

CHHS Board Meeting Minutes

March 4, 2026

Roll Call: (4:01 PM)

Board Members: Wes Anderson, Barb Lee, Flor Castañeda, Elaine Mansoor, Karen Ssebanakitta, Ashley Erickson, David Edwards, Leslie Hope, Maura Lammers, Ali Mogaddasi, Joe Ader, George Dahl, Kristin Larson

City of Spokane Staff: Arielle Anderson, Kimberly Babb, Keri Cederquist, Lili Navarrete, Jon Klapp, Nicolette Ocheltree, John Gammal, Aziz Rahmaty, Paradis Pourzanjani, Linda Thrash, CM Kate Telis, CM Sara Dixit

Community Members: N/A

1. February 4, 2026, minutes reviewed and adopted:

- David Edwards asked for a motion to approve the February minutes, Kristin Larson motion to approve, Maura Lammers second, passed unanimously.

2. March 4, 2026, agenda reviewed and passed:

- David Edwards asked for a motion to postpone action items 2 and 3 to agenda. Karen Ssebanakitta second; Wes Anderson objects, passes with majority.

3. Public Comment:

- David Edwards asked guest attendees if there were any public comments – none.

4. Board Education

- Andrew Hoye presentation of an “Overview of Neighborhood Councils and Community Assembly. Andrew Hoye provided an overview of Spokane’s Neighborhood Council system and the Community Assembly, including its formal recognition in November 2000 through an amendment to the City Charter. Spokane currently has 29 neighborhood councils that represent residents and community interests. Andy shared his personal experience becoming involved after attending a large Southgate Neighborhood Council meeting in the early 2000s, where strong community opposition influenced the outcome of a proposed Walmart development. He later joined the Southgate Neighborhood Council around 2010 and now serves as co-chair and as a representative to the Community Assembly, which convenes monthly with representatives from all neighborhood councils to coordinate concerns and provide recommendations to City Council.

Andy also discussed the Community Assembly’s funding history and impact. Since receiving initial City support in 2015, annual funding has grown to \$25,000, which is distributed among neighborhoods to support community events and projects. He highlighted examples of neighborhood councils influencing zoning, development, and policy decisions, as well as their collaboration with City Council. Additionally, he noted the role of CDBG funding in supporting neighborhood-led projects, often in partnership with nonprofit organizations or City departments. Looking ahead, Andy anticipates additional neighborhood project applications in 2026, supported by continued CDBG set-aside funding.

5. Action Items

- Human Services Committee Membership (Pam Watts) – Karen Ssebanakitta shares background of Pam Watts, reached out last Fall interested in volunteering, a current passion for youth, Karen would like to recommend Pam to fill one of the vacancies on the HSC. Karen makes motion to approve Pam Watts to the HSC. Kristin Larson seconds, no comments, Joe Ader objects, motion carries with majority vote.
- 2026 CDBG Capital to include skipped
- 2026 CDBG Neighborhood Allocation skipped
- 2026 HOME Applications – David shares the Affordable Housing Committee reviewed 6 applicants, AHC recommendations, Take up the Cause full funding amount (CHDO), Proclaim Liberty full funding amount, VOA partial funding, Trinity Housing partial funding, Vesalenko full funding, Foundation for the Challenge lowest scoring project and no funding recommended, David Edwards makes motion to accept funding decisions, Maura Lammers seconds, passes unanimously.
- 2026 Annual Action Plan Open Comment Period – Heather Page shares PowerPoint presentation on Annual Action Plan. Comment Period opened from March 4 through April 4th, 30-day comment period. David Edwards makes motion, Karen Ssebanakitta seconds, passes unanimously.
- Budget Amendments Recommended by AHC – Take up the Cause, was awarded 749k in 2024, after HUD review it was determined project was new construction, requesting an additional 59K, request is an increase of 8%, AHC recommendation, David Edwards motion to approve amendment, Maura Lammers seconds, passes unanimously.
The Salvation Army request of \$45k additional funding for food bank project, AHC recommends additional funding. David Edwards motion to approve, Wes Anderson seconds, Leslie Hope opposes, passes majority.

6. Discussion Items

- CHHS Board Joint Retreat with CoC - David Edwards shares he reached out to Joe Ader if any chance the CoC and CHHS board could join and have a joint retreat. Both boards have affirmed the request. Not a lot of details yet, April 3 planning meeting to discuss details. Hold the date of May 1st for the joint retreat.
- Board Membership – Kristin Larson attends first in person meeting as a board member and shares background of her past experiences serving her community.

7. CHHS Director's Report

- Arielle Anderson highlights the benefit of COC and CHHS joint retreat, going over the 5-year plan to end and prevent homelessness, how is it relevant to the work we do here. Newsletter includes how much money has been spent to date for inclement weather. Request for any feedback on additional information board would like to see in the newsletter. Encourages people onto the data page for updates. Discussion on HHS new branding name.

8. Committee & Partner Update

- Affordable Housing Committee – David Edwards shares they will have regular Tuesday meeting next week.
- Human Services Committee – Karen Ssebanakitta, recruiting members to get fully staffed.
- Continuum of Care – Joe Ader, no updates.
- Spokane Valley – no rep present
- Veterans – Wes Anderson, no updates

- City Council – Sarah Dixit, a few weeks ago passed the eviction prevention program. On Monday, we passed two immigration ordinances, one dealing with city property and the other one around zoning (prevents future ICE detention centers), Kratom ban, moving legislative Monday meetings to Wednesday and will begin taking effect in July. Nicolette Ocheltree shared John Alder passed away, HEART funding priorities to include all eligible uses in Heart funds and additional guidance on scoring.
- Spokane County – George Dahl, no updates.

9. Closing Announcements

- Next meeting: **April 1, 2026.**

Adjourn 5:25 PM