



**Audubon-Downriver Neighborhood Council  
Membership Meeting  
Shadle Park Library, Event Room  
Thursday, September 18, 2025**

---

Meeting was called to order at 6:34 pm by the Chair Jeff Stevens. Welcome and Introductions were made.

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

**Guests:** SPD NRO Tyler Heiman; Chris Savage (Balboa/South Indian Trail Neighborhood Council). Other guest speakers noted below.

---

**Administrative Reports:**

**Chair:** Introductions, meeting decorum reminder and agenda approval.

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

**Treasurer:** Steve reports current balance is \$7105.46 total. Corporate sponsorships and donations at summer events raised about \$4600. Purchased \$2000 CD for 12 months at 4% interest. Received \$2000 grant for the community garden. Opened a *Venmo* account for donations at events.

**Membership:** Meeting attendance is 29, with 19 voting members present. Quorum is 15. Gayle reports a quorum is present.

**SPD Report:**

- NRO Tyler Heiman reports police increased presence at parks during summer. They will shift to North Hill residential area due to property crimes. Unlocked cars are targeted. Thieves use garage door openers left in cars.
- Resident asked about street races at night. Tyler reports police are targeting racing on Division.
- Resident asked about fires along Downriver bluff that appear to be arson. How are these incidents addressed? Tyler reports several arson arrests this summer.



Police investigate but evidence is often limited. Resident on bluff reports calling about suspicious activity on the bluff. City referred the response to the County. No response observed. Then several fires happened the next day. Resident witnessed an explosion but was not asked for video evidence. Tyler reports calls are taken seriously.

### **City Council:**

- Council member Kitty Klitzke reports budget meeting today determined \$13 million shortfall. Cuts expected. City must meet legal obligations. Kitty reports cuts do not meet legal obligations so expect requests for new revenue streams. Police, fire and labor contract negotiations in 2021 increased the budget and sales tax revenue did not meet expectations.
- Council is requesting feedback about changing weekly meeting day from Monday to another day to avoid canceled meetings on holidays. Kitty called for feedback and discussion. Residents can continue sending feedback by phone, email, etc.
- Ballot measure for Parks and Schools:
  - If Parks levy passes, there will be 21 more park rangers.
  - If School bond passes, they will add 5 more park rangers. This can address illegal encampments, illegal behavior and clean-up.
  - City receives feedback from residents that local trails cannot be used due to safety concerns and trash. Problem started during COVID due to reduced presence. Kitty has been meeting with Avista, Riverkeeper and other stakeholders about cleaning up trails and parks along the river. Recommendation was consistent patrols until recreational use returns.
  - Ballot measure also adds options for kids pursuing trade school option.
  - Park improvements to restrooms and playground equipment.

**Office of Neighborhood Services (ONS):** Pollyanne Birge, ONS Liaison reports the following:

- City Council is considering change from Monday to another day due to numerous holidays on Mondays. Seeking resident feedback.
- District 3 Townhall is on Monday September 29, 6pm at West Central Community Center. This will be a traditional town hall format to ask questions of city council.
- Traffic Calming Program: neighborhoods previously created lists of priorities. Since time has passed, City wants feedback by October 17th about which projects on the list are still a priority.



- Resident gave feedback that internet surveys are easily manipulated. Recommendation is to hire a professional survey taker to ensure data is accurate.
- Spokane Neighborhood Summit is Oct 25 at Gonzaga University, which offers several workshops around leadership development. Free but pre-registration required.
- Disposal passes were distributed to neighborhoods. Jeff reports no passes left.

**Concerts & Events:** Alex John reported on the upcoming events and asked for volunteers. Goal is to have an event every month. Call for volunteers to help with ADNC website to promote events. Follow Facebook page for event info.

- Fall Fest event at Audubon Park Saturday, October 18, noon-6pm. Could be an annual event. Food trucks, music, games, pumpkins, etc.
- Halloween parade at F and Kiernan 10/31/25
- Charity drive/donation drive in November - looking for an organization to support.
- Christmas tree lighting event Audubon Park in December.

**Business Sponsors:** Highlighting businesses that sponsored neighborhood events this year.

- Nick from *Spokane Postal*, located in the Shadle Center, presented information about his business. They not only mail packages, but can receive packages for people concerned about porch theft. They also provide printing services. Nick printed signage, posters and fliers for ADNC events this summer.
- Alex with *Spokane Legends Real Estate Group* - Legends provided supplies and mailers for ADNC events this summer. Alex presented data about home ownership in our area. Homeownership increases wealth compared to renting. Bridge loans, downpayment assistance and FHA loans are available options to help people achieve homeownership.

**Clean-up Program:** Jeff reports annual Dumpster Roll-off event will be Saturday, October 11 at Glover Middle School parking lot. Free trash disposal as long as it is within parameters. A postcard will go out in October with more information. 140 cars last year. Volunteers will help unload vehicles. Bring proof of neighborhood residency.

**Community Assembly:** Fran gave report on September CA meeting, which featured a presentation by Traffic Commission head Jon Snyder. Focus was on the traffic calming review process currently underway.



- CA liaison to the Plan Commission is terming out at the end of the year. Any neighborhood council member can apply for the position.
- CA Liaison representative position is available on the new Climate Resilience & Sustainability Board.

**Traffic:** Steve reported on Traffic Commission hearing for 2025 traffic calming cycle 14. Community feedback due October 7. Next hearing November 12. They want to create a final list for 2026 and 2027 construction season to present to City Council.

- Bumpouts will be added at crosswalks on Ash at Courtland.
- Projects happened this summer unexpectedly, such as new bike lanes and barriers on Belt we did not know were planned. Steve and Victor talked to Streets Dept to ask why the bike lane switches sides. They report it is due to a future project planned for the site. They are going to install soft safety posts instead of concrete posts. Concerned about how snow plows will navigate the posts. Residents noticed same design in other areas. People find it confusing.
- Jeff noted that STA will present at the November meeting.

**Parks:** Jeff reports the rock scramble structure at Audubon Park was completed. ADNC members, Roskelley Foundation and Parks Foundation contributed funds to this project. Roskelley Foundation will host a dedication ceremony.

- Town Hall presentation about Park bond and School levy projects for Northwest Spokane area on Tuesday, September 30, 6 pm at Shadle High School auditorium.

**COPS NW:** John Schwartz reports COPS organization is still operating. All paid staff were terminated; all staff are volunteers, and there is a new board. They have made funding cuts and are hosting fundraisers. Shred Day is Sept 26 at COPS NW.

#### **Open Forum:**

- Ralph Bean reports garage has been flooded twice because of no drainage during rain storms. New school development did not install sewer drainage for heavy rain and snow on opposite side of the street. City was responsible for designing that side of the street. City refers him to the Engineering department but they do not respond. Jeff recommended talking to Kitty Klitzke's office for assistance.
- Stacey Page met with *Jewels Helping Hands* about homeless outreach in our neighborhood. Jewels is willing to present at a meeting. Shelters and churches are



willing to schedule tours for the public. Neighborhood volunteers can make sandwiches and help out. Goal is to humanize interactions.

**Board elections:** Nominations to take place at October meeting. Elections occur in November for board positions that start January. If interested in joining the board, please contact Jeff for more information. Board can train on how to liaison with the city about neighborhood issues and projects. Also seeking committee members to support the committee chairs.

**Next membership meeting** is Thursday, October 16, 6:30pm, Shadle Park Library, Event Room. Enter via side door due to the library closing at 6pm. No meeting in December.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm.

---

Meeting minutes recorded by ADNC Secretary Andrea Kilgore.