

## Rockwood Neighborhood Council Meeting

September 3, 2013

### Hutton Elementary School Cafeteria

**Call to Order:** 7:05

**Quorum:** Yes

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes approved as presented.

**Treasurers Report:**

No change since last report. Total bank balance: \$2246.88. This month a \$10.00 payment will be made to the Secretary of State to renew our non-profit organization status.

**Executive Board actions:** See Photo Red below.

**City Council Representatives:** Neither Jon Snyder nor Michael Allen were in attendance.

**Spokane Police Department:**

Lt. Tom Hendren is the new police department representative for the Rockwood Neighborhood. He is an 18 year veteran of the police force and a 3<sup>rd</sup> generation law enforcement officer. He is a patrol detective, on the swat team and is the commander of the property fraud detective bureau.

Email address is [thendren@spokanepolice.org](mailto:thendren@spokanepolice.org)

He stated that the Chief is committed to addressing Spokane's crime rate, reengaging with the community and addressing the recommendations of the Use of Force Commission.

Our neighborhood has experienced a spike in residential burglaries. Six burglaries were reported in the Syringa area and an arrest was made. Unsecured garages are easy targets.....particularly if they have alley access. Lock doors and windows day and night. Engage with neighbors, set up a block watch and take advantage of the Lincoln Heights Cop Shop resources. Call if you see anything suspicious. With colder weather on the way, the incident rate of burglaries should drop.

**Spokane Police Ombudsman:** Not in attendance

**Guests:** Andy Billig – State Senator 3<sup>rd</sup> Legislative District.

Senator Billig introduced himself and gave a quick rundown on the past legislative session. Of particular interest to our area was funding for the medical school operations and \$1B in k-12 education funding. He will continue to push for increases in transportation funding. One of the biggest disappointments this year was being unable to pass a transportation budget. Opponents of transit killed the bill. In answer to a question from a member, Andy explained why the State charges "itself" sales taxes. Sales tax goes into the general fund. If not charged, that budget would see a savings, but the general fund would be cut and that would have a big impact on municipalities.

Paul Dillon, Senator Billig's legislative aide, was introduced and encouraged people to call and email with questions. He can be reached at [paul.dillon@leg.wa.gov](mailto:paul.dillon@leg.wa.gov).

### **Denver Street Update:**

Greer Bacon reported that she and her husband have dropped the lawsuit against Parsons Construction and the City of Spokane. They have purchased the lot nearest their home, leaving two proposed building sites.

The Bacons submitted two resolutions for consideration. The 1<sup>st</sup> resolution proposed to amend the City Municipal Code regarding lot mergers and the 2<sup>nd</sup> resolution proposed a one year emergency moratorium on boundary line adjustments. The 2<sup>nd</sup> resolution was taken up, discussed and amended to a six month moratorium be in line with City Ordinance. The motion to present the 2<sup>nd</sup> resolution to the City Council, Community Assembly and Neighborhood Councils was passed.

Councilman Jon Snyder is working with the city attorney regarding the language.

### **South Hill Coalition Planning Update – Terry Warrick**

The Coalition representatives are currently working on reviewing and updating goals and action items. Keep in the loop via the newsletters (send an email to [info@SouthHillCoalition.org](mailto:info@SouthHillCoalition.org)) or follow on Facebook at [www.Facebook.com/SouthHillCoalition](http://www.Facebook.com/SouthHillCoalition).

Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup> from 1:00pm-5:00pm is the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Lower South Hill Block Party @ Huckleberry's on Monroe.

### **Community Assembly Rep: Julie Banks**

In mid-September the City council will be voting on whether or not to renew the “photo-red” camera program. The program generated \$470,000 and the city is seeing a decline in red light running. The Community Assembly supports the continuation of the program and the use of revenues for traffic calming. Some alternate uses of funds have been suggested, such as funding an additional traffic patrolman, cop shop and/or graffiti abatement.

The Executive Committee voted unanimously to submit a letter to the City Council stating support for the continuation of the “photo-red” program and for 100% of the revenue from the program to be put toward traffic calming projects. The membership voted to support the decision of the Executive Committee.

### **Unfinished Business/Ongoing topics:**

Jackie Caro, Office of Neighborhood Services, reported on the RNC Traffic Calming Application for 18<sup>th</sup> & Grand Blvd. The city is recommending that a Hawk Beacon be installed. It would be an overhead red light rather than a flashing yellow light like the one on North Hamilton that was requested in the original application. Construction to start in the next “construction “season. Contact Jackie at [jcaro@spokanecity.org](mailto:jcaro@spokanecity.org) for further information. (A more complete presentation of the proposal is planned for the October 1<sup>st</sup> RNC meeting)

Hutton Elementary School project update: The next meeting is scheduled for Thurs, September 19<sup>th</sup>.

Neighborhood Cleanup: Carol Cunningham reported that we are trying a new program for our bi-annual neighborhood cleanup. In the past we have distributed dump pass. However, this past spring 2/3 of the

passes distributed were not used. This fall we will have a special curbside pickup on Wed, Oct 16<sup>th</sup>. This is in addition to the dump passes which will be distributed on Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup> on the south side of Hutton Elementary. A post card will be mailed spelling out the details.

**Announcements:** None

**New Topics:** None

The next neighborhood council meeting is October 1, 2013.

**Adjournment:** 8:45pm

Respectfully submitted,

Linda McHenry, Secretary

Rockwood Neighborhood Council