



**Audubon-Downriver Neighborhood Council
Membership Meeting
Shadle Park Library, Event Room
Thursday, October 17, 2024**

Meeting was called to order at 6:35pm by Chair Jeff Stevens. Welcome and Introductions were made.

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

Guests: SPD Cpt Tom Hendren; Pollyanne Birge (ONS Liaison), Kitty Klitze (City Council District 3 rep), Chris Savage (Balboa/South Indian Trail NC).

Administrative Reports:

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

Treasurer: Fran reports current balance is \$4008.76 total; \$2008.76 in checking account and \$2000 in a 12-month CD.

Membership: Gayle reports 49 total voting members. 25 people present, 23 voting members present, quorum is 15. Quorum met.

SPD report: Cpt. Hendren reports an increase in vehicle prowling and thefts, especially older model Honda Civics, Nissans, etc. They are using old keys. Also secure garages and do not leave your garage door opener in the car. Take the garage door opener with you as much as possible and never leave it visible in the vehicle. Do not leave your address on documents in the car. They can drive the vehicle to your home and break in using the garage door opener while you are gone. Do not leave cars unlocked. If you leave it unlocked, it attracts more criminals to the neighborhood. Police are patrolling the Downriver area to check for illegal camping and fires. Current hotspot at Maple & Ash 7-11 is being addressed.



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City Council: Kitty Klitzke reports they passed consequences for landlords that do not register with the rental registry. City will inspect rental units and ensure repairs are made when tenants are not comfortable approaching the landlord about it. City increased utility rates because they did not keep up with inflation over several years and are required to recoup costs. Regular water use will not be as noticeable as someone with a pool or excessive water use. Tiers available for seniors and low-income. Incentives for changing from big trash bin to smaller trash bin. Encourage residents to put food and clean green in the green bin to save space in the trash bin. Mayor provided a budget update. Positions may be available on various boards for anyone interested. District 3 needs more representation on boards. Question about COPS funding in the budget. Kitty reports no decisions have been made yet. Kitty reports COPS NW has a great reputation and more staffing than other COPS shops that are getting complaints from residents. Kitty is looking into ways the City can preserve COPS NW even if the other cop shops are not sustainable. A resident asked about the feasibility of the recycling program due to new information about how materials are not actually recycled. Kitty agreed the program should be evaluated for cost effectiveness. Dept. of Commerce is allowing downtown office space to be turned into housing.

Board election nominations: Jeff reviewed the positions and called for nominations for election at the November meeting.

Office of Neighborhood Services (ONS): Pollyanne Birge reports 2nd annual Neighborhood Summit on Saturday, November 2, 8am-1pm, with lunch provided. There are still about 10 spots left for anyone interested in learning about neighborhood council leadership. Disposal passes need to be used by October 31st. The Community Safety proposal currently on the ballot would fund police and fire departments.

Community Assembly: Fran reports that the Mayor, SPD Chief Hall and SFD Chief O'Berg attended the October CA meeting to promote the Community Safety proposal. The CA also approved hybrid meeting as an option, and will approve a Meeting Decorum policy in November. Fran represents District 3 on the Workgroup that meets with 3 City Council members every 4-6 weeks.

Traffic: Steve not present.



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Ash Place/Dalton Road Developments: Jeff continues to communicate with the resident group and City. Project is still in the comment period. Public hearing has still not been scheduled. ADNC learned today about a new development on the same block. A developer purchased empty lots to build townhouses on West Dalton near the proposed Ash Place development site. It is still in the permitting process. Ash Place plans 20 units; Dalton Road would add 17. Concern is that 37 units will increase traffic and change the character of the neighborhood. These are not affordable housing units, but rather higher-end units for sale. Primary concern is the impact to parking, traffic, blasting the basalt and potential damage to Drumheller springs. Ash Place group plans to petition to lower the number of units. ADNC will assist in gathering information and supporting residents.

Clean-up: Our neighborhood Roll-Off event is this Saturday, October 19th at Glover Middle School parking lot. City will provide dumpsters for clean green and household trash. In September, residents received a postcard mailer with additional details. Bring the postcard or proof of residency within ADNC boundaries. The following Saturday, October 26, there will be a clean-up event on the bluff (Riverview) between A and E Streets. Goal is to remove noxious weeds and remove trash to encourage native grass. Bring a shovel or rake, and gloves.

COPS NW: Ron Hardin, COPS NW volunteer, is asking for volunteers so they can expand office hours. Disposal passes are still available [at end of this meeting]. Concerns about COPS shops being closed due to City budget cuts. The current contract is about \$475,000 per year. If you have had a positive experience with COPS, they appreciate letters or emails of support to the City Council and Administration. COPS NW takes reports and answers questions to relieve pressure on the police department when they are too understaffed to address property crime. They also refer people to other agencies for help, such as animal control, CPS, etc. COPS coordinates the Block Watch program. Jeff called for a motion for ADNC to write a letter in support of the COPS program. Motion approved by unanimous vote.

West Central Community Center: Victor described the several programs available at WCCC. They recently raised \$25,000 through the *Building Dreams* fundraiser event. They received ARPA grant funds for replacing the HVAC system.



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Next General Meeting: Thursday, November 21, 6:30pm, Shadle Park Library, Event Room.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Meeting minutes recorded by ADNC Secretary Andrea Kilgore.