East Sprague Parking and Business Improvement Area (PBIA)
Ratepayer Advisory Board Meeting
Date: August 19, 2026, Time: 12:00 to 1:30 PM

Ratepayer Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

A quorum was present.

Officers: Chris Venne (President), Amy Vega (Vice President), Dana Reinke (Secretary via phone), Tresa Schmautz (Treasurer); Board Members: Jim Hanley, Sam Mace; Ratepayers/Guests: Cyndi Lane, Shayla Scott, Raylene Gennett (City of Spokane), Jon Pansie, Barbara Woodbridge (ESBA Ex-officio Member), LaVerne Biel – BID Executive Director

President Chris Venne opened the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

July 15, 2026 minutes (Jim/Amy) were approved as written.

The meeting started with introductions.

- Sprague Union Commons/ESBCA – Chris Venne
  - IRS issues with recording the organization's EIN
  - Longest Table Grant – Dana will apply for the Longest Table Grant once our nonprofit status has been approved.

- Financial Reports – Tresa Schmautz
  - Finances are on track and as expected.
  - New invoice will be submitted in September.

- Neighborhood Beautification – Tresa Schmautz & Dana Reinke
  - Eight to 10 baskets were dying.
  - The flowers died after the water source became disconnected.
  - Dignified Workday continues to do a great job for us.

- District Branding and Marketing – Dana Reinke
  - Summer on the Ave – August 22, 2026 – finalizing event activities, including a pirate treasure map, mermaids, a dunk tank, sidewalk sales, and roaming entertainment throughout the district.
    - Currently handing out advertising posters and cards
    - Seeking volunteers for the dunk tank – We need 10 people to donate their time.
      - Three throws for $5
      - $25 to hit the button
    - The Girl Scouts have volunteered to coordinate the kids' activities.
  - New marketing classes will be scheduled.

    - Flag replacement has run into supply issues.
        - Approximately 50% of the U.S. flags need to be replaced.
        - A supplier is being sought for the lilac flags.
    - The website is updated quarterly.

- Clean & Green – Dana Reinke
    - There is nothing unusual going on currently.
    - A trash can at the southeast corner of Napa and Sprague is being used for debris from a remodeling project.
    - Angel with the City of Spokane has scheduled tree trimming along Sprague Avenue.

- Safety and Security – Darryl Reber
    - All the viaducts have remained clear since our last meeting.

- Walking Tour – Tresa Schmautz
    - EWU is excited to offer some help with our walking tour.

- BID Expansion – Chris Venne
    - The Board approved moving forward with the BID expansion and continuing the expansion toward Division.
    - City Council is aware of the BID's desire to expand.
    - The Board discussed maintaining positive momentum and demonstrating what the BID can accomplish during its first year.

Other Items:

- A health clinic will be held Saturday at Liberty Park, with 30 health care providers associated with MAJI.
- A change in ECNC leadership is anticipated for 2027.

The meeting adjourned at 1:29 p.m.