

Rockwood Neighborhood Council Meeting

June 4, 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

Exec Board actions: None

Platting/Zoning Options Presentation:

Ben Stuckart, Spokane City Council President; Kristen Griffin, Spokane City/County Historic Preservation Officer; and Jon Snyder, 2nd District City Councilman discussed possible options to address future neighborhood development projects. It was noted that these suggestions would not address the current Denver St situation, but are something to consider going forward.

Solution 1: House by house replat of properties. This would solve the problem for the homeowners who opt in, but it cannot be mandatory and does not get at the design issue. A \$350 fee is charged for a replat.

Solution 2: City Council could pass an ordinance defining geographic areas and making all substantial changes to houses in that area subject to a mandatory design review. This option would be expensive for the City so the costs would be built into the process.

Solution 3: Apply design review to historic districts. This is different from solutions 1 & 2 since these areas are already defined and have identified character on which to base review. There are 17 historic districts in Spokane, including Rockwood, however the area in dispute is not within the historic district and one would need to be created.

A document outlining the details of each option was made available and interested parties were encouraged to contact Council President Stuckart, Councilman Snyder, and Kristen Griffin, Historic Preservation office.

Graffiti Abatement Program:

Greg Walker from the Spokane Police Department spoke about the City's graffiti abatement program. Graffiti is not as big a problem in our neighborhood as in some other parts of the city, but we are still

seeing some “tagging” of signs and power poles. Approximately five years ago the city tightened the rules to hold offenders and property owners accountable. The ordinance requires graffiti to be removed within ten days. Report incidences to Crime Check at 456-2233. If possible, take a picture of the graffiti to assist in identifying culprits. Only 7-10% of graffiti is gang related, the remainder is ordinary vandalism.

City Council Representatives:

- **Jon Snyder, District 2 City Councilman**
Discussed platting/zoning options. Relayed his experiences with property development in his Peaceful Valley neighborhood.
- **Mike Allen, District 2 City Councilman**
Indicated he understood the frustrations surrounding the Denver St. property development situation. Stated that it is important to balance the priorities of maintaining the character of the neighborhood, maximizing city resources and personal property rights.

Spokane Police Department:

Captain Frank Scalise is retiring June 12th to pursue a full time writing career. A new police department representative has not been identified.

Spokane Police Ombudsman:

Not in attendance.

South Hill Coalition Planning Update – Don Lamp and/or Terry Warrick

A stakeholders meeting is scheduled for June 18th, 6:30-8:30. This is an interactive meeting to review maps and discuss the draft vision and goals. Keep in the loop via the newsletters (send an email to info@SouthHillCoalition.org) or follow on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/SouthHillCoalition.

| The Coalition will have a booth at Summer Parkways, June 19th @ 7:00pm. Look for us between 27th & 29th on Manito Blvd.

Community Assembly Rep: Julie Banks

The Assembly meets the 1st Friday of each month, so there is no report at this time.

Unfinished Business/Ongoing topics:

Hutton Elementary School project update – Dean Lynch

Approximately 80 people attended the open house. Attendees reviewed the drawings and discussed safety concerns. Parking was a big part of the discussion. There is no off-street parking at this time. The new plan is to have 40+ parking spaces and the building will be ADA accessible. Students will be attending Jefferson for the 2014/2015 school year. Another meeting will be scheduled in the fall.

Proposed land use change at the SW corner of 29th & SE Blvd. – Dean Lynch

The original request for rezone was for 30 acres from Office & Residential 4-10 to Centers & Corridor 15-30 and Residential Multi-family. The revised request is for “less than 8 acres”. Updated notices should go out to surrounding neighbors in the next couple of weeks.

Announcements:

Dean Reynolds has been appointed to the PeTT committee of the Community Assembly. (Pedestrian, Transportation and Traffic Committee)

Margaret Jones has been appointed to the Land Use Committee of the Community Assembly.

Radar Speed Feedback Sign placement:

- 500 block E 17th – May 28th to June 10th
- 1900 block of S Hatch – July 29th to Aug 12th

Night Out Against Crime – Tuesday August 6th – 1624 S Latawah ST

New Topics:

Dean called for a committee to gather information and make recommendations to address neighborhood issues proactively. There were no immediate volunteers – we’ll revisit at the September meeting.

Dean reminded the group that the Comp Plan is being updated and this is an opportunity for neighbors to have input.

The next neighborhood council meeting is September 3, 2013.

Adjournment: 8:40pm

Respectfully submitted,

Linda McHenry, Secretary

Rockwood Neighborhood Council