

Community Assembly – Minutes

August 6, 2020

Virtual WebEx Meeting

Meeting called to order at 5:30pm by the Facilitator

Attendance:

- **Neighborhood Councils Present:** Audubon-Downriver, Balboa/South Indian Trail, Bemiss, Browne's Addition, Chief Garry Park, Cliff/Cannon, East Central, Five Mile Prairie, Grandview/Thorpe, Hillyard, Latah/Hangman, Lincoln Heights, Logan, Manito/Cannon Hill, Nevada-Heights, Northwest, North Indian Trail, Peaceful Valley, Riverside, Rockwood, Shiloh Hills, Southgate, West Central, West Hills, Whitman.
- **Neighborhood Councils Absent:** Comstock, Emerson/Garfield, Minnehaha, North Hill.
- **City Staff present:** Wes Crago, Kevin Freibott, Annie Deasy, Carly Cortright, Kirstin Davis, Kris Becker.
- **Visitors:** Council Member Karen Stratton, Paul Kropp (PeTT and Liaison Committee).

Administrative Agenda:

1. Introductions

- The facilitator asked for permission to record the meeting for Annie Deasy (CA Admin Committee Liaison) to provide accurate minutes. This request was approved (13-approve, 2-deny, 1-abstain) and the recording was begun. The Facilitator asked for all CA Reps to identify themselves and their NC in a poll for attendance.

2. Proposed Agenda: Colleen Gardner moved, Greg Francis seconded, to approve the proposed agenda. Motion passed with 18-approve.

3. July Minutes: Greg Francis moved, Mark Davies seconded, to approve July minutes. Motion passed with 15-approve, 1-abstain.

4. Open Forum:

- Tina Luerssen, Budget Committee. Reminder that September 21 is the deadline to have Community Engagement Grant (CE Grant) initial requests ordered and reimbursements submitted. It's easier if things are submitted before the deadline.
- Greg Francis, met with City Leadership about CA and ONS working better together. Dump Pass meeting with ONS staff and CA reps, but that will be covered later in the Agenda. The ONS conversation was put on hold until new ONS leadership is put in place. CA/CC went well, dryness of parks and the possibility for neighborhoods to help water parks, speed reduction signs going

up around parks, lots of talks around Police Dept and training around Killogy (our officers are not doing) and COVID, traffic calming was talked about and it was mentioned that Council President is attending the next PeTT meeting, the ONS division update will be covered later in the agenda, finally looking at meeting for next two CA meetings, the meeting for October is on for its regular time and discuss possibly changing meeting time for November next month.

- Andy Hoyer, Southgate, engineering is planning to install a 100-ft water tower reservoir by the Hamblen Elementary School, Mr. Hoyer said that the City gave an impressive presentation showing what the tower would look like, beginning public announcements for the project.
- Paul Kropp, PeTT Committee Chair. Discussed CE Grant application for Liaison Committee Zoom account. The request was forwarded to Budget and for approval of an annual membership set up under Liaison Committee, not a personal account.

Legislative Agenda:

5. **City Council Report:** Council Member Stratton, spoke on recent CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) funding meeting. The City has \$6.2 million to be spent in October, applications focused on rental and child care assistance, and small businesses—and the arts—organizations are coming forward with really good applications. Police and criminal justice reforms discussions are taking place, the councilmember is impressed by how they are all coming together and moving forward for our community, volunteers in neighborhoods are watering Parks and there is some concern with folks getting hurt, the Mission Avenue homeless shelter building and working on Good Neighbor Agreement that is moving forward, there has never been a response regarding defunding the Police Dept. only about reform, Pig Out cancellation and recouping funds was deferred to Wes Crago. Wes said there is no way to replace that lost revenue, the City has to cut back and be more efficient with our expenses.

6. **ONS/Division Reorganization Update**

- Council Member Stratton gave a brief history of ONS before turning the ONS reorganization to Wes. the City and funding the neighborhood and through the years she's watched the City neighborhoods get stronger and around 2017 there was a hiccup when Neighborhood Services was placed into a larger Division and there was nothing intentional but a result the Neighborhood Services area the neighborhoods have felt there has been a lack of focus and alignment and Administration is working on breaking down the large Division into two Departments so that Neighborhood Services isn't lost both Departments would have strong Directors and this is a positive move forward and then she turned it over to Wes Crago. There were questions and answers that followed.

- Wes Crago gave a brief update on his professional background. Then went into proposed ONS reorganization accompanied by a PowerPoint. The current structure has too many departments under a single division head. This new proposed organization allows for two division heads to share the heavy workload of these various departments. One would be more business/development focused and the other more social/communication focused. Each would have its own division director and each department within that division will have its own manager, including ONS. Questions and answers. Then he went back to the presentation and ended with asking the CA, “What are the qualities that you’re looking for with the Directors of both Departments?” and to send ideas to him directly, providing his email and phone number (wcrago@spokancity.org or 625-6502). More questions and answers.

7. Leadership Training: Tina Luerssen, Building Stronger Neighborhoods (BSN) Committee.

- Tina had two items:
 - The ONS brochure: was a good overview of Neighborhoods and CA, printing may not be best during this time but BNS would like to offer funds for printing if neighborhoods would like to include in Welcome Bags.
 - Training: BSN has \$4,000 set aside for Leadership Training. In person training is more difficult during these times, with 3-Level program:
 - Beginner: Civics 101, communications, community engagement
 - Intermediate: leadership training, cultural competency
 - Advanced: transitioning leadership

BNS is looking for input, does the CA want virtual training or in-person trainings? What would be best for each program area? Discussion was had as to whom might be able to attend/view any training. BNS will work on moving forward with Virtual Trainings to hold this year.

8. Clean-Up/Dump Pass Update

- Tina gave an update on the Clean-Up Program as the Dump Passes are the only option this year. She reported on a meeting she and Kelly Lotze virtually attended with City staff on opening up requests to neighborhoods for Dump Passes. Each neighborhood can request 15 Dump Passes every 2 weeks. This is in addition to the other ways neighborhoods and residents can obtain passes (bi-weekly mailing, Community Engagement grants, through Code Enforcement when waste violations are present).

- Option 1: resident goes to City website and completes Dump Pass request form, pass will be directly mailed to them.
- Option 2: Clean-Up Coordinators will distribute Dump Passes to residents either in –person or mail. Clean-Up Coordinator will be responsible to gas or postage.

Most CA Reps preferred Option 1. Vote was taken via chat with Option 1-15, Option 2-3. Questions and answers. Roll-Call Advisory Vote: Audubon-Downriver-1, Balboa/South Indian Trail-1, Bemiss-1, Chief Garry Park-1, Cliff/Cannon-1, East Central-1, Grandview/Thorpe-2, Hillyard-1, Latah/Hangman-1, Lincoln Heights-1, Manito/Cannon Hill-1, North Indian Trail-1, Northwest-2, Rockwood-1, Shiloh Hills-1, Southgate-1, West Central-1, West Hills-1, Whitman-2.

The City can implement the chosen solution on a neighborhood by neighborhood basis. Gabby Ryan will follow up with the Clean-up Coordinators.

9. Roundtable Discussion: No one requested to speak.

Meeting Adjourned.

Next Community Assembly scheduled for **Thursday, September 3, 2020.**