

# Southgate Neighborhood Council Meeting Minutes

Date: 03/13/2025

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Location: South Hill Branch of Spokane Public Library and Zoom

| Attendees        | Zoom   |
|------------------|--|
| Jerry Boyd       | Joe Comine                                       |
| Jay Bromme       | Rosie Ennis                                      |
| Rita Conner      | Dave M   |
| Allen Edwards    | Kris Neeley                                      |
| Andy Hoyer       |  |
| Susan Humphreys  | Guests   |
| Paul Kropp       | Annie Deasy – Office of Neighborhood Services    |
| Shelley O'Rourke | Shelby Allison – Spokane Arts                    |
|                  | Officer Micah Prim – Spokane Police Department   |
|                  | Ginny Ramos – Assistant to Councilman Paul Dylan |

## Spokane Police Department – Officer Prim

- ❖ Officer Prim is the new Neighborhood Resource Officer for the south precinct.
- ❖ Call in any concerning activity.
- ❖ Officer Prim's contact information:
  - Cell: 509.216.1890
  - mprim@spokanepolice.org
- ❖ SPD's monthly report is available at this link.
  - <https://static.spokanecity.org/documents/police/accountability/p-sc-briefings/2025/p-sc-briefing-april-2025.pdf>

## City Council - Ginny Ramos – Assistant to Councilman Paul Dylan

- ❖ The next cycle of traffic calming projects is being worked on.
- ❖ The Regional Emergency Communication Center has removed the city from the system. The city will get some excise money from the state towards its own 911.

- ❖ Height restrictions have been removed for new development downtown.
- ❖ The council is considering expanding its "sit and lie" ordinance, which currently bans sitting and lying on sidewalks and other public spaces between 6 a.m. and midnight in a designated downtown zone, to encompass the entire city and all times.

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

- ❖ Annie brought the current ONS newsletter. Browse current and past editions of News You Can Use at <https://my.spokanecity.org/neighborhoods/news/>
- ❖ Andy went to the Engagement Grant training.
- ❖ The city is interviewing for a new ONS director now.
- ❖ Mobile speed feedback trailer applications are due 4/14. Summer usually looks after this.
- ❖ Disposal passes can be requested online or at city hall.
- ❖ There will be a spring learning series. Anyone is welcome at the workshops and attendance at more than one is encouraged.
  - **Empowered Communication** (Saturday, March 15, 10:30 - 11:30 am @ the Hive)
    - **RSVP:** <https://tinyurl.com/SpringLearningSeries>
  - **Neighborhood Equipment and How to Use It!** (Saturday, April 19, 10:30 - 11:30 am @ West Central Community Center)
    - **RSVP:** <https://tinyurl.com/SpringLearningSeries>
- ❖ The city Planning Department invites the community to workshops to create a Vision for the next 20 years:
  - Liberty Park Library (District 2 - South Spokane), 402 S. Pittsburg St. - Events Room, Tuesday, March 25 from 5:30-7 p.m.

### **Minutes**

Andy moved to approve the minutes for October 2024 and January 2025. Jerry was the second. **Approved.**

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

- ❖ \$696.63 is in the checking account.
- ❖ \$3,000.01 is in the escrow account.
  - The escrow account could be changed to an account that would earn \$7.25 interest per year if all officers redo the paperwork. Andy moved not to do this and Jerry was the second. **Passed.**

### **Community Assembly Report — Notes attached at the end of the minutes for February and March**

- ❖ Kris and Andy have discussed switching roles. Kris has committed to attending in person. Andy can still serve on CA committees.
  - Shelley moved that Kris be the CA representative and Andy be the alternate. Allen was the second. **Passed.**

### **Asphalt Art – Shelby – Spokane Arts**

#### **Annie - ONS**

- ❖ This is a pilot program modeled after a Bloomberg Philanthropies project that saw a reduction in problems between cars and pedestrians. It is a hybrid of beautification and traffic calming.
- ❖ Our preferred location of 46<sup>th</sup> and Altamont is approved but it is a busy intersection, and the paint won't last as long. Annie says they want the paint to last at least 2 years, then there is one touch up. After that when the paint deteriorates the intersection is power washed to remove it. The city recommends 40<sup>th</sup> and Pittsburg or 38<sup>th</sup> and Napa as alternatives.
- ❖ If we start today we could get it completed this year.
- ❖ The limits are no arterials and no bus traffic.
- ❖ A project that is circular and in the middle of the intersection lasts longer.
- ❖ The program is funded with revenue generated from tickets from Photo Red and Speed Radar cameras.
- ❖ Paul is going to be our leader on this project.

### **KXLY Property - Andy**

Andy spoke with the broker. Access is off Regal and 49<sup>th</sup>, 154 units, 3 stories, Texas donut style with parking in the middle, 55+. There is still no news on the Regal facing development because there is no interest in that site at this time.

### **Clean Up News**

There will be an extra curb pick up on May 6.

**Next meeting** – April 10, 2025

### **CA Meeting Notes – March 6, 2025**

The CA is in the process of establishing a liaison with the new Climate and Resiliency Board.

Five Neighborhoods received grants from the Parks Foundation for various activities including weeding in Lincoln Heights.

Only \$200K of the \$5.8M Federal Grant for Spokane Trees has been spent – but we do not know the fate of the rest of that money. The District 2 Townhall meeting is June 9.

Spokane Reimagined wants more adaptive traffic controls for safe streets.

Neighborhoods and the CA need to review the “Neighborhoods” chapter of the Comp Plan and recommend revisions.

According to Betsy Wilkerson, up to \$44M of Federal money may disappear. Jon Snyder spoke briefly about his role in the Transportation Commission and the Climate and Sustainability Commission. He noted that the new Comp Plan will have a section on Climate Planning. Traffic fatalities moved from 18 to 20 between 2023 and 2024. They are mapping the condition of sidewalks.

Zeke Smith of the Empire Health Foundation said that there are currently 8 “scattered sites” for homeless shelters, offering services to various populations –

mostly in north side churches. TRAC is closed – the lease with Larry Stone was broken and a penalty was paid. Cannon Street shelter provides a navigation center for homeless persons. One of the scattered sites offers compassionate addiction treatment. Re-entry for incarcerated people (via a half-way house) is open for up to 16 men. \$5.8M has been assigned by the City, with \$4.5M allocated already. City Gate has closed.

The City Council workgroup is working on term limits for CA reps and improving communications.

Trainings for the Engagement Grant \$ are continuing. I attended the virtual training on February 28 for our council.

Cliff Winger presented a lengthy written comment on the first Transportation Commission meeting and felt “othered” in that the liaisons were left out of many discussions. One of the initiatives of the TC is to reduce commutes by 60%, encouraging bus-riding, biking and walking. The topic of requiring any action of the TC to pass through the Plan Commission was discussed.

Work continues on how to lead a hybrid CA meeting – there is a need for a person to track attendance and voting from the online attendees. The packet included about 8 pages on this.

The recommended liaison to the CHHS Board, Sara Bauer was approved by the CA to be forwarded to the appropriate authorities.

NROs are back – the Safety committee is still doing “walk-audits” of pedestrian routes, with clear recommendations.

### **CA Meeting Notes – February 6, 2025**

Kris Neely spoke about the Urban Forest Citizen Advisory Committee – 3 members were re-appointed. The \$6M grant may be suspended – about \$1.5M have been spent so far. There will be Arbor Day festivities on April 26. The Libraries will have

a seed-give-away program. Tree crews are working to thin damaged or infected trees.

Bety Wilkerson, CC President mentioned a meeting of “Homeless Connect” – there were 1,800 people, most not homeless. Events do cost money even if the Mayor declares there will be “no cost events.” Alex Scott is the new City Administrator and spoke briefly. The Alcohol Impact Area will be enforced downtown.

Tina Leuressen spoke about the CC/CA meetings as townhalls – changing format to allow a more open format and they will have a specific topic at each meeting. The CA Committee chairs will appear at the March 31 meeting. The Neighborhoods may be asked to appear at regular CC meetings.

Alex Scott (speaking for the Mayor who wrote a long letter) and the police chief and the Fire Chief spoke about changes to the 911 system. They may go “local” because it will be cheaper and more effective than participating in the interlocal Spokane Regional Emergency Communication System. SREC is a PDA owned by Spokane County and overcharges according to these people. Long discussion here. City may form its own Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP). Aggressively looking at several options to insure tax dollars are wisely spent.

Mary Winkes spoke about the Plan Commission – two new Boards (Transportation Commission) and the Climate Resiliency and Sustainability Board – CA working on Liaison for each (Cliff Winger appointed for for Transportation Commission liaison). Jon Snyder is returning as a Director of Transportation and Sustainability. Neighborhoods need to look at the “Neighborhood” section of the Comprehensive Plan in the ten-year update now being worked on. Open Spaces are needed for multi-family buildings...Mary has advocated for that. Mary is opposed to new parking rules that eliminate mandatory off-street parking. She asks if we have sufficient infrastructure for new density rules. Is Denver overbuilt? (19,000 new units in the last year.) Rents still high there.

Tirrell Black, asst Planning Director spoke about the Comp Plan update – this is due June 30, 2026. NOW is the time to speak! Planners are trying to reduce the

number of vehicle miles driven. She said the City does not need to expand – we have enough land. About 1,000 new residents anticipated every year until 2046. Most new housing will be for low-income. The District 2 Scoping meeting is Tuesday March 25, from 5:30 – 7:00 at the Liberty Park library.

Bill Heaton presented a resolution regarding a phased adoption of the new Citywide parking change to no-off-street parking. The CA deferred until we could hear the other side.

There will be a free “strength-training” workshop on March 8, sponsored by the ONS and BSN Committee.

- Andy Hoyer, CA representative