

East Central Neighborhood Council Minutes

**Mission Statement:** To Protect and preserve the East Central Neighborhood and its quality of life through planning, visionary leadership, accountability, and neighborhood volunteers working with City of Spokane departments, agencies and neighbors for the benefit of current and future residents with the aid and assistance of Community Development Block Grants and other funding sources.

1. **INTRODUCTIONS, ADMIN.** & **ANNOUNCEMENTS** 
   1. Introductions, New Voting Members
   2. December 2016 minutes-approved unanimously.
2. **PRESENTATIONS**
   1. Melissa Wittstruck- ONS-2017 application for clean-up will be available in February
   2. Brandon Rapez-Betty- STA Sprague reconfiguring
      1. ESBA concerns about traffic back up behind busses -letter to Mayor, City Council and STA CEO. City looking at plans and right of way to discern if enough space to accommodate any design changes. Putting project to bid in next few weeks.
   3. CA Budget Committee-Kathryn Alexander-overview of community assembly (established per city charter). Meets 1st Thur 5:30pm at WCCC.
      1. Advisory board to City Council, citizen access through neighborhood councils-direct line to creating policy
      2. 9 standing committees-budget, land use, PeTT, CDBG, public safety, urban forestry, liaison committee-for representation to City committees, design review, building stronger neighborhoods (training & communications), CA Admin
      3. Anyone can attend, must be official representative to vote
      4. Review and recommendations for changes to Comprehensive Plan-currently under 10 year review, yearly updates happen as well. Can review and make comments on City website shapingspokane.org.
      5. Application for neighborhood CA funds soon (training will likely be in March)- $500
      6. Mayor’s District approach-city departments meet by districts for better collaboration (example foreclosed housing ordinance-Bemiss pilot area)
   4. WSU Health-Veronica Puente, Community Engagement Coordinator- Health Fair and Community Services
      1. Health Fair-April 8th Sheridan Elementary-education for children, adults & seniors, assessments. Looking for feedback about needs that can be addressed at fair
      2. Spokane Teaching Clinic in University District opened August-43 medical residents.
3. **NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS & COMMITTEE REPORTS**
   1. NRO Report: Officer Dion Mason-not available for report
   2. City Council Member-Breean Beggs
      1. Telephone poll 82% sidewalks important or very important, City should take on responsibility rather than home owner, 50% $70/year, 60% $60 year tax increase. City proposal for sidewalk fund-divided into 4 areas (downtown and 3 districts)
      2. Traffic calming applications and training-increased revenue for projects-divided Safe Routes to School & Other projects
      3. 2017-18 increased funding for new NRO officers for property crime. Potentially new job classification-Crime Prevention Technicians. Three types of funding-property tax levy lid lift, 1-2% sales tax increase, tax on 2 cents per ounce sweetened drinks at distributor level (½ crime, underlying services such as housing, early childhood education, etc). Informal poll of attendees showed majority-18- would prefer sweet drink tax over other two options.
      4. Community review panel for contract of ECCC- renew, renew with modifications, cancel or open up RFP. 6 month extension of contract with ECCO. Comments on contract as well as thoughts about services/offerings may contact Breean Beggs or Alicia Ayars
   3. 5th Ave Revitalization-Eric Blauer- Jacob’s Well & revitalization partners completed MLK service project lightbulbs, flashlights & information to 200 homes
      1. Goal to revitalize 5th Ave-business and nonprofit stakeholders, trying to engage community and disengaged property owners. City commitments to beautification and community projects.
   4. ECNC CDBG Committee-no committee report. Allocation votes will be by end of June.
      1. Gaby Ryan, Randy McGlenn volunteer to identify neighborhood projects
   5. PeTT Committee (Pedestrian Traffic)-no report-need committee volunteer
   6. Land Use Committee-no report-need committee volunteer
   7. ECNC Communication and Outreach Committee-new committee
      1. Randy McGlenn, Monica and Heather
   8. ECNC Neighborhood Safety Committee-2 forums per year
   9. Neighborhoods Matter/Community CAFÉ -evaluations 65 people indicated wanted to be involved in some type of way in neighborhood
   10. ESBA- STA concerns, BID meeting-discussing name change, snow removal, garbage removal
   11. South Perry Business Assoc.-need new organizer for South Perry Fair, looking at 501(c)(3) status, community garden looking to add new classes.
4. **COMMUNITY ASSEMBLY/CA COMMITTEES/ CITY BUSINESS**
   1. CA report: Debby and Karen- possibly expand satellite Community Court at East Central Library-request to present to ECNC
   2. OPO Commission-policies & procedures nearly done

**IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| January 19th  5:30pm | Traffic Calming Neighborhood Training |
| February 11th 9a-1pm | Community Assembly Retreat |
| February 15th | DOT Executive Committee Meeting |
| February 22nd  5:30pm | Clean up applications-City briefing room |
|  |  |
|  |  |