

Community Assembly Meeting Minutes

January 7, 2021 via WebEx web conference

Meeting called to order at 5:30pm by Carly Cortright

Attendance:

- **Neighborhood Councils Present:** Audubon/Downriver, Balboa/South Indian Trail, Bemiss, Browne's Addition, Chief Garry Park, Comstock, East Central, Emerson/Garfield, Five Mile Prairie, Grandview/Thorpe, Hillyard, Latah/Hangman, Lincoln Heights, Logan, Manito/Cannon Hill, Nevada-Heights, North Indian Trail, Northwest, Peaceful Valley, Rockwood, Shiloh Hills, Southgate, West Hills, West Central, and Whitman.
- **Neighborhood Councils Absent:** Cliff/Cannon Hill, North Hill, Minnehaha, and Riverside.
- **City Staff present:** Cupid Alexander, Carly Cortright, Annie Deasy, Annica Eagle, and Gabby Ryan.
- **Visitors:** Council Member Cathcart, Council Member Wilkerson, Lisa Gardner (City Council), Hannahlee Allers (City Council), Shae Blackwell (City Council), Shauna Harshman (City Council), Kirstin Davis (NHHS), and 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, 3-deny, 0-abstain). The Facilitator asked for all CA Reps to identify themselves and their NC in a poll for attendance.
2. **Proposed Agenda:** Andy Hoye moved, Greg Francis seconded to approve the proposed agenda. Motion passes with 14-approve, 0-deny, and 2-abstain.
3. **December Minutes:** Greg moved, Andy seconded to approve December minutes. Motion passes with 16-approve, 1-deny, 0-abstain.
4. **Open Forum:**
 - Kathryn Alexander, Community, Housing and Human Services board (CHHS). The CHHS board met last night and the Neighborhood Community Development Program funds would be moving to public comment. She needed to meet with George Dahl regarding changing District 1's vote due to District 3's decision to fully fund Habitat for Humanity.
 - Greg Francis, Admin Committee. He presented a copy of the CA letter to Mayor Woodward regarding the Centennial Trail Gap and letter to Spokane Park Board regarding the preservation of parks, included in the packet.

Legislative Agenda:

- 5. City Council Report:** Council Member Cathcart. **2021 Budget** was adopted and there will be no layoffs for City employees.

Heat map: shows late payments on utility bills. About one-third of the City utility bill customers are more than two months late paying their bill. Late fees and water shut-offs have been suspended during COVID. Customers needing help with utility bills can call U-Help at 456-SNAP. Also, [Cares Act Funding](#) now is available for rental and utility assistance. Assistance is income based.

Park Board Liaison: Council Member Cathcart will be replacing Council Member Kinnear as the City Council's liaison to the Park Board.

Motion to extend: Daniel Zapotocky motioned. Andy seconded. Motion passes with 12-approve, 2-deny, and 1-abstain.

Water Conservation Master Plan: City Council is working to update the [Water Conservation Master Plan](#) and holding three community water use workshops to learn how residents use water, the connection between the aquifer and the Spokane River, and to provide feedback on potential water use interventions. The [workshops](#) will be held:

- District 1 on Thursday, Jan. 21, at 6 p.m.
- District 2 on Thursday, Jan. 28, at 6 p.m.
- District 3 on Thursday, Feb. 4, at 6 p.m.

Updated Rules: City Council will be working on updating rules for Council.

There were questions and answers.

- 6. Neighborhood, Housing and Human Services:** Cupid Alexander, Director. Cupid shared that the departments within his division were going to be holding strategic retreats. A young adult shelter serving the ages of 18 and 24 will be opening. The shelter is being funded by a state grant secured jointly by the cities of Spokane and Spokane Valley, and Spokane County. The shelter will be operated by the Volunteers of America.

There were no questions.

- 7. Water Tower Update:** Kyle Twohig, Marlene Feist. Rescheduled. Carly explained that the presentation for the proposed water tower in Hamblen Park will be rescheduled because they had some work they wanted to complete before presenting.
- 8. Facilitator Update:** Andy Hoye. CA Facilitator ad hoc committee minutes were shared. A discussion followed on having an independent facilitator paid or volunteer, or continue having an Office of Neighborhood Services representative facilitate. A discussion about

the facilitator options and whether the CA supported using Community Engagement Funds to pay for a facilitator.

Motion to extend: Mark Davies motioned. Daniel seconded. Motion passes with 16-approve, 0-deny, and 0-abstain.

Discussion continues followed by a roll call vote. Roll Call Vote: The Community Assembly shall use Engagement Grant Money to hire a facilitator unless a volunteer facilitator can be found. Motion did not pass: 8- yes, 12- no, 2-abstain. (Yes: Comstock, Five Mile Prairie, Grandview-Thorpe, Logan, North Hill, Northwest, Rockwood, Southgate, and Whitman. No: Audubon-Downriver, Bemiss, Browne's Addition, Chief Garry Park, East Central, Emerson-Garfield, Hillyard, Latah-Hangman Valley, Lincoln Heights, Manito-Cannon Hill, North Indian Trail, and Peaceful Valley. Abstain: Balboa-South Indian Trail and Lincoln Heights.)

- 9. Neighborhood Services Update:** End of Year Reports were presented. Gabby Ryan, presented on Clean-Up. Planning for next year's Clean-Up will include asking Solid Waste to have a discussion with CA about the program.

Motion to extend. Colleen Gardner motioned. Daniel seconded. Motion passes: 15-approve, 2-deny, 0-abstain.

There were questions and answers. Time ran out and continued Clean-Up discussion was moved to the Round Table.

Annie Deasy, Community Engagement Grant. There were no questions.

Motion to extend. Mark motioned. Greg seconded. Motion passes with 12-approve, 4-deny, and 1-abstain.

Annica Eagle, Mobile Speed Feedback, Traffic Calming, and Town Halls. Annica ran out of time and the Town Halls portion of presentation was moved to the Round Table.

- 10. Liaison Committee:** Paul Kropp. Paul presented the Liaison Committee Urban Forestry application packet and mentioned it would be posted on the City's website under [Items of Interest](#).

There were questions and answers.

- 11. Committee Goal Approval:** Greg Francis. Presentation on the Liaison Committee goals. Greg asked for a motion to approve the goals. Tina Luerssen moved to approve. Motion passes with 19-approved, 1- deny, and 0-abstain.

BSN and Budget Committees said they would have their goals submitted next month. Paul Kropp, PeTT Committee, said they would need more time.

12. Round Table: Colleen, Chief Garry Park. City Attorney, Mike Piccolo's memo on the OPMA RCW 42.30.020 (2) defines "Governing body" as the multimember board, commission, committee, council, or other policy or rule-making body of a public agency, or any committee thereof when the committee acts on behalf of the governing body, conducts hearings, or takes testimony or public comment. The CA is not a governing body and we do not set policy/rules.

Mindy Muglia, Nevada-Heights. Mindy shared a link to a video regarding housing that she encouraged CA to view. It can be found at: <https://youtu.be/KSztwshhBiU>.

Annica, Town Halls. Annica gave a presentation on the Town Halls structure for 2021. District 2 signed up and District 3 is looking at June 14. There were questions and answers.

Gabby, Clean-Up. Continuation on Clean-Up. There were questions and answers.

Meeting Adjourned.

Next Community Assembly scheduled for **Thursday, February 4, 2021.**