

**Comstock Neighborhood Council
Meeting Notes for January 16, 2019
6:00 PM –7:30 PM, Sacajawea Cafeteria**

Disclaimer: These notes are subject to revision and corrections from all participants. The contents herein represent the notes and recollections of the Comstock Neighborhood Council's scribes and representatives, and may not have captured the true intent of all statements made by the participants. For clarification of any details of these notes please contact the Comstock Neighborhood Chairperson. For clarification of any statements attributed to the participants of this meeting please contact the individual for clarification before passing judgement on the words contained herein.

MEETING AGENDA:

- **Welcome**
- **Public Safety Report by the Neighborhood Resource Officer**
- **Updates from City Council**
- **Report by Code Enforcement Staff Liaison:**
- **Report by Library Staff:**
- **Clean and Green Updates**
- **Traffic Calming**
- **CA Grant Request for Community Engagement**
- **C.O.P.S Mounted Patrol Flag for Comstock**
- **South Bluff Neighbors Magazine (Comstock only)**
- **Open Forum for Neighborhood Members**
- **Next Meeting –Wednesday February 20 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM, Sacajawea Cafeteria**

Welcome:

Meeting called to order at 6:08 PM by John Schram.

John welcomed the attendees.

MEETING NOTES:

Neighborhood Resource Officer - Public Safety Report

- John Schram reiterated the usual cautionary items: Lock your cars, don't leave valuables in view in your car, don't leave your garage doors open, don't warm up your cars in the morning, lock your doors, and so forth
- Officer Ottmar's report indicated that there has been a downward trend in some burglary crimes.
- There was a recent change in the parameters of how some crimes are categorized, which makes the current statistics appear to incongruent to prior reports.
- Refer to the link containing a the recent crime statistics from posted in January 2019.
South Hill crime stats URL: <http://comstock.spokaneneighborhoods.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/2019-January-South-Hill-crime-Report-LE-01-14-19.pdf>
City crime stats URL: <http://comstock.spokaneneighborhoods.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/2019-January-City-crime-NIBRS-Report-LE-01-14-19.pdf>

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Updates from City Council

Lori Kinnear was present (lkinnear@spokanecity.org)

- Public Safety Staffing Tax Levy scheduled for a vote on 2/12/2019. Details/Issues are:
 - * Tax revenue generated would be exclusively used fire and police personnel and crime reduction programs. This will enable the city to keep 30 firefighters and hire 20 new police officers. One particular benefactor from the levy would be the Alternative Response Units (ARU).
The planned allocation of police officers is:
 - Homeless Outreach/ Behavioral Health Unit: 2 officers
 - MSW: 1 Civilian
 - Property Crime Detectives: 3 Detectives
 - Neighborhood Resource Officers: 2 officers
 - Special Victims Detective: 1 Detective
 - Targeted Crimes Detective: 1 Detective
 - Downtown Officers + 1 Sergeant: 5 officers total
 - Major Crimes Detective: 1 Detective
 - Intelligence Analyst: 1 Civilian
 - Records staff: 2 Civilians
 - Administrative Logistics Sergeant: 1 officer
NOTE: Details of the personnel allocation can be found with the attached pdf file and it can be reviewed at the URL:
<http://comstock.spokaneneighborhoods.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/2019-February-Public-Safety-Levy-SPD-Info.pdf>
 - * The levy provides for an additional \$0.30 tax per \$1,000 of assessed property value, which that equates to \$60 per year for a home worth \$200,000.
- Brief discussion about paving gravel streets within the city. Comstock only has one small street to be paved near the Lutheran church on 43rd and Hatch. The money for paving was just allocated and there are ongoing discussions about how to prioritize the paving projects.
- Lori shared some fire statistics about wild fires within the city limits. There are approximately 18,000 houses that are near wild fire problem areas. NOTE: For details related to the Wildland Fires Briefing paper please refer to the pdf file attached to this notice or it can be reviewed at the URL:
<http://comstock.spokaneneighborhoods.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/2017-Wildland-Fire-SFD-Packet-1.pdf>
- Discussion about the Infill Ordinance: It calls for taller buildings (15 feet taller) on narrower lots with reduced parking in certain “high density” zones of the city. These areas are aligned with public transit and main thoroughfares. In Comstock this area is mostly along Grand Ave between 28th and 33rd. The ordinance focus is on townhomes and homes in multi-family zoned neighborhoods.

Report by Library Staff – Dana Dalrymple ddalrymple@spokanelibrary.org 509-444-5404

- For upcoming Events refer to the Events Calendar:
<https://www.spokanelibrary.org/calendar/>
- Nominations for the Citizen Hall of Fame are being accepted until 5 PM Friday February 1, 2019. <http://www.spokanelibraryfoundation.org/citizen-hall-of-fame/>

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**Report by Code Enforcement Staff Liaison: Melissa Wittstruck:
wittstruck@spokanecity.org, 509.625.6087**

- Traffic Calming Training is scheduled for Tuesday 1/29.
- Community Engagement Grant process will be starting soon.
- The 2018 traffic calming requests are scheduled to be voted on during the February 2019 City Council meeting.
- The attached PDF is a summary of the Cycle 7 (2017) traffic calming projects scheduled for construction during 2019.

Clean and Green Report by John Schram

- Summary of the Green and Clean Event:
 - 27.44 tons green and clean event
 - 12.25 tons using dump passes (80 x \$25) \$1283.86 used out of \$2000
 - Total spent \$6320.25 out of \$7000 allocated
 - \$306.60 in metal recycling and donations was generally used up in day of event expenses (\$65), purchase of thermal coffee pots (\$150) and two flags (\$100 est + tax)
- Neighborhood members voted to purchase a Comstock Flag for \$50 (plus tax) using the funds from the Clean and Green Cash Box. This flag is designated for use by the Mounted Horse Patrol.
- Another vote to purchase a second Comstock Flag for \$50 (plus tax) to be displayed at Comstock Neighborhood events. The money for this purchase will come from the Clean and Green funds.

Neighborhood Community Engagement Grant Discussion

- Discussed how to utilize the community grant funds.
- A vote approved the allocation of \$100 for the Parkways Sponsorship.
- A vote approved the allocation of \$450 to continue to print the door hangers as needed.
- A vote approved to direct any and all reallocated funds (not used by other neighborhoods - max \$300) towards continued printing of door hangers.

Topic: the new “South Bluff Neighbors” Magazine

- This is a new monthly magazine published by Best Version Media (BVM). It is an exclusive magazine serving the residents of the Comstock Neighborhood.
- It is the intention of the Council to submit an entry every month. Submission deadline is the 5th of the month prior to publication. I.E. the deadline for March is February 5.

Traffic Calming overview:

Suggestions to consider for vote during the February Meeting for the March application deadline are:

- Hatch near Manito Country Club: Feedback speed signs/lights
- 33rd and Grand ADA status
- 30th/Arthur Sidewalk infill
- High Drive Study
- 29th and Bernard turn signal
- 29th and Manito – Cross Walk study and discussion.

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- It was suggested to extend the Grand Ave calming study beyond the current parameters and extend it up to 37th Ave. The study has already been defined and assigned. It was suggested that if there is a pressing need to identify the needs of the corridor from 33rd to 37th that it may be addressed through the school district funds.
- There was some discussion about a golf cart zone around the perimeter of Manito Country Club. More discussion will occur in the February meeting.

Upcoming Meetings

- February – vote on traffic calming
- Discussion of Golf Cart street access zone near Manito Country Club

Open Forum for Neighborhood Members

- It was noted that there is a request from the Friends of the Bluff (FOB) regarding the Pilcher Property near the Bluff Park. There is a public hearing on 2/28 to discuss the housing development. The details related to the project can be found on the Comstock Neighborhood web site at: [Deep Pine Overlook Notice](#)

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