

Rockwood Neighborhood Council Meeting Minutes
April 19, 2007
St. John's Cathedral, Jewett House Guild Room
Spokane Washington

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

2. Those present were:

- John Prosser	Chairman
- Peggy Johnson	Treasurer
- Mac McDonald	Secretary
- Gail Prosser	Director
- Carol Cunningham	Director
- Marilyn Akerhielm	Resident
- Ron Akerhielm	Resident
- Jerry Cox	Resident
- Sondra Cox	Resident
- Bernie Nelson	Resident
- Sonja Sallquist	Resident
- Bill Silverthorne	Resident
- Beth Moore	Resident

Item 3- 4. The agenda for April and the minutes for March were reviewed and approved.
Motion and second to approve -- passed.

Item 7-8. Olmsted Triangle Parks- Application update. Taylor Bressler of Spokane City Parks, spoke regarding naming of the triangles along Garfield in honor of the Olmsted brothers, adding that it dovetailed nicely into plans for a 2008 centennial celebration of their time and work here. He suggested that a committee make an official request for the naming, which would be forwarded to the Land Committee on May 2nd, and to the Park Board on May 10th. Marilyn Akerhielm and Gail Prosser agreed to take the necessary steps to accomplish this. Mr. Bressler also indicated that signs typically include the name of the park and the date of establishment, that he saw no roadblocks to this request, and that signs had already been ordered.

Item 16. Historic Pillars. Marilyn reported that pillar renovation was anticipated to take place in July or August, and asked Mr. Bressler about the availability of a cherry picker from the city to facilitate the work, and he indicated that he would check, but needed to have an estimated number of hours the work would take.

Item 5-6. City Council Report. Councilmember Mary Verner reported that due to an exceptionally robust year of revenues in 2006, the City may have surplus "one time" funds that could be expended on special projects or equipment and solicited ideas that may be explored, including saving the money against future needs; she also stated that one of her ideas would be completion of some baseline traffic studies with counts and projections, which would facilitate collection of impact fees in the future

The levy lid lift enacted by voters a few years ago is scheduled to expire this year unless voters elect to continue it. Despite the good revenues of 2006, city expenses are outpacing anticipated future revenues. Ms Verner suggested we may want to invite Gavin Cooley to discuss the problem and possible solutions; Chairman Prosser will make those arrangements.

Item 10-11 Cloninger vacation request is not being looked at favorably by the Council due to the likelihood that the City will some day need right of way in that location for protected left turn pockets.

Item 11-12. The Bicycle Advisory Board is in the process of updating bike route maps, which will help spur the inclusion of bike paths in street reconstruction projects. Currently Southeast Blvd is planned to be reconstructed in its existing configuration.

Item 13-14. Review of 29th Ave speed limit. Discussion of the recently increased speed limit in the Lincoln Heights shopping area from 20 to 30 mph centered on the need to encourage the movement of traffic on the arterial rather than side streets as would be likely to happen with a reduced speed limit. While it was roundly acknowledged that the area is not pedestrian friendly, there was general agreement that the solution to that problem was infrastructure improvements rather than a lower speed. A vote on the issue resulted in a 10-1 majority in favor of keeping the thirty mph limit.

In a related issue, Beth Moore noted that the pedestrian walk signals at 29th and Grand are green for only 10 seconds, and suggested that this is not enough time for pedestrians to cross. The Chairman will contact the signal engineers to suggest a review of that timing.

Item 17. Treasurer's report attached.

Item 18. Correspondence. In response to an invitation from Cornerstone Christian Church and Academy, Bernie Nelson will meet with them to discuss traffic concerns.

Item 20. Agenda items-next meeting. Gavin Cooley presentation. Follow-up on meeting w/ Cornerstone. Follow-up on unresolved issues above.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm
Respectfully Submitted,
Robert McDonald
Secretary