



**Audubon-Downriver Neighborhood Council
Membership Meeting
Shadle Park Library, Event Room
Thursday, Sept 19, 2024**

Meeting was called to order at 6:37pm by Chair Jeff Stevens. Welcome and Introductions were made.

Board members present: Jeff Stevens (Chair); Fran Papenleur (Treasurer); Gayle Swagerty (Membership); Andrea Kilgore (Secretary). Not present: Steve Cox (Vice Chair & Traffic); Victor Frazier (WCCC & COPS NW liaison).

Guests: SPD Cpt Tom Hendren; Amber Groe (ONS Liaison), Kitty Klitze (City Council District 3 rep), Chris Savage (Balboa/South Indian Trail NC). Guest speaker: Randy Marler (President, Spokane Fire Firefighters Union)

Administrative Reports:

Secretary: June membership meeting minutes provided earlier by email. Majority vote approved minutes.

Treasurer: Fran reports current balance is \$4008.59 total; \$2008.59 in checking account and \$2000 in a 12-month CD.

Membership: Gayle reports 42 total voting members. 13 voting members present, quorum is 13. Quorum met.

SPD report: Cpt. Hendren provided updates about the new police chief and city budget cuts. Several officers accepted early retirement. Continuing to restructure and focus on violent crimes. Reduced number of detectives to investigate property crimes. No reduction in patrol. Will continue using the precinct model and community policing model. Recommend not leaving garage doors open or leaving property in vehicles, even if you think the property is not valuable to you. They will break in to see what it is. Jeff thanked police for addressing illegal camping and dumping in the Downriver area. Significant decrease in problems and no fires this year.



AUDUBON
DOWNRIVER
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Office of Neighborhood Services (ONS): Amber Groe reports on the upcoming Leadership Summit, scheduled for Saturday, November 2nd at the Fire Training Center (by SCC). It is free and open to anyone who wants to be involved in learning about neighborhood leadership. One of the workshops will be land use engagement with developers. Another opportunity is Spokane Neighborhood Leadership Academy (SNLA). Community, Housing and Human Services (CHHS) Dept is asking for feedback on the 5-Year Consolidated Plan, which prioritizes funding received from HUD.

City Council: Kitty Klitzke reports funds are being allocated for neighborhood councils despite budget cuts. Neighborhood councils need more financial support to increase capacity. City is facing significant budget cuts due to low sales tax forecast and previous budget issues. City plans to finalize the budget by December. City also looking into a sidewalk repair program. The new Transportation Commission is looking for members; anyone can apply on the City website. Kitty reports District 3 is performing better than other districts regarding crime, police services and COPS services. Residents near Downriver Golf Course complained about stray golf balls. Parks Dept will work with the golf course management on strategies to keep balls in the course.

Guest Speaker: Randy Marler, President, Spokane Fire Firefighters Union, presented on Proposition 1 sales tax increase for public safety funds. Sales tax was chosen over property tax so everyone who visits the area will contribute rather than putting the burden on residents. The 2009 bond failed and no sustainable funding mechanism has been in place for fire trucks since then. Aging trucks are breaking down, are uninsurable and need to be replaced. Several are currently out of commission. Trucks need to be replaced every 20 years. Current trucks are from 2004-2005. The sales tax must be used for the police and fire department. It cannot be used to fund any other City departments. Neighborhood Resource Officers might be funded again. Could improve fire station infrastructure.

Community Assembly: Fran reports CA is going well; increased communication with City Council and Administration. Dawn Kinder, NHHS Director, is serving as interim ONS director. Fran said that CA reps are represented on several city boards and commissions, and she listed the CA standing committees, in which residents are encouraged to participate.



Traffic: Steve not present. Jeff reported on four new crosswalks and safety islands along NW Boulevard. Two of them are near the bluff to address pedestrian safety concerns about speeding.

Ash Place Development: Jeff continues to communicate with the resident group and City. Project is still in the comment period. Public hearing has still not been scheduled.

COPS NW: Ron Hardin reported for Victor Frazier. He announced that *Shred Day* is scheduled for Friday, September 27th, 11-2 pm. The COPS program desperately needs volunteers. Since COVID, the numbers went from 40 to 17! No law enforcement background needed. He noted that 911 and Crime Check are county run programs. Call COPS if you need help connecting to City police. Disposal passes will be available this evening, and extras may be available at the COPS NW location.

Clean-up: Our neighborhood Roll-Off event will be Saturday, October 19th at Glover Middle School parking lot. City will provide dumpsters for clean green and household trash. In September, residents will receive a postcard mailer with more details about the event. Bring the postcard to the event to show you are a resident within ADNC boundaries.

Next General Meeting: Thursday, Oct 17, 6:30pm, Shadle Park Library, Event Room.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Meeting minutes recorded by ADNC Secretary Andrea Kilgore.