



**Audubon-Downriver Neighborhood Council
Membership Meeting
Shadle Park Library, Event Room
Thursday, May 16, 2024**

Meeting was called to order at 6:37pm 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: Kitty Klitzke (City Council rep); SPD Lt. Dahl; SPD Det. Tim Schwering; Pollyanne Birge, ONS Liaison; Christopher Savage, Balboa/South Indian Trail NC.

Administrative Reports:

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

Treasurer: Changed bank account from Umpqua to Global Credit Union. Fran reports current balance is \$4018.32 total. \$2018.32 in checking account and \$2000 in a CD for eleven months to generate interest income for ADNC.

Membership: Gayle reports 41 total voting members. 16 voting members present, quorum met.

City Council Member Kitty Klitzke:

- **Budget:** City is re-examining budget to address massive deficit caused by debt deferrals that occurred over several years. Will work toward a sustainable budget where long-term expenses are not funded by one-time funds. Council seeks feedback about what services are prioritized and how they are funded. Residents will have to decide whether or not to increase taxes via levy to prevent budget cuts. Long discussion with members in attendance.
- Briefly described background on *Neighborhoods 3.0*, a workgroup of three CC members and three CA reps. Neighborhood ordinance drafted last year received many concerns, and will be set aside to draft resolution which will create a more effective, collaborative relationship between City and CA/NCs.



Guest speaker: Det. Tim Schwering, SPD gave presentation on *Bitcoin* and cryptocurrency scams. Scammers launder money by asking people to invest in Bitcoin exchanges through ATM's and funds are held in other countries that do not have agreements with the United States for extradition or warrants. We can trace the money to them but cannot recover the funds. Funds are often linked to terrorist organizations or drug cartels. They use encryption that cannot be accessed in a warrant search.

- How do they scam you? They often send a “wrong number text” to start a conversation on social media and develop a relationship until you send money.
- They make fake investment websites and tell you that is where they invest. You enter your personal info and security codes into the website for them to steal.
- They let you see how your investment grows and might let you withdraw your initial investment, which convinces you it is legit so you invest more.
- How to protect yourself?
 - Watch for odd names (first and last name are the same), attractive photo, asking for help learning how to use facebook, asking you to install an app on your phone.
 - Buy crypto from legitimate sources instead of purchasing through Bitcoin ATMs that charge higher fees and might be involved in scamming.
 - Don't respond to messages saying you are being investigated for fraud. Investigators will not contact you by text or email.
 - Check with friends and family because they may be embarrassed or were warned not to tell anyone. Elderly are often targeted. Tim can verify whether or not they were scammed.
 - They can spoof phone numbers or voices of someone you know. If you receive an unusual call, do not engage scammers on the phone because they use your voice recordings.
 - If you suspect a scam, contact Crime Check or Det Tim Schwering at 509-625-4093 or tschwering@spokanepolice.org. Tim is tracking local problem in order to inform policy makers and currency regulators.

Office of Neighborhood Services (ONS) Pollyanne Birge, ONS Liaison:

Funds are available (\$1000/year) for clean-up/beautification projects, like graffiti abatement or helping elderly/disabled remove trash from yards.



Community Assembly: Fran is a member of the *Neighborhood 3.0 Workgroup* described by Kitty above. She added that City Council has drafted a process to respond to all resolutions passed by committees or commissions in a timely manner.

- Arielle Anderson is new director of Community, Housing & Human Services. She is a West Central resident, with an extensive background in housing issues.
- Community Engagement grant application is due June 14th. ADNC will apply to fund Zoom account and demonstration garden at Shadle.
- The Design Review Board has a vacancy for a CA rep. They make recommendations on building and structure designs.

Public Safety

- **Spokane Police Dept:** Lt. Dahl is lieutenant in the North Precinct. Currently focusing on patrolling parks and Downriver Drive for illegal camping. He said that warnings are issued first and enter info in a database so there is a record if further complaints are reported. Car theft is increasing like last summer. They target Kia and Hyundai models. COP Shops were giving away steering wheel clubs. Can seek security upgrades for your vehicle through your dealership.
 - Jeff reported an increase in vandalism at Audubon Park, Finch Elementary, Masonic Lodge and other nearby locations this week.
 - Resident asked about towing junk cars or expired tabs. Report code enforcement issues to 311 so parking enforcement staff can respond. Police typically do not stop someone for parking violations or expired tabs.
- **COPS NW:** Victor Frazier reports 3 concerts will be hosted by COPS in July at Audubon Park. None scheduled at Shadle Park this year due to restroom issues.

Traffic: Steve reports ADNC mobile speed feedback signs will be placed in 2 locations: Courtland & Nettleton this month and Driscoll in June.

Ash Place Development: The developer has asked for another extension the development review process. They are currently undergoing additional geotechnical work. Extension lasts through end of June. Concerned residents confirmed with city and UCUT city owned lots will not be sold for development, and the city has considered whether to purchase the three adjacent lots that are currently for sale.



West Central Community Center: Victor reports annual *Neighbor Days* event will be held Friday June 7th at A.M. Cannon Park, 4-7pm. The annual *Building Dreams* fundraiser is in September. It will be luau-themed and includes a live auction.

Next General Meeting: Tentatively Thursday, June 20th, 6:30pm, Shadle Park Library, Event Room.

Meeting adjourned at 8:11pm.

Meeting minutes recorded by ADNC Secretary Andrea Kilgore.