

# Community Assembly – Minutes

**February 6, 2020**

City Council Briefing Center

Meeting Minutes: Meeting called to order at 5:30 PM by Kevin Freibott

## **Attendance:**

- Neighborhoods Present: Audubon/Downriver, Balboa/South Indian Trail, Bemiss, Browne's Addition, Chief Garry Park, Cliff/Cannon, Comstock, East Central, Emerson-Garfield, Five Mile Prairie, Grandview/Thorpe, Lincoln Heights, Logan, Manito/Cannon Hill, Minnehaha, Nevada Heights, North Hill, North Indian Trail, Northwest, Peaceful Valley, Riverside, Rockwood, Southgate, West Central, West Hills, Whitman
- Neighborhoods Absent: Hillyard, Latah/Hangman, Shiloh Hills
- Staff Members Present: Kevin Freibott, Gabby Ryan, Annica Eagle, Christopher Green, Louis Meuler

## **Administrative Agenda:**

### **1. Introductions (Facilitator)**

- Notification that the meeting is being recorded.
- Discussion ensued
  - Folks reiterated desire for detailed minutes
  - The official recording language from the CA's Policies & Procedures was read
- Facilitator made a statement about respect of fellow CA members
  - CA is for discussion, with room for disagreement about ideas, not personal attacks.

### **2. Proposed Agenda**

- Approved
- Motion to move Melody's piece to later in the agenda. Passed unanimously.

### **3. Approve/Amend Minutes (Facilitator)**

- Approved; North Hill abstained.
- A request was made that CA representatives read draft minutes early enough to submit corrections back to ONS.

## **Open Forum:**

### **4. Reports/Updates/Announcements**

- Carol Tomsic:
  - Neighborhood Community Development Program (NCDP) deadline is April 3. Make sure Neighborhood Councils vote before deadline, or their vote won't count.
- Kathryn Alexander:
  - Explained the need for Paul Kropp's item to happen prior to the Policies & Procedures vote, so discussion can happen beforehand
- Andy Hoyer:
  - Congratulated Kathy Lang on being elected Chair of Design Review Board.

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- NCDP money—\$319,000 for seven small projects and \$81,000 for Habitat for Humanity. Andy was able to discuss with George Dahl.
- Ken Cruz:
  - Centennial Trail: the process was shortened and the City did not fully brief the neighborhood. Invited West Central neighbor Randy to talk about the trail plans.
- Mary Winkes:
  - Went to her first Plan Commission meeting in January. Mary will send out link to Plan Commission minutes and will try to get important information out earlier than the regular CA packet.

### **Legislative Agenda:**

#### **5. City Council – (City Councilmember Lori Kinnear)**

- Oral Report
  - New Council President (CP Breean Beggs). For the District 2 City Council seat vacancy, they went through the appointment process—32 applicants for the position. Each Councilmember brought forward top picks, and then they interviewed the finalists. Councilmember Betsy Wilkerson was chosen.
  - City Council confirmed appointments for Mayor’s cabinet (Tonya Wallace as Chief Financial Officer, Brian Coddington as Director of Communications and Marketing, and Tom Bartridge as Interim Director of Human Resources)
  - New Mayor (Nadine Woodward) and new City Administrator (Wes Crago).
  - Comp plan amendment docketing ad hoc committee met today and made recommendations to City Council.
  - Working with Fire Chief Schaeffer about public spaces—looking at what is most cost effective to mitigate the fuel that builds up. The City is launching a pilot project using goats, humans, and controlled burns to see what is most effective.
- Questions & Comments:
  - Question regarding whether there is a 6-year plan for parks, and whether Neighborhood Councils have any say: *Mark Davies replied that there is a process that includes Neighborhood Councils.*
  - Comp Plan docketing process—the majority of the proposals made it through.
  - A CA rep. provided a brief comment of support for Councilmember Kinnear’s stance regarding City Council meetings being about City business, not about Matt Shea.
  - Question regarding whether citizens can put out opinions concerning City Council rules: *CM Kinnear suggested writing to other City Councilmembers regarding issue.*

#### **6. ~~Community, Housing, and Human Services (Melody Dunn)~~ [Moved to later in the agenda]**

#### **7. Administrative Committee Report (Greg Francis)**

- The Neighborhood Safety Committee has not been meeting, which is of concern. Greg Francis posed the question of whether the committee should exist. Discussion ensued.
  - Public safety is a number one issue. The committee chair is likely burned out. Multiple requests to have committee chair attend the March CA meeting to discuss why the group disbanded. The Committee did 18 months of landlord/tenant work and worked on Noise Ordinance for a while, which will go to vote on March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

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- ONS—the Chair’s term ended in December. Committee is currently without leadership. Only three neighborhoods have been showing up to meetings. Potential solutions: the timing of the meetings could be revisited, or replacing CA/CC to rotate between districts, having the cops, stakeholders, and City Council in a safety forum.
- A couple requests for CA to be more involved with its committees. Accountability is part of the CA’s core values.
- Clarification of difference between Traffic Calming and the Neighborhood Safety Committee’s roles.
- Question regarding whether some of the budgeted money for leadership training could be diverted to committee chairs.
- Solution proposed: the CA needs three people who are willing to serve on this committee to start it up again.
- Moved to extend time; approved.
  - Mark Davies (NIT), Leeland Hoffman (Riverside), Charles Hanson (Whitman), and Kelly Blyth (FMP) have offered to serve; Kelly as interim Chair.
- Next CA/CC meeting is April 30<sup>th</sup>.

#### **8. Committee Goals Review and Approval (Kathryn Alexander)**

- Goals were presented for each committee and voted on, as follows:
  - Budget: Approved unanimously
  - Building Stronger Neighborhoods: Approved unanimously
  - CA/CD: Approved unanimously
  - Land Use Goals: Approved unanimously
  - Liaison: Approved unanimously
- PeTT: shared 2019 focus areas but does not have 2020 goals, so will bring back next month.
- Question about whether the Admin committee should have goals (*Answer: Admin’s goals are the same for every year and clear from the policies, as opposed to the other subcommittees*)

#### **9. Liaison Committee (Paul Kropp)**

- Discussed presented additional policy text for the overall CA policies and procedures
- Proposed change: XI. Community Assembly Liaisons, Section C—strike “in good standing with the CA.”
  - Policies and Procedures changes will be voted on at March CA meeting
- XI. Community Assembly Liaisons, Section E, Number 2—concern raised about wording. Language will be confirmed with staff and Admin committee will add to final draft
- Vote to accept proposed changes for inclusion in the overall amendments to the policies and procedures, to be discussed in the next item and voted on in March: passed unanimously

#### **10. Policies and Procedures (Greg Francis)**

- Policies and Procedures amendments were presented, changes to be voted on at the March CA.
- IV. Meetings, Section C—Concern about recording of meetings. Wants to have a 50 + 1 majority or complete consensus of the CA to allow recording. Discussion regarding recording ensued.

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- Comments: that the CA has nothing to hide, so recording isn't objectionable. That if you have a disability that prevents attending CA, a recording would create accessibility.
- Concerns: that it would make the CA seem like a City group, and that CA doesn't fall under the Public Records rules. That this would result in light meeting minutes. That this issue came up several years ago, and back then the CA had the right to object to recordings.
- Proposed language: adding "by majority approval of the Community Assembly." To IV. Meetings, Section C.
- Questions: Can the CA prevent recordings?
- Motion: Electronic recording of Community Assembly and Community Assembly committee meetings shall be allowed by the majority approval of those voting members present.
  - 21 approved, 2 opposed, 2 abstained
- Motion to extend time passed.
- Proposed wanting to strike ONS Staff Liaison names from the official language.
  - Comment: all committees are known to have ONS reps. Add "as assigned" instead?
- IV. Meetings, Section G. Minutes : reviewed and accepted to for March P & P vote

#### **11. Budget Committee (Mark Davies)**

- Welcomed the Budget Committee's two new members, Scot Web and Ken Cruz, and thanked Andy for all he's done in the past for the Committee
- Each liaison to the committee represents a handful of neighborhoods and serve as contact.
  - Scot Webb ([scotwebb@gmail.com](mailto:scotwebb@gmail.com)): Comstock, Lincoln Heights, Manito/Cannon Hill, Rockwood, Whitman, North Hill
  - Ken Cruz ([stratosphere648@gmail.com](mailto:stratosphere648@gmail.com)): Bemiss, East Central, Logan, Northwest, Peaceful Valley, West Central
  - Mark Davies ([msdavies@msn.com](mailto:msdavies@msn.com)): Balboa/South Indian Trail, Emerson/Garfield, Five Mile Prairie, Minnehaha, Southgate, North Indian Trail
  - Tina Luerssen ([macluerssen@gmail.com](mailto:macluerssen@gmail.com)): Cliff-Cannon, Latah/Hangman, Riverside, West Hills, Grandview/Thorpe
  - Kelly Lotze ([kellylotze@gmail.com](mailto:kellylotze@gmail.com)): Audubon/Downriver, Chief Garry Park, Hillyard, Nevada Heights, Shiloh Hills, Browne's Addition

#### **12. Building Stronger Neighborhoods (Kelly Lotze)**

- Created list of which neighborhoods want help—BSN will assign folks to reach out.

**6. CHHS (Melody Dunn-absent), moved from earlier:** Presentation did not happen as the presenter was not in attendance. .

#### **13. Neighborhood and Planning Services Update**

- Second announcement of upcoming comprehensive plan training.
- Reminder—ONS needs minutes showing when new rep is elected. Census is coming up soon
- **South University District (Christopher Green):** PowerPoint Presentation and discussion.

#### **14. Roundtable Discussion**

- Reminder—next CA meeting is at the West Central Community Center
- Randy—continued conversation about the Centennial Trail. Shared pictures of trail
  - Discussion: what can the CA do about getting involved in important issues like this—writing a letter to City Council and the Mayor? **The CA should dedicate time to**

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become educated on hot-button issues affecting our neighborhoods, and take a position [of support].

**Meeting Adjourned**

Next Community Assembly scheduled for **Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020, at West Central Community Center, Newton Room.**

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