



Emerson-Garfield Neighborhood Council

Wednesday, November 13, 2024

Meeting Started: 6:00 PM

Voting Members Present: 29

Guests Present: 5

Minutes:

Motion to Approve October 2024 Minutes: Ted Stevens

Seconded to Approve October 2024 Minutes: Lonnie Boldt

Minutes Pass with 1 abstention.

Agenda:

Motion to Approve November 2024 Agenda with addition of Tree Lighting discussion: Katie Joy Newhouse

Motion to Approve November 2024 Agenda with addition of Tree Lighting discussion: E.J. Iannelli

November 2024 Agenda with addition of Tree Lighting discussion passes unanimously.

Discussion Items

Mansfield Grocery Update: (Clay Elliott)

- Clay provided an update on the Mansfield Groceries case, stating that the hearing examiner had sided with them and the case would be reprocessed as a type 3. This means that if Dave Nagara decides to resubmit, there will be a public hearing and the decision will be made by the hearing examiners, not the planning director. Clay also mentioned that the building is currently vacant and has broken windows.

Guest Speaker:

Northwest Sector Precinct Report: (Lt. Adam Potter)

- Lt. Potter provided updates on crime statistics and enforcement actions in the area. He highlighted a significant decrease in property crimes but noted an increase in garage burglaries and car thefts due to unsecured vehicles. He also discussed the issue of graffiti, particularly the "BLOOM" tag, and assured that it would be addressed. He mentioned the need for neighborhood resource officers, which are expected to be reintroduced in the coming year. He also addressed concerns about the potential closure of community police shops {COPS}, emphasizing their importance in handling minor issues and providing reassurance to the community.

Spokane Transit Authority-Division BRT: (Dan Wells)

- Dan Wells the Deputy Director for Development at STA discussed the proposed Division Street bus rapid transit project. The project, similar to the city line project, aims to improve the bus stops, add bus lanes, and make investments at transit centers. The goal is to make the corridor safer and more competitive with general purpose vehicles. The project is tied to the North Spokane Corridor and is expected to start service in 2030. Dan also mentioned that the project is in the 30% design phase and is working on environmental and cultural resource studies. The project is estimated to cost around \$200 million, with potential funding from the Federal Transit Administration, the State, and other grants.

Holiday Tree Lighting: (Katie Joy Newhouse)

- Katie Joy provided an update on the tree lighting project. She mentioned the installation of electricity and the need for volunteers to help with the hot chocolate and other tasks. Katie Joy also mentioned the need for specific tools and a sound person for the event. She encouraged neighbors to donate items for the Grace Kitchen's holiday gift baskets. The tree lighting event is scheduled for the Sunday after Thanksgiving (Dec 1) and plans to keep it more of a neighborhood event. She also mentioned the possibility of media coverage but expressed a preference for a more neighborly focus.

Action Items:

Special Elections: BSN Representative

- Crystal, who is stepping down from her role as BSN rep, will be taking on a vice chair role. A vote was held to nominate Clay as the new BSN representative.

Motion to nominate Clay Elliott as BSN Representative: Karl Boldt

Seconded to nominate Clay Elliott as BSN Representative: Katie Joy Newhouse

Vote to approve Clay Elliott as BSN Representative pass unanimously.

Vote on CA resolution supporting the renewal of the Spokane COPS contract.

Motion to support the CA resolution supporting the renewal of the Spokane COPS contract: Tim Musser

Second to support the CA resolution supporting the renewal of the Spokane COPS contract: Ted Stevens

Vote to support the CA resolution supporting the renewal of the Spokane COPS contract passes unanimously

Reports:

Spokane City Council: (Kitty Klitke)

- Kitty provided updated on the importance of supporting the renewal of the city contract with Spokane Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS).

ONS: (Annie Deasy)

- Annie reported on the mobile speed feedback trailer report, noting that the data collected was not a traffic study but rather a snapshot of vehicle speeds. She also mentioned the possibility of hosting a community safety panel and the need for a backup location for the asphalt art intersection, because the intersection of Atlantic and Euclid is a roundabout. Presumably the asphalt art project will be at the secondary location on Alice near Emerson Park.

Clean Up Program: (Jeff Thomas)

- Jeff reported that all dump passes have been given out.

Building Stronger Neighborhoods: (Clay Elliott)

- Clay discussed the Neighborhood Summit that he attended.

Land Use: (Bill Heaton)

- Not present

Pedestrian, Traffic, and Transportation (Carlie Hoffman):

- Carlie discussed the topics covered at the previous meeting, including several topics related to community safety and infrastructure projects. Jennifer Soto from the public schools discusses school bus stop locations and the idea of using flags at crossings without crossing guards. The West Central Infrastructure project aims to slow traffic and improve walking and biking conditions. A public safety panel is planned for January 29th with representatives from law enforcement, fire department, and local government.

North Monroe Business District: (Anne Luttrull)

- Anne was not present but asked that we mention that the Saturday after Thanksgiving is Small Business Saturday. The annual NMBD meeting is January 28.

Corbin Senior Activity Center: (Tim Musser)

- Tim discussed that funding is down for many nonprofit agencies, including the Corbin Senior Activity Center and asked people to consider donating.

Community Assembly: (Patti Marland-Stevens)

- Patti attended the last CA meeting which discussed the Spokane COPS contract ending. At the meeting they voted in favor of a resolution to urging the renewal of the contract. Patti read the resolution at the EG meeting.

Community Safety Committee: (Ted Stevens)

- Ted will collection and submit community safety questions for the upcoming Public Safety panel on January 29. The meeting will be at the Hive.

C.O.P.S.: (Gee Sutherlin)

- Gee has moved out of the neighborhood and will no longer be our COPS representative. Katie Schneider will reach out to COPS for updates.

West Central Community Center: (Heath Kays)

- Heath discussed the last meeting, at which the Chief of Police spoke.

Way Out Center: (Gerianne Armstrong)

- Not present

Treasurer: (Judy Heaton)

- Not present

Transitions: (Sarah Lickfold):

- Not present, but asked that we pass along that they had a very successful fundraiser, raising \$124K.

WQTIF: (E.J. Iannelli)

- E.J. discussed the funding requests and increasing transparency in the process.

Emerson Garfield Farmers Market: (Anne Luttrell)

- Not present

The meeting was adjourned at **7:25 PM**

