



**Audubon-Downriver Neighborhood Council  
Membership Meeting  
Shadle Park Library, Event Room  
Thursday, January 16, 2025**

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

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

Guests: SPD Lt. Maplethorpe; Pollyanne Birge (ONS Liaison); Kitty Klitzke (City Council District 3 rep); Chris Savage (Balboa/South Indian Trail NC).

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**Administrative Reports:**

**Chair:** Introductions and agenda

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

**Treasurer:** Steve reports current balance is \$4279.53 total; \$2279.53 in checking account and \$2000 in a 11-month CD maturing 4/14/2025. Received .21 in interest for December. Pass-through reimbursement from the Community Engagement Grant fund of \$675 for Community Garden supplies, and \$175 for ADNC Zoom account renewal. Jeff Stevens for \$20.00 for the ADNC Annual Report with the Washington Sec. of State.

**Membership:** 29 present. Gayle reports 16 voting members present, quorum present.

**Board elections:** Jeff called for nominations. Jeff Stevens for Chair, Fran Papenleur for Vice Chair, Steve Cox for Treasurer, Andrea Kilgore for secretary. Voting members approved the slate of nominees for 2025.



**City Council report:** Kitty Klitze reports the following:

- New Transportation Commission. Traffic Calming projects for this neighborhood are being reviewed. Public can comment on committee meetings. RFB light being considered on NW Boulevard and F Street near Flying Goat. Grind and overlay of NW Blvd planned for 2026.
  - Resident asked about traffic calming for the intersection at Wellesley and NW Blvd. Kitty is not aware of any plans but will look into it.
- City Council rule changes: Public can provide testimony before Committees. Agendas and amendments are presented in advance for the public to review and comment.
- Kitty is chair of the new Climate Change committee.

**SPD report:** Lt. Maplethorpe asked attendees to identify the top 5 problems in our neighborhood. Residents listed speeding, parking enforcement issues (parking on sidewalks, blocking driveways, parking wrong direction, broken vehicles), homelessness (primarily around Walmart) and RVs, Property crimes/prowling/vehicle thefts, drug houses.

- Safety Tip: to charge with trespassing on private property, must have a warning first. That could be verbal or a no trespassing sign. Someone starting illegal fires is committing a crime. They can be charged with arson or other crimes. Report to Crime Check. Hot spots get priority. Make sure cars and doors are locked. Don't leave valuables in sight.
- Question: why are police not responding to every crime? First is the budget for hiring. Second is the growth of the area. Staffing levels have not changed since the 1990's, while the area has grown.
- Lt Maplethorpe is heading the Traffic unit. Goal is to increase traffic patrol. Studies show visible traffic patrol correlates with decreased crime.
- A resident reports camping along the river and the bluff increases trash. Trash cans were removed. Who is responsible for trash pickup or no camping enforcement? Recommendation is to report unlawful camping to Crime Check or 311.



**ADNC Annual Report:** Jeff presented on 2024 achievements.

- Number of voting members increased in 2024 due to Ash Place development.
- Dumpster Roll-Off event removed 12.12 tons of trash.
- Riverview Bluff Clean-up addressed invasive plants.
- The Community Garden near Shadle High School had multiple improvements in 2024. Salish School and Shadle High School students have been working with garden volunteers on a weekly basis. Produce from the garden is available to anyone.
- Traffic calming improvements completed in 2024 include 2 new crosswalks with safety islands on NW Blvd and a crosswalk with RFB on Alberta.

Goals for 2025:

- Audubon Park Rock Scramble needs completion. Currently fundraising.
- Street Mural project - identify location, design and apply for funds. Proposed for Audubon and Providence intersection next to Finch Elementary.
- Ash Place development: working with neighbors impacted to address concerns. Public hearing is expected soon.
- Increase membership attendance at meetings.
- Reenergize standing committees.
- Establish a stable funding source for ADNC projects.

**Office of Neighborhood Services (ONS):** Pollyanne Birge reports the Safety Panel event on January 29 is completely booked, but there is a waitlist for anyone who still wants to attend. Car clubs for preventing car theft are still available for free. If it snows, park on the odd side of the street. The Planning Department wants everyone to take the Climate Planning Survey to give feedback about things like fire response. A Residential Light program will launch in March. Residents who install a solar light for safety will be reimbursed by the city.

**Community Assembly:** Fran reports the City Council president regularly attends CA meetings, greatly improving communication.

- CDBG funds have been allocated for neighborhood projects this year. Parks Dept will partner with any neighborhood that proposes a park project, such as playground or pathway improvements. Neighborhoods with lower income are prioritized. They may consider Shadle Park if the neighborhood around it meets criteria. Fran will keep the group informed.



- Land Use committee is drafting a letter regarding a new CC ordinance which revises the parking minimums, outlining negative effects and requesting a graded approach.
- Building Stronger Neighborhoods committee is offering 2 mini-seminars: Parliamentary Procedures in February, and Toastmasters in March.

**Traffic:** Steve reports that the City will begin reviewing the data from the Traffic Calming workshops that occurred a couple of years ago to determine which projects will move forward during the 2026 cycle. The design proposal on Wellesley for Flett Middle School offered by the contractor will come in too high in cost and that the design will negatively impact the VA Hospital. As an example, it will cause traffic heading west to exit the VA Convalescence Center, then route them into the neighborhood instead of just heading eastbound on Wellesley. The city is focusing the efforts on quick, less expensive improvements. Due to these reasons, ADNC traffic calming efforts for 2026 will be focused on our 2nd priority listed during the Traffic Calming workshops, which was speeding along Northwest Blvd.

**Asphalt Art program:** Erin Mensing has volunteered to coordinate this project in our neighborhood. Erin and Steve are reviewing an intersection near Finch to see if it meets City requirements.

**Ash Place Development:** no report.

**COPS NW:** Victor reports COPS can facilitate communication between residents and SPD. Ron Hardin is the new president of COPS NW. COPS will help set up Block Watch. They recommend removing items containing addresses from cars, because burglars can use this information to target your house while parked away from home.

COPS will respond to the City RFP for continued funding. The deadline for submissions is Feb 5th, and the City will announce the selected organization on March 3rd. COPS goal is to diversify funding sources from private and federal funds to continue operations. *Neighbors Drive 25* signs are available at COPS Northwest.



**Open Forum:** Guest Speaker Dan Brown (North Hill NC) is Chair of the STA's Citizens Advisory Committee. He provided information on the many benefits of public transit and how to access the bus system in our neighborhood. Anyone can give feedback at *SpokaneTransit.com*, and join the CAC to test new projects.

**Next General Meeting:** Next membership meeting is Thursday, February 20, 6:30pm, Shadle Park Library, Event Room.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

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Meeting minutes recorded by ADNC Secretary Andrea Kilgore.