

**Comstock Neighborhood Council
Meeting Notes for January 15, 2020
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 – Police Report
- City Council Members' Report:
- Neighborhood Services Report
- Library Report
- Community Assembly Report
- Clean and Green Report
- Next Meeting –Wednesday February 19; 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM, Sacajawea Cafeteria

Welcome

John Schram welcomed the attendees and called the meeting to order at 6 PM

Public Safety – Neighborhood Resource Officer Report – Seth Berrow RSO

- Discussed the activities of the “pod” teams that deal with the homeless camps. An excerpt from an article describes the pod as follows: *“Instead of individual departments responding to an illegal camp, a team of resource officers and police will visit the areas, which maintains safety for city responders. The new team approach includes Spokane Police Department Neighborhood Resource Officers and City Code Enforcement, and the City Litter Crew.”*
- Problem RVs: this is not a much of a problem in Comstock, but it is elsewhere. If you notice a problem RV call 311.
- Evergreen State Towing is contracted by the city to handle derelict RVs and vehicles.
- As is customary, there was the general reminder about crime prevention and crime check actions. Lock your doors; don't leave anything of value unattended; be a good neighbor and active in your community.
- Refer to the attached PDF titled “police report for Jan 2020” for reference materials provided by Officer Berrow.

City Council Members' Report: - Lori Kinnear (lkinnear@spokanecity.org)

- Lori stated that they are working well thus far with the new mayor.
- Announced that Betsy Wilkerson is the new city council member replacing Breann Beggs. She will be sworn in on Sunday 1/18.
- Lori and Fire Chief Brian Schaeffer are discussing a proactive effort to prevent brush fires by bringing in goats to forage the combustible undergrowth.
- The city has 47 boards and commissions that need to be addressed for filling all the vacancies.

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- There was a discussion of the issue regarding the calming circles on 43rd Ave. There is traffic being diverted onto Club Court.
- There was a question about whether the shelters had enough beds. Lori described the efforts that are being made by the city to ensure that there is enough shelter space available.
- A neighbor asked about the need for civility at the City Council meetings.
- There was a concern expressed by some neighbors about the 5G network construction. It was expressed that there need to be more information coming from Verizon to the neighbors about their activities in the neighborhoods. Apparently the construction crews just show up without prior notice.
- Quanta Services is the construction contractor for the 5G network.
- If you wish to contact Verizon, the project manager is: Jason Verduzco at jason.verduzco@verizonwireless.com

**Neighborhood and Planning Services Report - Melissa Wittstruck:
wittstruck@spokanecity.org, 509.625.6087**

- 2020 Census: it is important to have an accurate count because it impacts the services, funding and representation in government.
- There are plans for a Grand Blvd. Study community meeting on 2/27.
- If you wish to be included on the email distribution list please contact grandboulevardplan@spokanecity.org
- Melissa noted that there is a “Friday Update” email that is available. If you wish to receive the update contact fridayupdate@spokanecity.org. A sample of the email from 1/10 is attached (neighborhood services Friday email sample.pdf)

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

- Dana mentioned the library scheduled events which can be found at <https://www.spokanelibrary.org/calendar/>
- Shadle Library is now at the Mall.
- The Downtown Library will be closing 2/28 and moving to the STA Plaza and will reopen on 3/2.
- The planned Mothers Day tour is still in need of homes to tour. Thus far they have 2 commitments. They looking for homes near Comstock Park and High Drive.

Community Assembly Report

No report

Clean and Green Report

- 100 flags for the cross walk at Manito/29th were purchased for \$22 from the Clean and Green funds.

Open Forum for Neighborhood Members:

- As part of the discussion regarding the construction of the 5G network, the neighbors at the meeting drafted a resolution and passed it unanimously. The wording is as follows:

We, the residents of the Comstock Neighborhood, oppose any new utility towers/poles construction for the 5G network in our neighborhood along the scenic view of the Bluff and the Olmstead designated Parkway also known as High Drive.

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- Check out the South Bluff Magazine for the Comstock Page.
- The Comstock Chair received an email regarding dogs off the leash in Comstock Park. This is a concern of some of the neighbors who utilize the park.

Upcoming Meeting:

- Wednesday February 19, 2020 at Sacajawea Middle School Cafeteria (entrance from the Lamonte Street)