



**Audubon-Downriver Neighborhood Council
Membership Meeting
Shadle Park Library, Event Room
March 21, 2024**

Meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Chair Jeff Stevens. Welcome and Introductions were made.

Board members present: Jeff Stevens (Chair), Steve Cox (Vice Chair and Traffic), Fran Papeleur (Treasurer), Gayle Swagerty (Membership), Andrea Kilgore (Secretary), Victor Frazier (WCCC & COPS NW liaison).

Guests: SPD Lt Jensen; Pollyanne Birge, ONS Liaison; Carmela Conroy (candidate for Congress); Justyce Brant (Lands Council); Christopher Savage, Balboa/South Indian Trail NC; Kitty Klitzke (City Council rep).

Administrative Reports:

Secretary: February minutes provided by email. Majority vote approved minutes.

Treasurer: Fran reports current balance is \$2006. Purchased \$2000 CD for 1 year with Umpqua Bank to generate income for ADNC.

Membership: Gayle reported 30 voting members total; 43 in attendance tonight (10 needed for a quorum). Quorum present.

Public Safety

- **Spokane Police Dept:** Lt. Jake Jensen works graveyard shift for Northwest district and lives in Indian Trail. Speeding remains the primary issue, next to burglaries. Residents report prowling in the neighborhood. Prowler at Downriver Townhomes confronted. Cat burglar at Downriver Golf Course was caught on video and might be identified. Do police see the reports on social media? No, but crime analysts monitor social media. Crime in progress has first priority. Second priority is to collect evidence. Calls about suspicious activity have 3rd priority since no crime has been committed yet.

Guest speaker: Justyce Brant presented on SpoCanopy Project, which is a partnership between The Lands Council and City's Urban Forestry dept. Funding secured for 5 more years. Urban trees benefit air, water, animals, health, cooler roads and homes,



and increased home values. You can get involved; request SpoCanopy plant a tree at your home. The resident needs to commit to deep watering it once a week for the first summer until roots are established. Volunteers needed to plant trees during a special event scheduled between May 7th to May 11th. They need as many volunteers as possible.

Office of Neighborhood Services (ONS): Pollyanne Birge, ONS Liaison, explained three ways to request Disposal Passes (aka dump passes) this year: Online via *MySpokane*, place an order through COPS, or in person at City Hall. She reports Community Engagement grant applications are due June 14th.

Clean-Up: Jeff reports Roll-off dumpster event is scheduled for Saturday, October 19, at Glover Middle School. More info will be coming in September.

Traffic: Steve reports progress on traffic calming projects on NW Blvd and Alberta/Cochran corridor. Crosswalks will be installed at Lacrosse and NW Blvd, and NW Blvd and I Street by the bluff. The Ash/Maple chip-seal project scheduled for this summer will have a significant impact on traffic. We need 2 locations for mobile speed sign trailers. Residents nominated 2 locations.

City Council report: Kitty Klitzke, District 3 rep, reports “family friendly” ordinance was passed allowing community events selling alcohol will no longer restrict minors on the premises. The ordinance applies to anyone, including neighborhood council events.

Ash Place Development: Jeff and Dennis Flynn presented on the Ash Place townhouse proposed next to Drumheller Springs. The agency comment period closed March 15th. A 15 day public comment period should begin soon. Resident concerns were discussed at the February membership meeting. Jeff and Dennis prepared a draft statement on behalf of ADNC membership to submit to the Hearing Examiner. Called for comments:

- Speeding is already a problem on Liberty, Courtland and Nettleton. Residents already report accidents.
- Residents who live on the dead end street are concerned about evacuating in an emergency if all residents are trying to exit via one street.
- Will City or developer accept feedback about the design? Resident noted the plan has a garage and driveway for 2 cars. Where will their guests park? Will



they park on the streets? How would everyone park on one side of the street for snow plows?

- Monument for Chief Garry is located on Euclid. How is it impacted?
- The lot that is proposed for development has been vacant because it is located on basalt and hard to install utilities.
- Would developer consider a smaller development of 12-15 instead of 21?
- Concerns about blasting basalt. How will it impact neighbors? Would city inspect homes in the area if they have cracks or plumbing issues?
- Did developer hold public meetings yet? Yes, notices were posted and meeting was held at West Central Community Center. Meeting was very preliminary.
- Will it have street trees? Yes, they are required to plant street trees.
- HOA will enforce storing garbage cans in the garage.
- Concerns that property tax will go up and home values down.
- Can the market support condos? What if they are priced too high and don't sell? They could turn into rentals later.

The ADNC will submit a letter during the public comment period that will include the following statement:

The Audubon Downriver Neighborhood Council strongly urges the number of housing units be reduced dramatically to be compatible with the existing density and quality of life. To that end, the building footprint and setbacks should be adjusted to provide more open space and a scale more compatible with the surroundings. We recommend approval of the project be conditioned on the installation of improvements to promote traffic calming and pedestrian safety.

A motion was made to approve the statement on behalf of ADNC membership. The Motion was approved unanimously by voting members of the ADNC.

Next steps: Residents will continue meeting to prepare testimony for the hearing examiner. Residents must submit written testimony if they wish to speak at the hearing examiner's meeting.

Next General Meeting: Thursday, April 18, 6:30pm, Shadle Park Library, Event Room. Meeting adjourned at 8:08pm.

Meeting minutes recorded by ADNC Secretary Andrea Kilgore.