

Rockwood Neighborhood Council Meeting Minutes
January 17, 2008
St. John's Cathedral, Jewett House Guild Room
Spokane, Washington

Item 1: The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Prosser at 7:00pm.

Item 2: Those present were:

Marilyn Akerhielm
Ron Akerhielm
Douglas Cox
Jerry Cox
Sondra Cox
Carol Cunningham
Jan Erickson
Ron Erickson
Kurt Gauss
Margaret Johnson
Walter Johnson
Bernie Nelson
Gail Prosser
John Prosser
Walt Ricker
Sonja Sallquist
Gina Schrock

Items 3- 4: The agenda for January 2008 and the minutes for October 2007 were reviewed and approved.

Motion and second to approve -- passed.

Items 5-6: City Council report.

No council member present.

Comment: Marilyn Akerhielm was acknowledged by the Spokane Preservation Advocates for her work in the Rockwood neighborhood. See the reverse side of the January 2008 agenda for details.

Item 7: Rockwood Neighborhood Council (RNC) Elections.

Summary: Marilyn A., chairman of the nominating committee, indicated that additional streets will be represented by the various candidates for office this year. Nominees introduced themselves to the Council. There was a call for additional nominations from the floor and there were none.

Discussion: Gail Prosser indicated that she had been traffic chair for 4 years and now is on the All City Traffic and Pedestrian Committee and a Plan Commissioner. She raised the question of whether there was a conflict of interest. Discussion followed. No conflict of interest was identified.

Motion: To unanimously accept the nominees presented on the ballot as Officers and Directors for the current term ending January 2010. The motion carried with no dissenting votes.

Item 8: Neighborhood Planning Query.

Background: There are 27 neighborhoods per the Office of Neighborhood Services. Representatives from these 27 make up the Community Assembly. John P. is on the Administrative Committee. In June 2007, one-half million dollars was requested and approved for use by neighborhoods for planning. An additional fifty thousand dollars was made available in December 2007. Guidelines are being developed to ensure funding equity.

Neighborhood planning is due to the Comprehensive Plan required by the Growth Management Act. Neighborhoods have the option of deciding whether they would like to plan or whether they need more time.

Comprehensive Plan information can be found at www.SpokanePlanning.org

A neighborhood planning workshop with the Plan Commission will be held Tues February 5, 2008 at 6PM in the City Council chambers.

The next step is to build a stakeholder group of 5 – 20 individuals.

A decision on whether RNC wants to begin planning is due 3/31/08.

Agenda item for February RNC meeting: Discuss and decide whether RNC should begin planning.

Discussion points:

- What does neighborhood planning consist of.
- How to fund projects needs to be included in the plan
- Political priorities
- Will the \$550,000 be enough to get results
- Adoption of plan

Item 9: Community Assembly Resolution.

See previous RNC minutes – Oct/Sept/June 2007.

Background:

Bicycle boulevards are intended to promote a healthier lifestyle. Neighborhoods also need to plan for the population density that is to come, including the pedestrian and traffic that accompanies it. Non-motorized traffic should connect the Centers in the Comprehensive Plan, 14th and 29th. RNC previously approved (by a vote of 13:1) that Hatch be recommended to the Bicycle Advisory Board (BAB) for consideration as one of two pilot projects desired by City Council. The BAB rejected Hatch in favor of Garfield or Arthur. The Plan Department and Street Department opposed the recommendation of Hatch. A resolution to the Community Assembly that it be a local decision was tabled so neighborhoods could have discussions. BAB has indicated that they will work with neighborhoods.

A discussion took place regarding a RNC member speaking as representing RNC.

Motion: That John Prosser vote the best way to keep local control in the neighborhood.

The motion was seconded.

Vote in favor: 16

Vote against: 1, with the comment that the motion wasn't needed; that this is part of what the Chairman is empowered to do by the By Laws.

Item 13: Traffic Committee.

No report.

Item 14: Historic Committee.

No report.

Item 15: Treasurers Report.

Report to be filed with minutes. Excerpts -

Pillar fund: \$1465.56; \$533.73 donated during Fall cleanup put in Bench fund; \$3624.07 total.

Item 18: Correspondences, Announcements.

Presented with other items above.

Item 19: Open Forum.

- Signs have been placed in Olmstead Triangle Parks by the Park Department.
- Manito Park duck problem and edge of pond problem – esthetic vs environmental.

Item 20: Agenda items for Next Meeting.

- Volunteers for flowers/planters
- Gift card for those who had been looking after the flowers/planters

Item 21: Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Sonja Sallquist
Secretary