



NHNC Meeting Minutes – January 10, 2013, Willard Elementary School

Convened at 6:34 p.m. by Jeff Zabinski

Guests: Steve Salvatori – Spokane City Council, Eva Silverstone – Spokane Library

Introductions:

Dec. minutes approved. One item added to agenda.

2013 city calendars were distributed. The old meeting time of 7 p.m. was still listed however. The three NHNC pictures submitted by Mike F. were all included!

City Council Update – Steve Salvatori reporting.

Steve summarized his position on the porn store issue. Q: why was a 5 year sunset clause proposed? A: it was essentially a compromise number. Q: why is the item showing up on the Planning Commission agenda so often - didn't seem as if they wanted or understood the matter? It seems as if it should be more of a legal issue. A: probably because it's a zoning area non-compliance matter.

A new animal control contract will be discussed on Monday the 14<sup>th</sup>. This is 1 week early because there is no meeting the 21<sup>st</sup>. Notifications will be made and the schedule exception approval will be voted.

Special election is Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>. There are 3 items on the ballot: 1) charter proposal amendment on the ombudsman, 2) charter proposal on requiring a super-majority vote for tax increases, and 3) library levy lid lift. Q: why no super-majority requirement to lower taxes or grant exemptions? A: good question.

Tent city issue continues. It is complex. The area under the freeway isn't city property and they have no authority to approve tent city camping. No tickets are being written this week. They are planned for next week though. Social agency staff are going with officers to tell them what services are available. Many homeless simply do not want to use these services because of their requirements. A general discussion of homeless issues followed. Dan related the project in Anchorage that gives the homeless apartments with no requirements that is having success.

Q: how much is the hotel/motel tax rising. 1.2%?

Q: what happens now that the marijuana law has passed? A: Jon Snyder is taking the lead on this and gathering data. They are mostly waiting the state to finish their work on the issue first.

Library Levy Lift – Eva Silverstone, Communications Officer, reporting.

Information handouts were distributed. Issue was voted onto the ballot unanimously by the Council. \$0.07/\$1000 of assessed house value is being proposed. The projected earnings from this should cover the projected deficit. Hours at several branches are very odd currently. It is projected that without these funds, 1 or 2 branch closures would have to occur in 2014, plus other service reductions. Past cuts have been addressed through wage freezes, staff cuts, increased use of volunteers, and maintenance reductions.

Library is a general fund department. A simple majority is needed to pass the levy - 4 year duration, taking effect Jan., 2014. Other future fund stability ideas are being explored. Some are not currently permitted by state law, such as funding districts.

Community Assembly – Sandy Gill reporting.

Clean-Up orientation meeting will be Jan. 29 – Council Briefing Chamber, 5:30 – 6:30.

Communication options for neighborhoods were discussed. Solid Waste is funding a lot of the current mailings, etc. Several options were brought up – two ½ page mailers per year, city district-wide newsletters, two post-cards per neighborhood per year (seems to be the favorite choice). Heather T. welcomes feedback on this.

Speed indicator sign report is available on the city web page.

Jan. 30 is the next Meet & Eat – at Cassano's (Napa & Mission) with Ben Stuckart.

Planning Commission's meetings on comp. planning are starting. NHNC's is Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> at the Shadle Library. More information is on the city web page.

Land Use – Buzz Bellessa and Sandy Gill reporting.

City is still looking for recommendations from us and Emerson/Garfield on developer agreements. Buzz may request a special meeting. Comments were made that the example agreements were difficult to follow and written in "legalese" and guidance on them was desired. It is unsure if such guidance is available (doubtful). Questions were raised on the duration of agreements sections and sunset date inclusions.

Buzz attended the CDBG meeting.

An area above the new Courtland sidewalk slid yesterday. The neighbor above the area was told he should call the city.

Adult entertainment zoning discussion issue continues. An ad from the company advertising 24/7 hours and video booths found in the paper was passed around. A petition has been created and is being distributed to encourage the city to enforce the existing zoning laws. This issue has been going on for over 11 YEARS. The letter NHNC wrote previously will be found, re-vamped, and resent, hopefully to become part of the public comment file.

Cleanup – Mike Flahaven reporting.

Spring and fall date options were discussed. For fall, Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> is preferred, with the 12<sup>th</sup> as secondary. Spring date options have possible conflicts with the rest stop fund raiser. Apr. 13<sup>th</sup> proposed as primary date and 27<sup>th</sup> as secondary. Appliance pick-up proposed for spring and furniture for fall. Jeff will inquire about scheduling the work crew and Mike will notify the church.

Other Business:

Mike attended the Garland Business District in Dec. Despite the announced lack of funding, they plan to pursue an additional COPS shop. A meeting is being proposed to gauge neighborhood enthusiasm. Date TBA. Question was raised on why the existing COPS group has not been contacted. Answer unknown.

Adjournment: 8:37 p.m.

Next Meeting: February 14, 2013, 6:30 p.m., Willard Elementary

Minutes submitted by Daniel Fears, NHNC Secretary. Corrections and additions welcome.

NHNC Meeting Attendees – January 10, 2013

Jeff Zabinski – Chair

Mike Flahaven – Officer at Large

Daniel Fears – Secretary/Treasurer

Sandy Gill

Buzz Bellessa

Teresa VanDyke

Kelly Patrick

Eva Silverstone

Steve Salvatori