



**Audubon-Downriver Neighborhood Council  
Membership Meeting Minutes  
Shadle Public Library/Zoom virtual meeting 7:00 pm  
March 17, 2022**

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Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chair Chris Wright. Board members present: Fran Papenleur (Vice Chair/CA representative), Steve Cox (Traffic Chair), Andrea Kilgore (Secretary), Jeff Stevens (Parks Chair), Eric Swagerty (new membership chair). Victor Frazier (Treasurer/WCCC/COPS NW liaison) present on zoom. Clean-Up Coordinator positions vacant. Guests: Alexandra Piekarski (NWNC board), Asraa Ahmed (Growing Neighbors) and Edie Rice-Sauer (Transitions). Guest speakers noted below.

**Chair:** Introductions and orientation to neighborhood council.

**Secretary report:** Feb minutes provided by email. Motion to approve. Minutes approved.

**Treasurer report:** Victor reports current balance is \$5453. Secretary of state non-profit status filed for 2022.

**Membership Report:** 24 people in attendance. 16 voting members present. Quorum of voting members present.

**Guest Speaker:** Mike Lopez, Fire Department EMS Division, presented on the EMS Levy Renewal up for vote in April. The levy has been in place since 1980 and is renewed every 6 years. \$13 million levy will pay for firefighter/EMT salaries, equipment, vehicles, vehicle maintenance, program administration, general operations and monthly training. CARES program results in 71% reduced calls to 911 and increased quality of life for elderly or disabled people who call 911 excessively. BRU pairs a mental health counselor and paramedic to behavioral health calls. EMS responded to almost 9 behavioral emergencies per day in 2021 which resulted in unnecessary ER visits where they did not receive mental health treatment. The new BRU team diverts people from the emergency room to more appropriate mental health treatment. More info at [www.spokanefire.org](http://www.spokanefire.org).

Questions: 1) Did 911 calls go up during COVID? No, calls decreased during the lockdown when people did not want to leave home or go to the hospital. In July, calls

regarding serious issues like stroke and heart attacks because people delayed care due to the belief they should not go to the hospital. Mike recommends that you call 911 when you have symptoms because the hospitals do not close for emergencies. 2) How do we refer to the BRU? Call 911 to report an issue. There is only 1 BRU pair on duty from M-Th 10am to 8pm because data indicates that is when they receive the most calls. How are social workers and primary doctors involved in this process? CARES social workers contact the hospital social worker and primary care doctor to coordinate care. SPD has a similar program pairing a police officer with a counselor, and the Mental Health Crisis Line is available 24/7.

**City Council report:** Councilmember Zappone reports the Citizens Transportation Advisory Board is seeking applications to review residential streets. New NRO is based out of COPS NW. Grind and overlay projects in other areas, however none in our neighborhood. They are proposing more business districts. Mobile Speed Feedback locations requests are due April 1st. Crosswalks will be added in Indian Trail and West Central. Neighbors Drive 25 signs are available at COP Shops and City Hall. Crossing beacons will be installed near Nettleton and Alberta. West Quadrant TIF funding will improve streets/sidewalks in West Central. WSDOT land along the freeway will be sold to the City to develop affordable housing. North Spokane Corridor is ahead of schedule by 2 years for completion in 2029. Will add a landbridge at Liberty Park to reconnect the East Central neighborhood that was divided by I-90. Legislature funded bikes and free bus passes for kids under 17 to encourage transit use. Billig proposed a law to encourage parking lots that are multi-use commercial/residential parking structures. Mayor announced a new low-barrier shelter to open in April. Zappone serves on Traffic Calming, Spokane Regional Transportation Council, Plan Commission, Visit Spokane tourism board, Multi-Family Tax Exemption, Legislative team and several more. Is working on an ordinance to increase housing infill. Report potholes and alleys needing paving to the hotline. Residents have asked the city to paint the traffic islands at Lincoln and Nevada so that they are visible at night.

**Office of Neighborhood Services:** Annie Deasy provided District 3 report by email. Report shared to membership email list.

**Community Assembly report:** Fran deferred report this month.

**Traffic:** Steve is preparing applications for mobile speed unit sites. Proposing NW Blvd, Driscoll and Alberta locations. Crosswalk on NW Blvd is still in Cycle 10 projects.. Residents report someone was speeding down Hoffman, did a u-turn through two yards and went down A street at 5:15 am. Recommended reporting it to Crime Check or COPS. Other residents report street racing on NW Blvd, Driscoll. They knocked down

a utility pole. Jeff recommends reporting it as much as possible to build a case for traffic enforcement. Contact the police chief, city council, etc. Zappone reports 4 additional traffic safety officers were funded by the City, but they were required to spend most of their time by parks and schools. The police chief declines to hire officers just for parks and schools. Jeff reported on CSO construction that will affect traffic on Cleveland and TJ Meenach. TJ Meenach will be completely closed for 4 months this summer. Proposed detour is Ash to Maxwell to TJ Meenach Bridge. Could be traffic problems on Columbia Circle and Downriver Drive.

**Parks:** Jeff reported on the Shadle Library Garden project by ADNC, Master Gardeners, Growing Neighbors, Waterwise Spokane, Desert Jewels Nursery. Planting is scheduled for April 7th with open house later in the month. Garden will demonstrate drought tolerant plants and how to reduce water usage.

**Membership:** Eric Swagerty volunteered to be Membership and Nominations Chair. Will host a Newcomers Welcome Club on April 18th (venue TBA) to welcome new residents and council members, socialize and build community with neighbors.

**Concerts and Events:** Victor reports ADNC will not host concerts in Audubon Park this year, but other neighborhoods will host concerts (Bemiss, North Indian Trail, Browne's Addition). Spokane Youth Symphony may perform at Shadle Park in August but it is not confirmed.

**Clean-Up:** Chris attended the mandatory clean-up meeting for 2022. ADNC has historically opted for disposal passes instead of clean-up events. If anyone would like ADNC to do clean-up events, please let us know so we can plan for next year. Disposal passes are now available on the City website all year, good for 2-week stages. Victor reports COPS NW will have paper passes that are good for 90 days. They currently have 75 passes good through June 30th.

**West Central Community Center:** Victor reports Bloomsday selected WCCC as the designated charity to support this year. They will have a Doomsday Hill training event competition at WCCC before Bloomsday.

**COPS/Public Safety:** Shred Day is April 29th at COPS NW. New NRO is Tim Schwering. Neighbors Drive 25 yard signs are available for residential streets.

**By-Laws Committee:** City asked ADNC to review and update neighborhood council by-laws. Committee was made up of board members and residents. A draft was sent

to the email list and paper copies are available. Members will vote to approve the by-laws at the April meeting.

**Other business:** Resident suggests a volunteer group to pick up dog poop on the bluff. Jeff is working on a bluff clean-up for spring.

**Next General Meeting:** April 21st, 2022 at 7pm at Finch Elementary School. In-person only.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm by Chris Wright.

Meeting minutes recorded by ADNC Secretary Andrea Kilgore.