

# Southgate Neighborhood Council Meeting Minutes

Date: 05/07/2025

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Location: South Hill Branch of Spokane Public Library and Zoom

Attendees	Zoom
Jerry Boyd	Zoom not working
Barb Brassard	
Jay Bromme	Guests
Rita Conner	Officer Micah Prim – Spokane Police Department
Allen Edwards	
Paul Kropp	
Kris Neely	
Shelley O'Rourke	
Christa Seger	

## Spokane Police Department – Officer Prim

- ❖ Please do not make a report to Crime Check on behalf of someone else unless you have all the details. It is best to encourage that person to make the report themselves.
- ❖ The City's new law makes it hard to pursue/arrest an individual.
- ❖ 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/psc-briefing-april-2025.pdf>

**Minutes** – Rita recommended approval of the March and April minutes. Jerry was the second. Approved

**Treasurer's Report** – none

## **Community Assembly Report — Draft Minutes for May Attached**

- ❖ Gabriel's Challenge kick-off event will be on Sunday, May 11, 2025 from 6:00-7:30pm at the Riverfront Park Pavilion.
  - ❖ The new ONS Director is Heather Hamlin.
  - ❖ Judge Mary Logan spoke:
    - She is running for reelection.
    - She intervenes directly with people who have committed misdemeanors and have an issue such as homelessness or mental health.
    - There is not a drug court here.
    - The information is recorded in the Judge's log. She is doing this on her own and there is zero cost.
    - She will come to our meeting to discuss if we request it.
  - ❖ The moratorium on building in Latah Valley expires 5/20/2025. There is very poor fire service and access. Promised studies have not been done.
    - The CA is writing a letter asking for an extension of the moratorium until the studies are completed.
    - Jerry **moved** that we authorize Southgate's Land Use Committee (Jerry, Andy, Rita and Paul) to write a letter to the city council and the mayor, asserting that Southgate is in favor of extending the moratorium on development in Latah Creek. Kris **seconded**.
- Passed**
- ❖ A permanent location for a farmer's market has been created at the Spokane County Conservation District, at Havanna and 8<sup>th</sup>. It opens this month and will be open weekly year-round. Do we invite them to our meeting to talk about it?

## **PeTT Committee – Rita**

- ❖ The city has new snowplows to plow bike lanes.
- ❖ A resolution was approved that vigil cones with flashing hazard lights will be set up at the site of a fatal accident, after the investigation

has concluded. They will serve as a memorial and as traffic calming until permanent infrastructure is installed.

- ❖ Double-decker buses will be put into use on the EWU Spokane route.

### **Asphalt Art – Paul**

- ❖ Paul met with Shelby and Annie to review the basics of the project.
- ❖ Paul requested a meeting with Shelby and Skylar and was told “no” 10 days after the request. Paul then worked with Pollyanne of ONS to set up the meeting which is scheduled for tomorrow.
- ❖ The contract says that construction notice is given to properties within 300 feet of construction. We estimate this might be 3 or 4 properties in each direction. We recognize that we didn’t involve adjacent property owners in the decision on the location for Southgate’s asphalt art intersection. Paul suggests that Southgate notify these adjacent neighbors and invite them to our June meeting. Rita will prepare a flyer. Paul, Kris and Rita will deliver it to the adjacent neighbors.
- ❖ The artist will come to our June meeting with iteration #1. Paul wants clarification as to how changes to the design are made as the contract refers to the process as iterative.
- ❖ Paul is concerned about how we will be able to revise the design in time to get the project completed this summer. Rita **moved** that Southgate have a July meeting. Kris **seconded**. **Passed**.

### **District 2 and City Council Meeting**

This meeting, scheduled for June 9, will take place before our next meeting. We had no volunteers to attend and represent Southgate.

### **Spokane Water Conservancy Board - Kris**

This board adjudicates changes to the county water rights. The board needs a new member. A week of training is provided. Kris is on the board.

**Next meeting – Thursday, June 12, 2025**

## **Community Assembly Draft Minutes**

*Prepared by: Office of Neighborhood Services*

**May 1, 2025, in-person at Liberty Park**

**Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Luke Tolley**

**Present:** Fran Papenleur—Audubon-Downriver, Christopher Savage—Balboa South Indian Trail, Luke Tolley—Bemiss, Krista Anderson—Chief Garry Park, Sandy Wicht- Comstock, Debby Ryan—East Central, Linda Carroll—Emerson-Garfield, Tina Luerssen-Grandview-Thorpe, Laura Johnson—Hillyard, Carol Tomsic—Lincoln Heights, Shannon Benn- Minnehaha, Mary Winkes—Manito-Cannon Hill, Hilary Michalowicz—Nevada Heights, Ann Haggett- Peaceful Valley, Bill Doley—Rockwood, Jael Stebbins—Shiloh Hills, Kris Neeley—Southgate, Amanda Maule—West Central, and Kathy Hagy—West Hills, and Charles Hansen—Whitman, Dan Knechtel-North Indian Trail, Ryan Jerman- Browne’s Addition, Robert Churchill- Five Mile Prairie, Lorna Walsh-Riverside

**Not Present:** Logan, Cliff/Cannon, North Hill, Northwest, Latah-Hangman

**City Staff Present:** Gabby Ryan, (ONS), Betsy Wilkerson (City Council President), Giacobbe Byrd (City Council), Erin Hut (Mayor’s Office)

**Guests:** Paul Kropp (Liaison Committee), Sue Arnesen (West Hills), Elizabeth Goldsmith (Comstock), Shawn Terjeson (Lincoln Heights, Comms Committee), Andy Hoyer (Southgate), Jeff Braunschweig (Hillyard), Bill Heaton (Land Use Committee), Emerson Garfield Alt Rep, Angel Troutt (Shiloh Hills), Cliff Winger (Shiloh Hills, Transportation Commission), Judge Mary Logan, Stephanie Watson (Latah Hangman)

### ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA ITEMS:

#### **1. Introductions**

**1.1 Approve Meeting Recording:** Lorna moved; Laura seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

**2. Approve Agenda:** *Proposed changes to agenda: Strike item #12 on agenda, extend #11 to 30 minutes.* Dan moved; Debby seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

**3. Approve/Amend minutes:** Tina moved, Dan seconded. Motion passes unopposed.

#### **4. Admin Committee Action Items**

- Luke Tolley: Resolution regarding Parking Space Minimums was put in the Urban Experience agenda. Public testimony is taken at Urban Experience, so folks can sign up to testify [here](#). Additionally, the request to have a CA Liaison on the Climate Resiliency and Sustainability Board was submitted to City Council. Liaison Committee is actively recruiting for that role. There are 3 volunteers interested in being the CA Hybrid Meeting Facilitator, Admin is working on a role description for them. Please recruit folks for that if interested, it’s better to have more folks trained on it.

### OPEN FORUM:

## 5. Reports/Updates/Announcements

- Elizabeth Goldsmith: Shared with the group that Minnehaha NC members Tyler and Amy Tamoush have welcomed their baby girl, Ava, into the world. They're all doing well and in good health. Congratulations were shared. Be patient with Tyler as he continues to balance fatherhood and his roles in CA.
- Paul Kropp: Climate Resilience & Sustainability Board CA Liaison Information and Application information located on Community Assembly's web page, <https://my.spokanecity.org/neighborhoods/community-assembly/>
- Kris Neely: Urban Forestry Committee took a tour of the Spokane Conservation District's facility, and had the opportunity to discuss relevant topics with government officials and organization representatives. Their year-round farmers market will be opening soon! Encouraged folks to visit when it opens.

## AGENDA ITEMS:

### 6. City Council Update (Council President Wilkerson)

- Council President (CP) Wilkerson shared updates that happened in the Legislature:
- \$51 million for transportation budget, to keep the North-South Corridor construction moving.
- \$2.2 million for our river and Centennial Trail renovations.
- In the County, Basic Law Enforcement Academy was \$750,000 short on expansion goals, and the City was able to advocate to the State get the funds to make that project happen.
- \$350,000 for Northeast Public Development Authority for childcare.
- Noise Control mitigation along 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, funding has been secured to do that study.
- \$1 million in funding for Fish Lake Trail connection.
- \$480,000 for Browne's Addition's Coeur D'Alene Park playground and restroom renovations.
- Council President will work to get the liaison role in CRS Board.
- Mention of Gabriel's Challenge beginning on Mother's Day thru Father's Day, to address the fentanyl crisis and concerns around drug use. Find out more here: <https://gabrielschallenge.org/>
  - The Gabriel's Challenge kick-off event will be on Sunday, May 11, 2025 from 6:00-7:30pm at the Riverfront Park Pavilion.
- Emergency Alcohol Ordinance was passed, in response to concerns by residents by the concentration of stores that sell alcohol in City. You can't put an alcohol-selling store within 500 feet of a childcare or education facility. This ordinance is in place for a year.
- Prop 1 was repealed, the City has announced The [H.O.M.E. Starts Here Initiative](#), which seeks to create a unified strategy for the City of Spokane to meaningfully address the complex factors that contribute to housing instability and homelessness.
- Council Approved "[Ban the Address](#)" Fair Chance Hiring Ordinance.
  - Carol: Thanked Council President for City's work on Gabriel's Challenge and addressing fentanyl crisis.
  - Linda: Brought up concerns about alcohol-selling convenience stores being classified as "Grocery stores," gave example in her neighborhood. Giacobbe will follow-up with Linda.
  - Debby: Shared concern about alcohol-selling stores in East Central. Council President shared concerns about that are.
  - Laura: Convenience store going in near the Northtown Mall, where beer/vapes/kratom will be sold and the mall is an area where kids hang out, concern about that store being visible to kids.
- ***Move to extend discussion by 5 minutes, first extension. Dan motioned, Christopher seconded. Motion passes unopposed.***

- House Bill 1258 was passed, and relation to SREC: There is mediation happening between the City and other entities that are a part of SREC.
- Councilmember Navarette will not be completing their term (their last day has not been shared with Council), and City Council will work on identifying the timeline & process for finding someone to fill that District 2 Councilmember vacancy until elections in November. Once determined, process/timeline will be shared with the public.

## 7. Office of Neighborhood Services (ONS) Update (Erin Hut)

- Heather Hamlin is the new ONS Director. Will begin in ONS at the beginning of June.
- Spokane Neighborhood Summit is happening in October and the [call for workshop presenters/proposals](#) is open until July 10. The event will be held at Gonzaga's Hemmingson Center on Saturday, October 25. Contact Amber Groe with any questions at [agroe@spokanecity.org](mailto:agroe@spokanecity.org).

## 8. Spokane Municipal Court (Judge Mary Logan)

- Municipal Courts are courts for rehabilitation, not retribution. Information about the Municipal Court system can be found here: <https://my.spokanecity.org/courts/municipal-court/>
- Municipal Court system includes Therapeutic Courts, DUI Court, Domestic Violence Intervention Court, Community Court, and Veteran Enhanced Treatment Court.
- Judge Mary Logan shared extensive information about the what the courts do, and how they're supported/funded. Most of the work to create these specialized courts was done by reallocating resources the court already had, while also approaching them through unique systems that make use of community connections, mentorships, or community resources.
- They are co-participants with County Court for folks in the mental health treatment system.
- ***Move to extend discussion by 5 minutes, first extension. Christopher motioned, Dan who seconded. Motion passes unopposed.***
- ***Dan:*** Who funds the veterans court? *This court required no new funds beyond what the court already receives for services; resources were reallocated to meet the needs of veterans in the court system.*
- ***Move to extend discussion by 5 minutes, second and final extension. Robert motioned, Dan seconded. Motion passes unopposed.***
- ***Robert:*** When are mentors assigned to cases that need them? *They held training for mentors to make sure they're prepared to help people in the court system, to set them up for success as mentors. The formal training program is first for the mentor, then the mentors and mentees attend a forum (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month) to be matched, in a "speed dating" style where folks are given one-on-one time to connect before determining if the pairing is right.*
- ***Kris:*** How is data on these programs collected? *They do collect the data to enter in to the system for tracking purposes.* Kris shared that the data should be shared with Mayor's data to inform policy.
- Council President shared that there are concerns that the City does not have a drug court. Judge Logan shared that these courts can cost \$ to start, and she's always looking for funds to advance more focused services and courts that are needed. Funds that were awarded by federal programs are now in limbo due to executive orders/government cuts at the federal level.

## 9. City Council Workgroup Update (Mary Winkes)

- Debriefed how District 1's Town Hall went. Giacobbe shared feedback, and incorporating feedback into future Town Halls.

- Discussed the Parking Ordinance progress.
- Discussed when the next Community Assembly/City Council (CA/CC) meeting would happen, potentially September 29, 2025. They desire a new venue, other than the Briefing Center. Will look into Central Library's Events room.
  - Discussion happened regarding how the previous CA/CC meeting went. Suggestions for a smoother-running meeting were offered by participants.
- The newly elected workgroup alternates have become primary workgroup members, the previous primary members moved to alternate role. This is the proposed format moving forward, to allow for overlap of folks to provide support/hand off role in an intentional way.
- Tina asks that more alternates will be recruited, so that they can be voted in at next CA meeting.
- Feedback given/discussion ensued. Bill suggested that the same qualifications used to nominate eligible Admin Committee members also be used to nominate eligible Workgroup members. Ideas were shared regarding connection to Liaison Committee vetting folks, in addition to allowing folks to self-nominate. Mary encouraged folks who are interested in being a part of the workgroup to ask current liaisons questions, it's a great role if you're interested in being a part of the relationship between CA and City Council.
- ***Motion to extend discussion, first extension of 5 minutes. Tina moved; Debby seconded. Motion passes unopposed.***
- ***Motion: Neighborhoods Workgroup continues 1 year term, alternates will promote to primary role after 1 year (start in June 2025). Mary moved; Lorna seconded. Motion passes unopposed.***
- Nominations for Alternates will be accepted in May, vote takes place in June. Pass interested folks along to Luke Tolley or Gabby Ryan.

#### 10. Transportation Commission Liaison (Cliff Winger)

- Reference the section of the agenda packet for this item; the duties of the [Transportation Commission](#) are included, as shared by Paul Kropp, who introduced Cliff Winger.
- Cliff shared the Complete Streets Ordinance draft, which is in the packet and shared in print. The Complete Streets Ordinance is important to staff, because it outlines guidance and standards for future transportation projects in the city. The draft ordinance goes before the [Public Infrastructure, Environment, and Sustainability \(PIES\) Committee](#), on May 19, and you can sign up for public commenting during that meeting. You can also direct comments to Council Member Klitzke and Director Jon Snyder.
- The City's Comprehensive Plan will also include transportation decisions, especially if the Complete Streets ordinance.
- The Transportation Commission seeks to centralize decisions around topics that previously existed across multiple boards/commissions. Each district has a representative on the Transportation Commission, and neighborhoods can reach out to them or Cliff with questions.
- Carol: PeTT Committee will work to keep CA members updated on Complete Streets Ordinance as well and encouraged folks to attend the PeTT Committee meetings to be a part of the conversations.
- Mary: Transportation Commission decisions also come to the Plan Commission, so Mary is available to talk to about transportation-related topics presented at Plan Commission.
- Andy: Asked clarifying question about Fish Lake Trail connectivity, answered by Paul.
- Paul: In packet, you can see there is text with a strikethrough and added text, that shows that City staff suggested that the approach to transportation planning involved Planning, Streets, Land Use. That is worth supporting the holistic approach to transportation planning and decision making.

- Carol: Upcoming PeTT Committee will feature Jon Snyder, there to discuss the Spruce Street stairs.

## **11. CA Committee Updates (Committee Chairs)** *(Agenda amended to accommodate 30 minutes on this section)*

- Budget: CE Grant Workshops have concluded. 28 neighborhoods attended the trainings! Six applications have been approved so far. Magnets as a marketing tool was brought to discussion at the Budget Committee, and they were discussed as a possible ineffective use of marketing, and members suggested that stickers would be better uses of funds (they can also be affixed to magnet backs as well as being put on water bottles). Laura shared that neighborhoods such as Latah Hangman & Comstock have printed stickers and used them as marketing tools, and they're both great examples. Encouraged folks to utilize QR codes to redirect folks to NC pages, instead of putting meeting info on marketing materials that can end up outdated when changed. Budget Committee meeting in May will be at the Neva-Wood C.O.P.S. location, where the Budget Committee will reorganize the inventory closet for ease of use for neighborhoods.
  - **Roll Call Vote taken to purchase canopy tent weights for inventory closet.** Results of Vote: Motion passes unopposed, voting sheet is included at end of document.
- Building Stronger Neighborhoods: Not meeting in May, will be attending the Spokane Neighborhood Leadership Academy (SNLA) graduation. If interested in attending SNLA Graduation, must RSVP to Tina or Gabby ASAP. As mentioned by Erin Hut, Spokane Neighborhood Summit is accepting presentation proposals. Connect with Tina (BSN) and Amber (ONS) with Summit questions.
- Community Assembly/Community Development (CA/CD): Thank you to NC's who applied for Community Development Block Grant funds. Review committee decided on funding allocations, those recommendations go to the CHHS Board, then move on to City Council for final vote/approval.
- Land Use:
  - Development Moratorium is coming to an end, and Molly Marshall did a presentation on why continuing the moratorium is important to continue. Molly's presentation included upwards of 800+ homes awaiting to be developed if the moratorium expires.
  - The Latah Valley is awaiting Burke Consulting's sub-area plan for the Latah Valley region. Residents want the moratorium extended until the sub-area plan can be presented and used to inform future developments and infrastructure needs of the Latah Valley.
  - Residents involved in this moratorium process over the years have a wealth of knowledge about development plans for years prior and are trying to hold the City accountable for concerns brought up in the beginning of their fight for a moratorium in addition to concerns that are impacting the neighborhoods now.
  - **Motion: Accept Land Use's Draft Resolution in the agenda packet (page 31) to forward to City Council. Bill motioned. Laura seconded. Motion passes unopposed (3 abstains).**
  - Mary called for folks to attend the Urban Experience Committee meeting to partake in public comment period about the moratorium at 12:00 P.M. on Monday, May 12, 2025. Below is the link for folks to sign up to testify. Sign up here: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1\\_OObLhHJYUeeWKi61o7uHfv4LcsePggVyRFNGE2EC\\_G4/edit](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1_OObLhHJYUeeWKi61o7uHfv4LcsePggVyRFNGE2EC_G4/edit)
- Liaison Committee: Climate Resiliency & Sustainability Board Liaison position is in active recruitment. Materials can be found on Community Assembly's [page](#). Direct all questions to Paul Kropp or Kathryn Alexander.



- **Plan Commission:** Comprehensive Plan updates: They're putting together 2 subcommittees. One of them will focus on neighborhood updates to the comp plan; they'll meet twice: May 6 and May 21<sup>st</sup>. Mary plans to propose, after the 21<sup>st</sup>, that the subcommittee give Community Assembly time to review the document they worked on, to provide feedback. Neighborhood Services, Social Health, and Local Governance are lumped together in the comp plan. Land Use isn't being addressed yet.
  - Luke asked if the subcommittees have a plan for public engagement, Mary said they do not currently have one, but hope Spencer plans to.
  - Paul encouraged folks to read the [Neighborhoods chapter](#) of the comp plan.
  - It was agreed, through discussion, by CA reps that Mary encourages the subcommittee to give the report to CA before the June CA meeting so they can review it then. Mary will try to advocate for CA and Neighborhoods to the best of her ability in her Plan Commission Liaison role.
- ***Motion to extend discussion, first extension of 5 minutes. Robert moved; Laura seconded. Motion passes unopposed.***

## **12. CA Vision (Luke Tolley)**

- Removed from agenda to accommodate additional CA Committee Updates.

## **13. Actionable Items Review**

- Admin Committee will work in June to secure the comp plan document from the Neighborhoods subcommittee and formulate a plan for CA to review it and provide feedback.

***Meeting adjourned at 7:32PM. Next meeting will be held Thursday, June 5.***