

# Southgate Neighborhood Council Meeting Minutes

Date: 04/10/2024

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: ESD 101 and Zoom

Attendees	Zoom
Jerry Boyd	<u>No one attended by zoom</u>
Barb Brassard	
Rita Conner	
Allen Edwards	
Andy Hoyer	Guests
Paul Kropp	<u>Sgt. Betts – Spokane Police Department</u>
Ryan McMurphy	Annie Deasy – Office of Neighborhood Services
Shelley O'Rourke	<u>Paul Dillon – City Council</u>

## Spokane Police Department – Sgt. Betts

- ❖ Activity is centered near 29<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ Mainly assault and suspicious activity.
- ❖ Overall, Southgate statistics look good.
- ❖ He does not think the report he hands out is available to the public, but he will double check. He will forward the report to Southgate so it can be distributed.
- ❖ Southeast Cop Shop is still in Lincoln Heights shopping strip but is around the corner from Baskin Robbins, closer to the DMV.
- ❖ There are regular Coffee with a Cop get togethers. The next one is Friday, 4/19, 8-10 am at McDonalds on 29<sup>th</sup>.

## City Council – Paul Dillon

- ❖ He chairs the Public Safety and Community Health Committees.
- ❖ City Council unanimously passed a resolution “Addressing Spokane Overdoses,” that calls on local and state leaders as well as community members to allow for the increased sharing of information and data to address the growing overdose epidemic through emergency declaration, which could open increased resources to address overdoses.
  - A heat map for overdoses in the city shows a concentration in the downtown core, with the remainder pretty spread out. This dashboard is available to the public.

- A town hall was held last night, with a panel of experts to discuss where the city is on the issue and how better to respond. This is to help decide how to spend the lawsuit funds of \$2 million per year for 10 years.
- Public safety town halls are being held to hear from the public. The district 2 townhall is 4/16 at the Liberty Park Library from 5-7 pm.
- ❖ Councilman Dillon is also on the search committee for the new police chief. Input from the community will be part of the decision.
- ❖ Tomorrow the council study session will be on how to spend American Rescue Plan Act funds (federal pandemic relief funding) and opioid funds.
- ❖ Council is working on a public safety levy to increase property taxes, that will appear on the August ballot. There is some tension around this because the parks levy will be moved back once again. A sustainable source of funds is needed for fire and police, behavioral health and homeless resources and traffic calming funds supplemental to current traffic calming funds.
- ❖ A special funding ordinance was passed for urban forestry to take advantage of the grant received as part of the Inflation Investment Act to improve the tree canopy.
- ❖ Q: Is the fence around the construction of the new water tower at Hamblen going to be permanent?
  - A: Councilman thinks it is temporary. He will double check.
- ❖ Q: Is there a breakdown of the city spending in different categories for the last couple of years to help the public understand the \$50 million budget deficit.
  - A: Council is working with the city to put those numbers together. When this is available, he will let Rita know and she can make it available as requested.
- ❖ Q: It was heard there is talk about consolidating some different committees into a Transportation Commission for the city. The concern is that there is currently an avenue for public input via the Citizen Transportation Advisory Board. Public input needs to be maintained.
  - A: This is to be discussed next week and the Councilman also has questions. He has heard that there will be a carveout for some committees, the Bicycle Advisory Committee for example.
- ❖ Q: Is the city going to provide loans to citizens to fix their sidewalks?
  - A: No. Methods of investing in sidewalks are being discussed.
- ❖ Q: Changes in zoning laws that increase density can decrease home values. Another comment was that it was a state law that allowed the recent dividing up of infill lots into multiple lots.

- A: Councilman is in favor of increasing affordable housing and building up rather than out but recognizes this needs to be balanced with the concerns of the neighbors.

### **Office of Neighborhood Services – Annie Deasy**

- ❖ The online newsletter can be found on the ONS web page and you can sign up to receive it.
- ❖ Mobile speed feedback trailers will be set up at Havana and 43<sup>rd</sup> facing northbound from 7/5 to 19 and on Freya and 37<sup>th</sup> facing southbound from 8/30 to 9/13.
- ❖ Q: Where did the traffic data the school district used come from, particularly Peperzak?
  - A: From the Traffic Safety Committee, not the city.

### **Minutes**

Allen recommended that the minutes for March 2024 be approved. Jerry seconded. **Approved.**

### **Treasurer's Report – Andy Hoyer**

- ❖ \$900.30 is in the checking account.
- ❖ We will be renewing our domain name with GoDaddy for about \$70 for three years.

### **Community Assembly Report – April 4 – See notes at the end of minutes**

- ❖ There is a lot of good information in the CA packet. Andy will provide a link to that packet in the future as part of the CA notes.
- ❖ The 50-year celebration of Expo 74 will have 9 Saturday meetings in Riverfront Park – a neighborhood might be able to get a table. Perhaps Southgate should discuss this.

### **PeTT – Rita**

Carol Tomsic is the new chair and Chuck Carter is the new recorder.

### **Land Use Committee**

- ❖ The only new notification was for the duplexes at the end of east 53<sup>rd</sup>.

- 1.85 acres will be divided into 9 lots with 2 duplexes per lot for a total of 36 living units.
- Comments due by 4/19.
  - This plot is next to another undeveloped plot of land and we have the concern that by permitting piecemeal some requirements will be waived.
  - Increased traffic concerns.
  - Is there a second exit out of this development?
- Neighbors with comments can send them to Rita. Rita, Jerry and Andy will put some comments together and submit.
- Paul Dillon would like to be kept in the loop because he is working on some better policies for Centers and Corridors and this development is adjacent to a C and C. In addition, a roundabout is planned for Regal and Palouse. He is trying to keep his eye on the big picture with traffic, etc.

## **Other**

### **Clean up**

Southgate's extra garbage pick-up will be Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **Future Meeting Space – Rita**

- ❖ We can borrow an OWL from ONS if needed. Annie can bring it to the meetings.
- ❖ We will continue to have our meetings at the Talbot Event Center through June. We don't meet in July and August.
- ❖ Rita has not signed the agreement with Hamblen Presbyterian yet.

### **Policies and Procedures**

- ❖ The CA Policies and Procedures changes will be reviewed by Paul Kropp at our next meeting so Southgate can direct Andy how to vote at the CA.
- ❖ Paul will email the policies and procedures to Rita so we can look at them ahead of time.

**Next meeting – May 8, 7:00 p.m. at ESD 101 and by Zoom**

## **CA Meeting notes – April 4th, 2024**

22 Neighborhoods present

CA is working to re-establish their "place-holder" slot at the CC meetings.

A representative from the West Hills neighborhood spoke out in favor of a standardized bridge design for Spokane.

Council President Wilkerson mentioned that there is a “Neighborhood Council Workgroup” forming to review the “ordinance” that has been proposed about a year ago to control CA and Neighborhoods Policies and Procedures, and methods for communicating CA requests to the Council – the CA is represented by Tyler Tamoush, Tina Luerssen and Fran Papenleur. CC is addressing the Opioid/Fentanyl Overdose crisis - there will be a Community Conversation on April 9<sup>th</sup>. There will be four Public Safety Community meetings to assist police in finding a new chief: 4/9 at WCCC at 5:30PM; 4/11 and NECC at 6:00PM; 4/16 at Liberty Park Library at 6:00PM. There was a Council Community Day on 4/8 at 5:00PM celebrating our Latin/Hispanic heritage.

Abbey Martin said the cycle 10 and cycle 11 traffic calming projects are moving forward. Cycle 12 projects (\$3.1M) will start in 2025. HB2384 becomes effective on 6/6/24. This bill changes some of the state code in RCW 46 ff. regarding photo-red cameras. The text is here:

<https://legiscan.com/WA/text/HB2384/2023>. The following comments are my summaries of the changes and should not be considered to be authoritative: School districts can mount cameras on school buses – the bus must have a sign indicating that it has a camera. Ability to pay is considered in the fine structure – up to 50% may be deducted. Distribution of photo-red money must also favor low-income neighborhoods and be aligned with the “complete streets” programs. The fine is not to exceed \$145 – but that limit may be doubled in school zones. Rental companies have the option to pay the fine, not the driver. The fine does not appear on your driving record. You may be cited for stopping in a bus stop. Income from fines from older cameras may be allocated according to previous jurisdictional formulas, which may mean it could be diverted away from immediate traffic safety where the infractions occurred. After four years, 25% of the income from the program will be assigned to the Cooper Jones active transportation safety account. CC President Wilkerson also said the CC would give quarterly updates on photo-red programs, and that she would attend the CA meetings every month.

Abbey also said that there is an effort to consolidate citizen advisory boards regarding traffic safety called the “Transportation Commission.”

Patrick Striker, Director of ONS said that the Special Events Calendar for Neighborhood activities and other related events is live. MOUs prepared to address “free” neighborhood events are coming. Old ONS newsletters are now

archived online. There will be a new checkout procedure for Neighborhood event equipment when the COPS station at Nevada Heights is established as the new location for this material. The CA approved a resolution allowing purchase of shelving and door locks to enable this equipment to be transferred and stored - not to exceed \$1,000.

Kathryn Alexander spoke about the "Housing Action Subcommittee" and its progress to become a formal organization – members will be approved on April 22. They will be an oversight group for HB1590 funds, among other duties. How they will interact with CHHS and its subcommittees is yet to be determined. Some RFPs will go out in June. She said the HAS plans to revisit the 2016 agreements developed separately by the landlords and tenants, and also some training programs for both groups.

Amber Groe spoke for the BSN Committee: there will be a 2024 Neighborhood Summit; they are still monitoring SNLA training; the CA voted to assign the CA Awards to the BSN Committee.

The Budget Committee has approved three neighborhood projects so far for 2024; will reduce mandatory training from 5 sessions to perhaps 3; all but one neighborhood went to the trainings; ONS has a debit card for purchases which will reduce the delay of paying private neighborhood council members for approved expenses.

The Communications Committee has had good input from Admin and BSN; they will be a “gate keeper” for formal statements from the CA; they are working on a list of goals.

The Safety Committee is working on “walk audits” of sidewalks; noted that the # of fatal crashes has gone up; noted that there will be a virtual meeting with the Police and Fire Chiefs on April 30 at 5:30PM (this will be a hybrid meeting – held at the Hive). CC President Wilkerson said the CC is working on a way to have people borrow from the City to fix sidewalks – this may end up as a lien against the property.

Paul Kropp mentioned that the Liaison Committee noted that our possible applicant for the DRB position declined to serve. The committee is working on getting liaisons for other boards, commissions and committees, and we will have a discussion with the two Urban Forestry liaisons this month.

Randy McGlenn mentioned that the Admin Committee is updating the strategic plan; the Admin meeting time has been changed to 4:00PM to 5:30PM and will be held at the Central Library; Chris Wright, attorney for the CC has been attending. Apparently, the CA, and possibly Neighborhood Council meetings must comply

with the OPMA statute – more on that later – it is a reversal from an earlier ruling by City Legal. A subcommittee of the Admin committee is working on ways to record the CA meetings. Randy is leaving the CTAB and PeTT committees. PeTT needs new members.

The 50-year celebration of Expo 74 will have 9 Saturday meetings in Riverfront Park – a neighborhood might be able to get a table – contact ONS.

Fran Papenleur mentioned that a large townhouse development in the Audubon-Downriver neighborhood called “Ash Place” is marching forward, and her neighborhood is recommending fewer than the 21 new residences.

Notes recorded by Andy Hoyer