

Comstock Neighborhood Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 24, 2024 6:00-7:30 pm
Jefferson School Multi-purpose room/cafeteria

Chair Jeff Mergler called the meeting to order. VC Mary Ann McCurdy volunteered to take minutes.

Spokane Police Department Sgt. Rhian Wilkinson presented his monthly report. Dave Randall asked about cameras to slow traffic on 29th. Discussion followed. Sgt. Wilkinson encouraged us to attend public safety meetings. The April 17 police summary report will be included with the May monthly agenda.

Chair Jeff gave his report next. He called on Elizabeth Goldsmith for an update on the Comstock Park photo shoot and May South Hill Magazine piece she coordinated and wrote. Elizabeth spoke about the Mother's Day tour of homes in the Comstock neighborhood and the opportunity to use neighborhood banners. She said her arborist, Heindl Tree Service, offered to install banners around Comstock Park. Jeff said no Comstock projects were selected by the City Council and he advised we advocate in the future. Councilman Dillion offered to advocate in the future.

City Council Report: No report. However, we learned after the meeting that Councilwoman Lili Navarrete's assistant, Andres Grageda, had been present.

Office of Neighborhood Services Director, Patrick Striker, gave his monthly report. Topics included disposal passes—more will be available in the fall—the Expo celebration, and summer concerts in Riverfront Park. He continued to encourage applications to City Boards and Commissions and emphasized the April 30th public safety virtual meeting. Coffee with Cops, the damaged medians on 29th, the June Townhall and Friends of the Bluff activities were other topics.

DEADLINE FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FUNDS APPLICATION IS JUNE 14.

The Chair led a conversation about the proposed Clean Up Day, Tuesday, October 22. A motion was seconded and passed to formalize the cleanup day.

Vice Chair Report: Mary Ann brought up Spokane Scape—water wise eco conscious landscaping-- asking whether the CNC might be interested in a presentation at a future meeting. Greg Plummer and Pastor Sandy Ward spoke about benefits of a project soon underway at Manito Methodist. Phil Swoboda said he implemented it in his yard.

Mary Ann also communicated concerns about parking in an area off Grand. John Pilcher offered to do research and report back.

John Pilcher and Ed Bruya agreed to contact BNSF regarding a potential fire location and to examine an area below High Drive to address the potential of major problems.

Chair said that Councilmember Paul Dillion deserves our thanks for offering to advocate for us the next time traffic trouble spot funds are available.

Gretchen McDevitt said the City Council looked at changes to the structure of Neighborhood Councils. Patrick said term limits were an issue for some of the councils.

Gretchen asked the group to approve the updated ByLaws. John Schramm moved, John Pilcher seconded and the revised ByLaws were passed unanimously. The council appreciates the work of Gretchen and others.

Gretchen requested a Plan Commission representative speak to the council to advise on zoning changes, including adding multi housing units in established single family home neighborhoods.

A City Corridors update meeting will be Wednesday, May 1, 4:30 at the Central Library.
<https://my.spokanecity.org/projects/centers-and-corridors-study/>

Greg moved the meeting to be adjourned, was seconded and unanimous consent the meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm.