



**Audubon-Downriver Neighborhood Council
Membership Meeting Minutes
Shadle Park Library Studio Room/Zoom hybrid
September 15, 2022**

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chair Chris Wright. **Board members** present: Fran Papeleur (Vice Chair), Jeff Stevens (Parks Coordinator), Andrea Kilgore (Secretary), and Victor Frazier (Treasurer, WCCC/COPS NW liaison) present. Steve Cox (Traffic Coordinator) and Eric Swagerty (Membership Chair) not present. Clean-Up Coordinator position is vacant. **Guests:** Karen Stratton (City Council), Annie Deasy (ONS), Sgt. C Pavlishack (SPD), Edie Rice-Sauer (Transitions CEO), Selene Lheureaux, NW Blvd Business Association (and owner of *fofolles*, a dress shop), Christopher Savage, Balboa/South Indian Trail NC. Guest speakers noted below.

Chair: Introductions and orientation to neighborhood council.

Secretary: May minutes provided by email. Motion to approve. Minutes approved.

Treasurer: Victor reports current balance is \$4621? After a \$300 donation for *Building Dreams* ADNC Table for eight people at the West Central Community Center.

Membership: Coordinator Eric Swagerty not present. Andrea reports 28 people in attendance (16 voting members), with a quorum present. Three new attendees.

Concerts: Victor is willing to train new volunteers to put on neighborhood concerts. Concerts are a fundraiser for ADNC.

Spokane Police Department: Sgt. Charles Pavlischak reports the City will be divided into 4 sectors and reorganizing SPD shifts for more coverage. Officers will be pulled from NRO duties and assigned to patrol due to a shortage of patrol officers. SPD has low manpower due to retirements, illness, injuries, etc. Crime rate has gone up and is receiving more calls for service. Questions were asked about violent crime, car thefts and sex trafficking rates.

City Council: Council Member Karen Stratton reports the following:

- Trent shelter opened; about 75 people staying there. Some moved from Camp Hope. Empire Health Services organized 50 agencies to provide resources to people at Camp Hope. Helping them obtain photo ID. Karen reports some

seniors are living in tents due to not being able to afford rent. Some are young people who are working or in school because they cannot afford rent. One organization has 50 housing vouchers to target the seniors. 2 or 3 have moved into safe housing. Empire has funding for pallet shelter homes. Some people at the camp are bad, but cannot identify them until the other people are moved out.

- Catholic Charities purchased a hotel on Sunset Hill to provide 100+ units of transitional housing. It is not a 24/7 shelter, but actual apartments for people exiting homelessness, and will include wrap-around services. West Hills neighbors filed a lawsuit. City Council cannot comment on it due to City being named as a defendant. They are meeting with neighbors to discuss concerns.
- Construction projects: Cochran Basin stormwater pipe construction continues. This \$3 million project will take at least another year to complete. Sidewalks around Audubon Elementary, Glover Middle School and Madison Elementary.
- Flett middle school opened. Problems with crosswalks the first week. City is identifying traffic calming projects.
- ARPA funds are still available for small business owners or non-profits for recovery of revenue losses during pandemic. Portal will re-open at www.myspokane.org. Small businesses along Northwest Blvd have organized a business association and block watch. Selene Lheureaux reports construction has affected traffic at her shop, and several other businesses along the boulevard.
- City is reviewing the *Sit-and-Lie* ordinance. They have to determine whether or not it is legal to enforce. Most complaints are about camping downtown and along the river. Law allows people living outside to be cited, arrested or sent to community court when shelter beds are available. Jeff reports campers by the river have set fires which present a health and safety concern.

Guest speaker: Becca Eddiger from the Lands Council presented on this nonprofit's mission to preserve natural lands and rivers. Spokane river is polluted with toxic heavy metals called PCBs through industrial practices, paint additives, etc. EPA has regulations but industries do have legal ability to dump some pollutants into the river to a certain river. It is difficult to enforce so some companies dump more without consequences. It is not recommended to eat fish from the river unless safely prepared. Crawdads should not be eaten at all. Some areas of the river are more polluted than others. Metals tend to settle in certain areas which can be targeted for clean up. Spokane River Clean-up event is this Saturday, September 17.

Guest Speaker: Heather Osborne from Shadle Prevention & Wellness Coalition presented on program to address substance use among students. Heather works for ESD 101. Her position is funded by DBHR and her office is based at COPS NW office.

Lock boxes for medications are available to pick up. There will be a *Prescription Take-Back* day so you can dispose of unused medication on October 29th 10-2pm at COPS NW.

Council business: Suggestion to change ADNC meeting time from 7:00pm to 6:30pm (or earlier). Victor raised a point of order: recently updated bylaws paragraph on Meetings would need to be amended, then present to membership for approval. Motion regarding this change was moved by Victor Frazier and seconded by Jeff Stevens. Time change was voted on and approved with no objections for 6:30 for future meetings. The board will amend the meeting section in the by-laws.

Parks: In 2021, two climbing structures, funded by the Jess Roskelley Foundation, were installed in the small child play area in Audubon Park . The Foundation and the neighborhood council would like to add a rock scramble on the slope behind the play area. Based on an earlier design from the Parks Department, the cost for these improvements would be \$12,000. The Roskelley Foundation has contributed \$5000 and ADNC contributed \$1000 towards this project. A *Go Fund Me* page was recently created to raise the additional \$6000. The goal is to raise the funds by the end of 2022 to start construction in Spring 2023. Currently the Fund has raised about \$750. Ross Kelley recommended applying for *Friends of the Park* funds. Karen Stratton suggested applying for ARPA funds designated for play structures. Selene Lheureaux suggests asking people to “sponsor a rock.”

Social Media: Andrea reports ADNC started an official Facebook page to post news and information exclusively related to neighborhood issues. ADNC is stepping back from managing the neighborhood group on Facebook.

Community Assembly: Fran summarized September CA meeting. Council member Betsy Wilkerson and City Council budget manager Matt Boston presented an overview of the budget process. Redistricting board will look at redrawing the City Districts according to population. Districts do not follow neighborhood council boundaries. Some neighborhoods are located in two different districts. CA is using remaining \$5000 Community Engagement funds (in collaboration with GU Leadership Studies) to host a retreat for all neighborhood leadership. It is scheduled for Monday, October 10th 9am to 2pm at The Hive. John Hall, new director of Neighborhood, Housing & Human Services will be guest speaker.

Office of Neighborhood Services: ONS Liaison Annie Deasy reports new liaison for ADNC meetings will be Amber Groe. She will be introduced at our October membership meeting.

Traffic: Steve Cox not present. Karen Pooley, resident on West Euclid, reports speeding near Downriver golf course has increased to the point that neighbors want to organize a campaign for a traffic calming project such as an island or bumps. Annie Deasy said it is too late to request a traffic calming project, as the workshops concluded this summer, and recommendations have been forwarded to the Engineering department. SPD traffic hotline (625-4150) is the best option to identify hotspots for increased police enforcement. When you call, specifically request “enforcement” with the date, time and location. Jeff reports the history of complaints on Euclid resulted in traffic studies that did not find data to support expensive traffic calming projects. Number of cars and average speed was not high enough to justify the cost. Residents may work with golf course management to identify speeders associated with the golf course. Speeding decreases when the golf course is closed.

Other Announcements: Transitions Director Edie Rice-Sauer states Women’s Hearth needs sock donations.

Next General Meeting: October 20, 2022 at 6:30pm, Shadle Park Library, Studio room. It will be an in-person/ Zoom hybrid meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:41pm by Chris Wright.

Meeting minutes recorded by ADNC Secretary Andrea Kilgore.