

Rockwood Neighborhood Council Meeting Minutes
October 18, 2007
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
Ron Erickson
Kurt Gauss
Dallas Hawkins
Kathie Hawkins
Rene' Miller
Bernie Nelson
Gail Prosser
John Prosser
Ellen Robey
Sonja Sallquist

Items 3- 4: The agenda for October and the minutes for September were reviewed and approved.
Motion and second to approve -- passed.

Items 5-6: City Council report.
No council member present.

Item 7-8. Bicycle Boulevards/Bicycle Master Plan.

Summary: Gail Prosser reported on the current status of the Bicycle Master Plan and the concept of Bicycle Boulevards.

The City *Bicycle Master Plan* is intended to support proposed growth management and land use plans of having goods and services closer to neighborhoods. Walking and biking should reduce dependence on oil and promote a more active/healthier lifestyle for residents.

Proposed *Bicycle Boulevard Guidelines* (copy attached to October agenda) are based on the Berkeley, CA, model.

Discussion: Discussion regarding these items covered several points.

- SE Blvd paving project has been completed and includes the requested bicycle lane. Future proposals for bicycle lanes should logically coincide with city paving projects. However, neighborhoods should be proactive in proposing streets that make the most sense to include these.
- Following the general bicycle boulevard guidelines, Hatch between 17th and 28th was suggested as a potential neighborhood street for consideration – it is low volume, no trucks, parallels Grand, ¾ mile long, will provide access to major destinations (Manito Center on one end and Medical offices on the other end).
- Bike Lanes/Paths are inter-neighborhoods; Bicycle Boulevards are intra-neighborhood.
- Neighborhoods can plan independently to transit through their neighborhood.
- Bicycle Boulevards will cost approximately \$2000 per block for signage.
- Two pilot projects are being presented. RNC needs to ensure the correct street is selected for us after thorough research.

Motion: A motion was proposed that RNC vote to support the development of a Bicycle Boulevard on Hatch.
Discussion: The following points were discussed: determine traffic implications on Garfield; must Hatch connect to Arthur; bikes are not for traffic calming; Garfield doesn't meet criteria; there is no time crunch, however the window of opportunity is open now; Arthur doesn't work for Rockwood neighborhood due to busses.

The Motion was seconded.

Vote: In Favor: 13; Against: 1; Additionally, two visiting members voted in favor. The Motion carried.

Item 9: Elections for 2008 – John Prosser

The office of Secretary has been left vacant with the resignation of Robert “Mac” McDonald due to health reasons. Sonja Sallquist was asked to fill in for the rest of Mr. McDonald’s term. The Directors voted unanimously to approve this proposal.

Positions up for re-election in January 2008 include the Vice Chairman, Treasurer and 3 Board positions.

The 60 day notice to membership will be sent out by e-mail by the Chairman.

Marilyn Akerhielm will head the nominating committee.

Item 13: Traffic Committee Report – Gail Prosser

Gail has been elected the Chairman of the all city Pedestrian, Transportation and Traffic Committee.

Funding was approved for a baseline traffic study.

Traffic calming device: GU/Logan neighborhood is using an interactive speed limit sign.

New signage around schools, set by school hours, was approved.

Item 14: Historic Committee Report – Marilyn Akerhielm

Item 15: Treasurer’s Report – John Prosser in Peggy Johnson’s absence.

John Prosser that RNC had received \$1000 from Preservation Advocates. This has been spent for pillar repair.

Item 18: Correspondence, Announcements

- The 7 ½ foot vacation along 29th that had been requested by Cloninger was denied by the City Council 7 to 0. It had been pointed out to them that a precedent would be set that would cost the taxpayers a very large amount of money.
- Global Credit Union plans to build a 26,400 SF structure across from Applebee’s along 29th. This will provide the city the opportunity to acquire a matching 7 ½ feet along the other side of the street.

Item 19: Open Forum

- It was suggested that the neighborhood recycle political signs for neighborhood meeting notices.
- Members of the National Association of Olmsted Parks were in Spokane and were pleased that RNC had requested and received designation of three triangles as Olmsted Triangle Parks. There is an exhibit at the MAC on Olmsted landscapes.
- The question was raised as to why Garfield was used for emergency vehicles. A direct shot from 29th to the hospitals and downtown likely make it a good choice.
- There was a discussion regarding the lack of a sidewalk along the north end of Upper Terrace where it merges with Rockwood.
- RNC members felt it would be nice to thank the people who have been planting and maintaining the flowers in the planters by 29th and Grand. Rene’ Miller will do fundraising at businesses in the proximity for gift certificates. A motion was proposed and seconded that the President write a letter of introduction of RNC letterhead for Rene’. Vote: In Favor: 16; Opposed: 0.
- Clean Green will be 10/26/07 9 – noon at Hutton School
- The regular November 2007 meeting would be scheduled for 11/15. a motion was proposed and seconded to move it to the second Thursday (11/8/07). Vote: In Favor: 15, Opposed: 1.

Item 20: Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Sonja Sallquist
Secretary