

Terry Deno opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

He reminded everyone it's time to remove all RV's and Trailers off the streets so the City can plow the roads this winter.

Jeanine McKinney reported a balance of \$6,378.58 in the account.

There was no Crime Report.

Dan Knechtel gave the reports from the Community Assembly and the Land Use Committee.

See CA notes below:

Nancy Perkins reported for the Cop Shop.

Volunteers are needed to help the Cop Shops. She encouraged anyone interested to go to the local C.O.P.S. Shop or website, [www.spokanecops.org](http://www.spokanecops.org). or call (509) 625-3301. There are many options available and very flexible hours.

There was no City Council Update.

Kim Plese, a candidate for City Council President, spoke about her reasons for running and the important issues she would address. They would include Homelessness, Spokane Safety, and Affordable Housing.

Mel Neil spoke about a plan that is being talked about to allow the city and neighborhoods to work better together and be more effective. The City Council and the ONS (Office of Neighborhood Services ) will be working together on it.

Two Students from Gonzaga University, Olivia Hinds and Dean Pigott, gave a presentation on a Climate Literacy Project that was founded in 2021 to help increase the awareness of the effects of climate change and provide education to grades K through 12. They provide resources and opportunities to students, faculty, and community members and leaders in the Inland Northwest to meet the challenges facing the environment in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Kathy Husted mentioned that construction of the new Multi Care Primary Care Center has begun. It will be located just north of the Davita Kidney Care off Indian Trail Rd.

Terry closed the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Next meeting will be November 14, 2023.

Dan Knechtel Community Assembly representative provided the following:

Main Takeaways from Community Assembly Meetings

### **Land Use Committee** 10/4/23

-Had Spokane Code Enforcement Director Luis Garcia and Enforcement Supervisor Jason Ruffing come and talk about the new Landlord registry and inspection ordinance.

-Registration portal starts Dec 1<sup>st</sup> 2023 for the 2024 year. Inspections will begin in 2024. This will be a yearly registration and they hope to inspect rentals yearly as well but acknowledged due to current staffing levels unlikely to be able to inspect everyone yearly.

-Registration will cost 120 dollars a year with a 15 dollar per unit fee on top of that.

-They hope to hire 3 more staff positions this Fall

-They are going to start with low density rentals and work their way up to higher density rentals towards the end of the year. This is the opposite of the Fire department that will be starting with higher density rentals and work their way down to lower density.

-The goal is to catch small issues before they become big ones that prevent the rental unit from being habitable. They will not hold older homes to the same building code standards as new homes unless it is uninhabitable. There will be no new standards. Recommend reviewing the 1997 uniform coding book.

-If there is a citation they will notify the landlord/owner and give a date/time it needs correction by. They will then come back to re-assess free of charge once. If it requires multiple corrections/returns they will start charging the owner extra.

-They will not do surprise inspections, they will contact the owner and tenant to find a mutually agreeable time first.

-This ordinance has passed but they will be going around to communities to share and answer questions.

Luis Garcia: [lgarcia@spokanecity.org](mailto:lgarcia@spokanecity.org) and Jason Ruffing [jruffing@spokanecity.org](mailto:jruffing@spokanecity.org)

## **Community Assembly Meeting 10/5/23**

-Patrick Striker Office of Neighborhood Services (ONS) Brought up that City Council Members don't want to come to community assembly meetings anymore due to the uncivility and that they feel Community Assembly just shoots down any of their ideas. Patrick is also no longer interested in having conversations with the community assembly as whole, just gets yelled at, incohesive. Recent facilitator resigned due to breach of protocol and lack of respect. He states that he is making the new term limit ordinance, it will be his decision alone. That the new term limit, yearly neighborhood council official elections and withdrawing the facilitator position at community assemblies is his idea. Although he will be making the final decision, he welcomes individuals to reach out to him at anytime to discuss their concerns, that there may be room for changing the language or the implantation. He stated feel free to call him, email him, set up coffee/lunch chats, invitation to neighbor council meetings. But he again stressed that he will not allow the community assembly to participate in the decision process at all on this. He also ended his update with that he will not be taking any questions from the Community Assembly and he would not be staying.

-Mary (CA rep Manito): Brough up that Spokane is having a hearing on their Comprehensive Plan amendments 10/11/23 4pm in the council chambers, can call in as well. She encourages participation because there are a lot of amendments.

-Neighborhood Safety Committee: Has been defunct but at this meeting 3 members volunteered to help re-activate it. They will be trying to work in partnership with ONS.

-Leslie Hope from Community Housing and Human Services Board: Stated that there is a lot of changes going on due to the Regional Authority proposal. Stated that they are in desperate need of volunteers to help make recommendations, review grants, help city staff who are grossly understaffed. She stated that he city has lost their director which has created issues, that many of the grants have specific reporting criteria or rules and these grants may or may not be able to be used with the Regional Authority plan. Meetings are once a month but they are meeting twice a month right now because they are so busy. She pitched that if you want to have a real impact on how Spokane is spending housing funds that this is a good opportunity to volunteer with them. Gave handout that includes the current different grants that I can bring to neighborhood council for others to look at.

-There were 7,000 dollars of extra funds left over from the City for the Community Assembly to use. The CA voted to use 1,000 dollars of it to go to food and certificates at this years Good Neighbor Party on Dec 16<sup>th</sup> 9-11am at the Hive. When North Indian Trail was called to vote, I voted "abstain" wasn't sure if I had voting privileges or not yet.

-There was a reminder that there is a closet available with tables, chairs, cones and a broken popcorn machine for the neighborhoods to use when desired. It was discussed using some of the 6,000 dollar funds to replace the broken equipment or look for a bigger storage option. The CA decided to have ONS review what is broken and use their funds instead if possible.

-There was then an open discussion where Colleen (Facilitator who resigned) requested her resignation letter/email be read to the CA which it was. She basically stated that she was resigning because of the rudeness she experiences while being a facilitator.

-During the open discussion Joe Lenti from Latah neighborhood stated this was his first meeting and he was disappointed that the CA wasn't discussing any important issues like homelessness or crime. He was bewildered that ONS would talk down to the CA this way and walk out. He voiced he is wondering if the CA has any real power or desire to effect change and if this was worth his time. He was passionate but it did devolve into name calling and CA members took turns sharing with him the recent history and that there is opportunities to discuss those issues/and have been discussed. It was recommended to him to join the newly reactivated Neighborhood safety committee.

-It was also brought up that many CA members have a desire to have a Zoom option again instead of just in person due to work/distance. After discussion this seemed like an option and may have inadvertently been precluded when they voted to be in person again.