



AUDUBON
DOWNRIVER
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

**Audubon-Downriver Neighborhood Council
Membership Meeting
Shadle Park Library, Event Room
November 16, 2023**

Meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Interim Chair Fran Papenleur. Welcome and Introductions were made.

Board members present: Fran Papenleur (interim Chair), Eric Swagerty (Membership), Jeff Stevens (Parks Coordinator), Victor Frazier (Treasurer), Andrea Kilgore (Secretary), and past Chair Chris Wright (handling Zoom) present. Not present: Steve Cox (traffic coordinator)

Guests: Pollyanne Birge, ONS Liaison; City Council Member Karen Stratton; SPD Lt Rich Meyer.

Administrative Reports:

Secretary: October minutes provided by email. Motion to approve passed.

Treasurer: Victor reports current balance is \$4095.

Membership: Eric reported 30 voting members total; 10 in attendance tonight (10 needed for a quorum). Eric facilitated officer election for 2024-2026 term. Also called for volunteers to join committees.

- Chair: Jeff Stevens nominated. Voters approved.
- Vice Chair: Steve Cox nominated. Voters approved.
- Treasurer: Fran Papenleur nominated. Voters approved.
- Secretary: Andrea termed out but is willing to serve. Voters approved.

Chair's Report - Community Assembly: Fran will continue to serve as Community Assembly representative and member of the Admin Committee while Treasurer. She reports CA's Neighborhood Safety CA Committee is reinvigorated. Anyone can get involved in the standing committees. Fran encouraged the group to nominate neighborhoods doing good things in the community for Good Neighbor awards. Link to form on-line, or send to ADNC gmail.

City Council Report: Council member Karen Stratton's term ends December 31st after ten years of service. Kitty Klitzke starts January 1st. City Council is focused on the budget, with goal to pass it by November 27th. Two big issues are use of traffic calming



funds to relieve deficit in the police department budget and fund more officers. Proposed rate increase for building project fees while possibly waiving rate increase for affordable housing providers. Waiver of fees for installing solar energy systems and charging systems: legislation waived the fees but Planning dept is overwhelmed by demand to install them. They want to reinstate fees to pay for staffing. The waiver legislation was contingent on demonstrated energy savings. Transitions' Home Yard Cottages have installed solar power. Still gathering public feedback regarding Neighborhoods ordinance. Snow Plan reminder: park cars on the odd side of the street so plows can get through.

Office of Neighborhood Services (ONS): Pollyanne Birge, ONS Liaison
(Earlier provided District 3 report by email.)

- The first annual *Neighborhood Summit* was held on November 4; several ADNC members attended. The half-day event featured several workshops to learn about neighborhood leadership skills. The web page contains session recordings and handouts.
- Gonzaga's *Spokane Neighborhood Leadership Academy* will be held next year; applications due by January 5th. It's intended for people who are new to neighborhood councils or participated less than 2 years.
- Building Stronger Neighborhoods Committee hosting a *Good Neighbor Celebration* at The Hive on Dec 16, where awards will be announced.
- *Aging & Long Term Care of Eastern WA* organization is coordinating volunteers to shovel snow for seniors. People can volunteer or ask for services.

Public Safety

- **SPD:** Lt. Rich Meyer reported on plan to work with businesses to address crime in Shadle Center. Encouraging businesses to call so they can gather accurate info on incidents. Current focus is on the 7/11 store on Maxwell & Maple, as it is a major hotspot for criminal activity. Residents concerned about speeding near VA and Audubon Park, and loitering or camping near VA. Homeless camping can be reported to 311 so officers can work with homeless outreach team. People are complaining that response is too slow. Lt. Meyer reports locations are logged so they can plan and schedule routes. It takes a few days to outreach the location. Camping at parks is being addressed, too. Report abandoned vehicles or other code enforcement issues as well.
- **COPS NW:** No report.



Traffic: Steve not present. Jeff reports traffic calming project at Milton and NW Blvd that was scheduled summer 2023 has been postponed to 2024. Resident asked about speeding on NW Blvd at Audubon Park. Why is the speed limit not consistent with other city parks that require 20 mph? The 20 mph speed limit that applies to other parks does not apply to Audubon Park because of the school traffic camera. We had to choose between the traffic camera that follows speed limit determined by school schedule vs City park speed limit due to state law that does not allow both. Karen reports Council has talked to State about the problem. Jeff recommends calling Traffic Hotline about speeders to determine hotspots. Jeff reports TJ Meenach is paved and looks ready to open soon.

Parks: Jeff reports he is advocating to have boulders reinstated on Downriver Drive to deter car camping.

Clean-Up: Jeff presented on the roll-off event held October 21 at Glover Middle School parking lot. Filled 6 dumpsters and served over 140 neighbors. Thank you to volunteers from the neighborhood and LDS mission. Map shows participants were evenly distributed across the neighborhood.

Planning: Building project proposed on Ash Place, next to Drumheller Springs. Developer will build townhouses on 21 lots. An alley, access road, garages and off street parking is included in the plan. Developer has not announced whether or not it will be rentals or homeowners. Possibility that developer will sell units to individual buyers who then rent them. It will have an HOA. Developer applied for Building Opportunity Choices for All (BOCA) which is a City initiative to develop vacant lots. This is one of the only vacant lots in Audubon-Downriver neighborhood. No plans are final yet. A public hearing before a city Hearings Examiner will be held in the spring of 2024.

Next General Meeting: Thursday, January 18th, 6:30pm, Shadle Park Library, Event Room. It will be an in-person/Zoom hybrid meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm.

Meeting minutes recorded by ADNC Secretary Andrea Kilgore.