

Comstock Neighborhood Council
Proposed Meeting Agenda for February 15, 2017
6:00 PM –7:30 PM, Sacajawea Cafeteria

Welcome:

Steve Smith opened the meeting: Introduced himself, John Schram as the Clean and Green Chair Person and a valuable resource for helping the Council in general and council chairperson in particular, Teryl Black the Community Assembly Representative, and Phil Svoboda who will be helping with communications via social media..

Steve also mentioned some basic common meeting etiquette to help keep the discussion flow on point and the need to politely monitor our comments for the purpose of keeping the discussion within reasonable time limits.

Report By Lori Kinnear:

City Council Member, District 2

Term: 2016-2019

lkinnear@spokanecity.org

Topics Discussed:

- Search for a new Fire Chief has begun: Expectation of hiring a new chief this Spring or early Summer
- Discussed the challenges of snow removal and the current rain and melting causing possible flooding.
- Talked about the traffic calming process that we will discuss later in the meeting.
- Mentioned a property crime issue related to tracking and supervising property crime perpetrators once they are released back into the general population. This bill* is being fast tracked.

Research by the scribe of these notes found the following information on the Legislative web site:

*HB 1976 – Creating a pilot program for the supervision of offenders who commit motor vehicle-related and property offenses. (A search of the legislative tracking website showed this bill)

<http://app.leg.wa.gov/billsummary?BillNumber=1976&Year=2017>

Report By Lt. Walker:

- Provided a brief overview of the crime in our area. It has been relatively calm. There have been 6 to 7 property crimes in the Comstock Neighborhood in the past month. This is low compared to other areas.
- Again Lt. Walker reminded people that it is imperative to lock cars and to remove any valuables from the care or at least keep them out of sight.

- Question asked: When a wallet is stolen with personal information does a victim have to worry that the perpetrator will then attempt property crime at the residence. ANSWER: Very rarely will a criminal take anything other than the cash and items of value. Credit cards to shop until the card is stopped. Other personal information is usually discarded. The criminal will use credit cards in small increments to avoid suspicion that the card is stolen.

Guest Speaker, Washington Trust Bank Construction Project (30 minutes)

Presentation and discussion on the planned relocation project that includes the 6 lots bounded by Grand Blvd on the west, 31st on the north, and 32nd on the south.

Presenters: Dwight Hume: introduced the other particulars Nancy Brown from Wolfe Architectural Group (WAG) and Cathie Winegar of Washington Trust Bank.

Contact Information:

Nancy Brown: 509-455-6999

<http://www.wagarch.com/about/index.html>

Cathie Winegar: Vice President – Retail Division operations

Direct: 509-353-4880

Mobile: 509-475-5033

CWinegar@watrust.com

Nancy provided a detailed description of the planned site.

Project highlights:

- Expected to start about March 2.
- Four weeks for the demolition of the houses and other structures on the property.
- Avista will then work on the site for about six weeks. All utilities will be underground.
- The construction of the building will start when Avista is finished.
- Expected conclusion is the end of October.
- The first building will be the Bank Structure.
- The second building will be built later, but the site will be prepared for the next construction phase. It is thought at this time a restaurant will be in the second building.
- Question from audience about traffic impact.
- Question about parking on 32nd street.

Guest Speaker (Justin Lundgren), Spokane Police Department (15 minutes)

Proposition 1, 1/10 th of 1 percent sales and use tax

Tax renewal will allow for ongoing services of Crime Check, maintenance and upkeep of the radio system and provision for technology enhancements related to emergency response.

General Discussion Points:

- This Proposition was first passed in 2008. This would be a vote to continue the tax for the purpose of supporting and improving the emergency communication systems and services for Spokane County.

The following is a summary of the Proposition 1 Handout provided by Justin Lundgren.

- Vote will be April 25, 2017. Should receive the ballot before April 10.
- This is to continue the 1/10th of 1% local sales and use tax..

- The funds will keep Spokane County's emergency communication systems and services functional. These services are emergency communications that integrates 911, Police, Fire, EMS staff and Crime Check.
- It will support Operations which handles an average of 676 calls each day.
- It will maintain Computer Aided Dispatch.
- It will improve: the ALERT Spokane system; integrate computer aided dispatch; expand the County's radio channel capacity; enhance a modernized 911 system; replace emergency communication equipment; upgrade computer software.
- The estimated cost per household is approximately \$1 a month or \$12 a year.
- The original proposition from 2008 will expire in September 2018.
- This proposition benefits the following agencies: Spokane County 911, Spokane County Sheriff's Office, Spokane Police Department, Spokane Valley Police Department, Liberty Lake PD, Airway Heights PD, Eastern Washington University PD, Cheney PD, Washington State Patrol, Spokane International Airport Police and Fire Department, Spokane Fire Department, Spokane Valley Fire Department, Spokane Fire Districts 2, 3, 4, f5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13; Airway Heights Fire Department, Cheney Fire Department, Medical Lake Fire Department.

Traffic Calming Project Proposals (20 minutes)

Presentation and discussion of proposed projects for the 2017 traffic calming application process.

Presenters expected to describe:

- Problem they are seeking to address
- Proposed solution
- Commitment and any current work toward completing project proposal

Voting members will vote on which projects we support for further development. This is not the final vote on the three projects the neighborhood council will put forward, but a preliminary vote of support to move forward. The final vote will take place Wednesday, March 15.

Those proposing the project will be expected to take leadership of the project, including contacting necessary City employees (engineers, planners, etc.) and talking with neighbors. Project leads must check in with the Comstock Neighborhood Council executive team regularly . We are happy to help make connections and provide resources.

Presentations:

- Patrick Keegan presented a plan for 43rd street from the Rocket Market to Perry Street. The plan contains a suggestion to place traffic circles to slow traffic down. The circles would be placed at the intersections Ivory, Arthur and Garfield. The signatures are being gathered and the appropriate city officials have been contacted regarding this matter. It is estimated that the cost will be \$25000 to \$50000 dollars.
- Steve Smith discussed the plan for a comprehensive review of Grand Ave from 29th Ave to High Drive. This has the support of other neighborhood Councils.
- Another citizen suggested a traffic calming need for 33rd Ave from Perry Street to High Drive because the claim is that cars travel the entire length of 33rd from Perry to High Drive.

All three traffic calming initiatives were voted on by the members to proceed to the March meeting for a formal vote for the Council to support and present to the city.

Note: one neighbor did mention the need for traffic calming on 37th avenue between Bernard and High Drive. This was not voted on and scribe of these notes did not hear what if any suggestions were made to address this issue.

Open Forum for Neighborhood Members

A chance to voice a concern or opinion on matters affecting our neighborhood. Please keep presentations to under 3 minutes.

No notes regarding the open forum.

Community Assembly Updates

Terryl Black, CA Rep

No report:

Clean and Green Updates

John Schram, Clean and Green Rep

No Report.

Next Meeting –March 15, 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM, Sacajawea Cafeteria
Comstock Neighborhood Web Page
<http://comstock.spokaneneighborhoods.org>