, especially the impact of changes to the single-family zones and new projects. We need to be alert to changes in the Comprehensive Plan as they relate to 5-year updates specified by the Growth Management Act. That document is up for revision soon.

There will be a holiday gathering of the CA reps and alternates on December 16 at the Hive from 9-11AM – mainly a social event.

We still need a liaison for the Design Review Board.

The Logan neighborhood has a Block Party on September 15 from 4 – 7 at Mission Park, and a neighborhood yard sale on September 23.