

WEST CENTRAL NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING MINUTES

November 5, 2009, Thursday

Meeting held at The Native Project at 6:30 p.m.

I. Welcomes and Introductions

- a. Toni Lodge, JoAnn Stewart, Rhosetta Rhoades, Kaye Turner, Annette Owen, Melissa Owen, Jason Wheaton, Jenny Mele Dr. DeWood Caleb Stamper, Louise Stamper, Kelly Cruz, Dorothy Namutchi, and Jen Hussey. Guests: Andrew Rowles, Mike Sparber and son, Mitchell Flinn.

II. Approval of November Agenda and October Minutes

- a. Joann moved to approve the minutes and agenda and Tony seconded, motion passed.

III. Housekeeping

- a. It was suggested that Jen Hussey create a contact list with contact information for members of the planning group. Jen will also send out e-mail reminders for meetings.

IV. Committee Reports

- a. LGC met 10/28/09. They went back to the SWOT and looked at possible goals they could tackle. One goal is to work with the City of Spokane on the comprehensive plan. They also want to work with government offices and the neighborhood councils. They feel that they have a good committee. They want to have leaders and develop the community to have a sense of belonging. On their next meeting they will be going through the rest of the SWOT to look for additional goals and ideas. They plan to meet again on November 18th at 6:30 @ JoAnn's home.
- b. Economics discussed several economic opportunities in the neighborhood. They definitely want to develop a business association and believe that such an organization will bring strength to the neighborhood. There is a class at Whitworth University that is working on a business plan for business owners in the neighborhood. Kelly, Brenda, and George will be speaking to this class. The next meeting will be on the November 19th @ 5:30 at WCCC.
- c. Social Health is still trying to meet. Kelly will announce a time and place when available.

V. Presentation by Andrew Rowles (DSP)

- a. This is a modification of ten year plan started in 1999 and it does have influence on the Monroe Corridor. The downtown plan potentially has the magnitude to set planning for other areas. DSP has provided assurance that as West Central goes forward in planning they will harmonize with downtown and our plan. Historic structures along Monroe are a focal point so they want to maintain current building height to maintain the feel of the historic buildings. Downtown Spokane plan (DSP). DSP mentioned that there is flexibility to the plan. There are concepts in the plan for green streets and as development occurs there will still be a need

to maintain a favorable pedestrian environment. DSP did say that there is room in the plan for the Centennial Trail. The DSP plan is available on the website. They want to maintain view corridors but is not a big an issue anymore. Shadowing issues are more important now. They will make best effort to integrate both plans.

VI. Presentation by Lt. Mike Sparber (EPF) siting process

- a. EPF (Essential Public Facility Siting Process) There is a need for a bigger jail system as the current one is at capacity. This group is talking about a systems wide approach to tackle many problems and rehabilitate citizens. Geiger is set to close in 2013 and has already taken a huge budget hit that is forcing them to minimize their facilities and the population they can support. They want to alleviate crowding as the current Jail is built for a population of 472 and they currently house over 600. It is a 25 year plan that will accommodate inmate growth and provide a safer community. It is the hope of the group to correct problems before their children have to correct them in another 25 years. The Jail is the second largest mental health institution in Spokane, it is agreed that the criminal system is broke, but can be rebuilt to the betterment of all. There is discussion as to whether to have a tower system with a second tower that will be built later to the cost of 265 million dollars. This will cost an additional 8.5 million dollars to operate. While a horizontal build will be 335 million, but is safer and has less operating costs. Potentially there is a problem as no one wants a jail in their neighborhood. There are 10 sites being explored at this time: McFarlane Road, Geiger, Flint/Hwy2, MacFarlane/Lawson, Medical Lake Rd, Gravel Pit, The County Campus, Tschirley, Flora Rd, and Appleway at Liberty Lake. The best way we can help is to support the process and make our voices heard. This group cares greatly about the community and wants to promote safety and help its citizens. This is on a website www.spokanesherriff.org. The group will let us know about meetings. They stated that they will not build the jail unless it has a positive impact on the community with a corrections piece that will rehabilitate its citizens. They further advised that if we wanted to talk about budget cuts we should speak to the County Commissioners.

VII. Presentation by US Census

- a. No one was able to present this evening.

VIII. Good of Order

- a. There is a Business Association Meeting that will be held November 19th at the WCCC. They want to welcome neighborhood business owners and wish to have money for refreshments. It was suggested to appropriate \$75 dollars for this endeavor. Jen moved and Kaye seconded, motion passed. It was suggested that anyone with a business license should be invited which includes non-profit organizations.
- b. The next planning meeting is December 3rd at The Native Project. The group was asked if they want to meet in January on the 7th.

IX. Adjourn

- a. Joann made a motion to adjourn, Melissa seconded, meeting adjourned at 8:27 PM