

Community Assembly Draft Meeting Minutes

July 1, 2021 via WebEx web conference

Meeting called to order at 5:30pm by Jennifer Cumbie

Attendance:

- **Neighborhood Councils Present:** Audubon/Downriver, Balboa/South Indian Trail, Browne's Addition, Chief Garry Park, East Central, Grandview/Thorpe, Hillyard, Latah/Hangman, Lincoln Heights, Manito/Cannon Hill, North Indian Trail, Northwest, Riverside, Rockwood, Shiloh Hills, Southgate, West Hills, and Whitman.
- **Neighborhood Councils Absent:** Bemiss, Cliff/Cannon, Comstock, Emerson-Garfield, Five Mile Prairie, Logan, Nevada-Heights, North Hill, Minnehaha, Peaceful Valley, and West Central.
- **City Staff Present:** Council Member Karen Stratton, Kara Odegard (City Council), Carly Cortright (Office of Neighborhood Services, ONS), Kirstin Davis (Community, Housing, and Human Services, CHHS), and Annie Deasy, (ONS).
- **Visitors:** Paul Kropp (Pedestrian, Traffic and Transportation (PeTT) and Liaison Committees) and Jennifer Cumbie (facilitator).

Administrative Agenda:

1. **Introductions:** The facilitator asked for all CA Reps to identify themselves and their NC in a poll for attendance and for permission to record the meeting for Annie Deasy (CA Admin Committee Liaison) to provide accurate minutes. This request was approved (15-approve, 3-deny, and 0-abstain).
2. **Proposed Agenda:** Colleen Gardner moved, Mark Davies seconded to approve the agenda. Motion passes with 15-approve, 0-deny, and 2-abstain.
3. **June Minutes:** Mark Davies moved, Daniel Zapotocky seconded to approve June minutes. Motion passes with 15-approve, 0-deny, and 3-abstain.
4. **Open Forum:**
 - Tina Luerssen, Building Stronger Neighborhoods (BSN). Tina asked that the neighborhoods holding summer events like concerts or movie nights, email their event information and date to Gabby, gryan@spokanecity.org, or Kelly, kellylotze@gmail.com. They will compile a complete list of events that can be shared between NCs. The Clifton Strengths Finder training was held this week and there were extra books available to those NCs which haven't already gotten two copies. The training video will be posted online.

- Mark Davies, Budget Committee. The Community Engagement grant has had the most grant submittals yet and were hoping to get 100% participation, so we offered a Zoom account to the four NCs that did not apply, but they still did not apply.
- Mary Winkes, Plan Commission Liaison. The list of comprehensive plan amendments that says what neighborhood could be affected is ready for review. Please respond if you agree with the amendments or not. The Mayor invited Mary to serve on the Mayor's Housing Council that meets quarterly. Mary is asking Paul Warfield to talk about housing with the CA. Taping and distributing the video recordings of committee meetings as a topic of discussion for the CA.
- Paul Kropp, Liaison Committee. The City Council is expanding and reframing the Citizen Transportation Advisory Board (CTAB). The CTAB now provides that the CA will nominate or select the PeTT committee member. The Liaison Committee will manage the list of applications and forward nominations to CA for selection.
- Fran Papenluer, Audubon-Downriver. As a member-at-large of the West Quadrant TIF Neighborhood Project Advisory Committee, the handout listing the Comp Plan amendments was very helpful because two of the three neighborhoods were listed in the report. The Audubon-Downriver NC will be holding two summer concerts sponsored by Premera in Audubon Park on Thursday, July 15, and Thursday, July 22, at 6:30pm.

Legislative Agenda:

5. **City Council Report:** Council Member Karen Stratton, kstratton@spokanecity.org.

Cooling Shelters: The cooling shelters are open and there is a complete list on the [Spokane Regional Health District](#) website:

- The Loof Carrousel in Riverfront Park,
- Spokane Public Libraries,
- STA Plaza,
- Northtown Mall,
- Regal and Sheridan Elementary Schools,
- The ARC Thriftstore,
- Spark Central in Kendall Yards, and
- Catholic Charities has five locations, just to name a few.

STA is offering free transportation to the cooling centers. More information can be found at: [Free Rides to Cooling Centers | Spokane Transit Authority](#).

Federal Recovery Funds: The City received about \$88 million in Federal Recovery Funds and have half now that we need to spend before September, so the Mayor formed a committee that includes Council President Beggs, Council Member Wilkerson, and myself along with administration and the Mayor. The committee is talking about how we want to divide the funds and put together a process, as well as, looking at rental assistance for tenants and landlords; small businesses; neighborhoods that could use improvements; C.O.P.S. program, they have two victim advocate positions that need assistance; a whole list has been created. The committee is creating a process that will be communicated with the public on how to apply for funding. If you have ideas on how funding should be divided, please send an email to: kstratton@spokanecity.org.

Housing Action Plan Study Session: City Council had a great discussion on the housing action plan with the Planning staff. The plan is an overview of data and recommendations. Council now needs to look at our priorities; what Council is hearing from the community; and how to get more of the housing issues that we want included in that plan. City Council members are very interested in creating more affordable housing; single, multi family, and senior housing. Council is hearing every day from different communities that Spokane has a lack of housing. So, housing is a priority for and Council will hear a lot more about this issue in the next several weeks.

Whistalks Way, the former Old Fort George Wright Drive: Council Member Stratton is working with the Spokane Tribe of Indians and on a street dedication and name change ceremony that will be held in August.

Emerson-Garfield Neighborhood Bridge Housing: putting together a meeting with residents and businesses of the neighborhood, Salvation Army, and the City to talk about the future of the shelter that is located on Mission Avenue once it becomes bridge housing. The shelter is closing and will reopen in September as bridge housing that will house up to 60 residents. Residents will enroll in services and receive assistance, and place to stay until they can graduate out of bridge housing and move into their own housing.

Family Promise and Gecko: Council approved about \$9 million to go to Family Promise and Gecko, formerly known as LiveStories, to provide rental assistance for families and individuals.

Pools and Splash Pads: are open. Also, the Parks Department is hiring part time employees at the aquatics centers and in parks operations, to apply <https://my.spokanecity.org/jobs/temporary-seasonal/>.

Motion to extend: Daniel Zapotocky motioned. Andy Hoyer seconded. Motion passes with 15-approve, 0-deny, and 0-abstain.

There were questions and answers.

6. **Sustainability Action Plan:** Kara Odegard, City Council. Kara showed a presentation on the Sustainability Action Plan (SAS) and also mentioned how people can participate in the plan. The SAS subcommittee, made up of volunteer residents that have expertise in areas such as energy, building efficiency, transportation, planning, ecology, hydrology, resource management, and also communications and health experts, members from local non-profit and faith based organizations, that meet and discuss how to create a more resiliency in the Spokane community when it comes to extreme weather events and addressing environmental concerns. The SAS was asked in how to provide guidance on what actions the City could take to accomplish to key local climate requirements including the 100% renewable energy goal set in 2018 and supported by our local utilities. The following year the state passed two pieces of legislation: the Clean Energy Transportation Act and updated to the state's greenhouse gas reduction targets. We also updated the Clean Energy Action Plan in response to these laws to address those requirements and protect the natural treasures like the aquifer, Spokane river, and green spaces.

The objectives include:

- Build resiliency to ensure our neighborhoods and economy are ready for future challenges.
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 95% in 2050.
- Prioritize the most vulnerable to health impacts and economic downturns related to climate change.

By following actions in the following areas:

- Buildings and energy.
- Transportation and land use.
- Waste diversion and material conversion.
- Water resources.
- Economic prosperity.
- Natural environment.
- Health and well being.

To review the plan and provide feedback visit

<https://my.spokanecity.org/bcc/committees/public-infrastructure-environment-and-sustainability/sustainability-action-subcommittee/>.

There were questions and answers.

7. **Office of Neighborhood Services Update:** Carly Cortright. Carly gave an update on the changes to **Neighborhoods, Housing, and Human Services (NHHS)**. With Cupid's resignation, we now have Chris Patterson, advisor, on homeless housing initiatives and Kirstin Davis is the Acting Division Deputy Director. The City is working to fill the open positions in CHHS. If you have any concerns, you can always come to Carly, but also wanted to [provide Kirstin's name as a contact. **Pedestrian Safety and Traffic Awareness** campaign will have one more meeting to show the stakeholder group some

proposals and then we should be able to move forward with an action plan. The **bi-weekly district videos** are going well. We now have one produced for each district. The videos are being posted to Next Door and will send the NCs video links that can be shared on their social media platforms. Shout out to Cliff Winger from Shiloh Hills for his help creating a document on how to serve on the City's Boards and Commissions.

Carly, gave an update on the **Clean-Up program**: To date, there have been 4,600 requests made and the redemption rates are about 31% for digital passes and, at this time, unknown for paper passes. Paper passes are available for pickup at the C.O.P.S. locations—please call ahead. Postcards have been mailed to all City households. Solid Waste can accommodate no more than 16 curbside or roll-off events, and there were 18 neighborhoods that submitted a request. The list of neighborhoods that were willing to combine events were emailed to Gabby.

Motion to extend: Daniel Zapotocky motioned. Tina Luerssen seconded. Motion passes with 14-approve, 0-deny, and 0-abstain.

There were questions and answers.

8. **Citizen Transportation Advisory Board (CTAB)**: Paul Kropp, PeTT Committee. Paul shared a letter regarding an ordinance adopted by City Council discussing the CTAB roles and responsibilities. Council recommends that two representative from each council district serve on the CTAB. Additionally, they Council recommends that the \$20 car tab fee pay for residential, not arterial, street maintenance repairs.

Motion to extend: Daniel Zapotocky motioned. Carol Tomsic seconded. Motion passes with 11-approve, 5-deny, and 1-abstain.

Second motion to extend: Daniel Zapotocky motioned. Carol Tomsic seconded. Motion does not pass with 6-approve, 7-deny, and 0-abstain. Discussion ensued.

9. **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) Update**: Luke Tolley, shared the most recent version of the MoU between the Office of Neighborhood Services and Community Assembly. Carly is comfortable with the MoU; wanted to get feedback from the CA; and make sure that the CA also is comfortable with the document before taking it to City Council for approval. The final version will be brought to CA next month. Please send comments or ideas, if you have them, before next month to the adhoc committee: Carly or Luke, or anyone else on the committee: Greg, Tina, Gail, Kathry, or Fran.

Discussion ensued.

10. **Quarterly CA/CC Agenda Item Reminder**: Greg Francis reminded the CA that the next CA/CC meeting will be on July 29. Please send agenda items to the Admin Committee, Greg, Tina, by July 27, unless you want to share suggestions.

There were no questions.

11. Round Table: Tina, BSN. The CA committees Zoom account is open and active. This account is available to all committees and sub-committees. Please email Tina, macluerssen@gmail.com, if you want a meeting set up; she also is available to help answer questions related to Zoom.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:04pm.

Next Community Assembly scheduled for **Thursday, August 5, 2021.**