

WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 12, 2019

ATTENDANCE

Neighbors: Paul Bundy (Community Assembly Representative), Karen Carlberg (Chair), Rick Clapp (Vice-Chair), Dwight Emerson, Mike Gifford (Cleanup Coordinator), Brian Houle, Karen Jurasin (Communications Director), Susan Mensching, Joan Metz, Liz Mostad, Peter Rossing
City staff: none
Guests: Breann Beggs (City Council), Megan Demand, Phillip Tyler

MINUTES

Minutes were approved for the meeting of December 11, 2018.

COMMUNITY ASSEMBLY REPORT, Paul Bundy, West Hills CA Representative

The April 7 CA meeting included discussion of Community Engagement Grants. The Neighborhoods USA (NUSA) conference will be in May. Spokane will send three representatives this year; these people then will share what they learned at a CA retreat. The CA spent a total of \$18,000 in 2018.

MOBILE SPEED SIGNS FOR 2019

Three locations were discussed and ranked: #1 Government Way southbound, #2 Westcliff northbound where it curves into W West Dr eastbound, #3 River Ridge Boulevard.

TRAFFIC CALMING APPLICATION FOR 2019

Susan is preparing a traffic calming application for Government Way. The "toolkit items" she is considering include a permanent speed indicator sign, crosswalk(s), "pedestrian crossing" sign(s), pedestrian island(s), a landscaped island at Government and Riverside, and bike lanes. Locations along Government Way could extend from the area around 6th Avenue to the S curve south of the cemeteries. Breean suggested creating a "suite" of items and locations. The project was approved by a unanimous vote.

Planning for future increases in traffic on Government Way was discussed. Sources of increased traffic could include new apartments on the 8th Avenue property, the new Amazon facility, increased staffing at Fairchild Air Force Base, and other development on the west plains. Breean said that changes to Government Way currently are not in the city's 6 yr plan, but may be added. He also said development on the west plains is somewhat limited due to lack of water and sewer. Maybe the developer of the 8th Avenue property could be required to contribute to traffic calming improvements.

CLEANUP FOR 2019, Mike Gifford, Cleanup Coordinator

After much discussion it was decided that Mike will apply for April dates for the curbside pickup and furniture/appliance pickup and for October dates for the clean greens dumpster. He said that residents in the west plains area will not be eligible for another 2 yr due to an agreement between the city and the company that picked up their garbage before the annexation. We need to work harder to recruit volunteers to help Mike with the clean greens collection.

PAVING UNPAVED STREETS, Breean Beggs, City Council

Breean said that the city has about 50-60 miles of unpaved streets. The city is starting to develop new strategies for getting them paved, with three sources of funding. District 1 (northeast

Spokane) has the most unpaved streets and got the first installment of funding in 2018. District 2 (south, including the southern 2/3 of West Hills) has the second most unpaved streets, and District 3 (northwest Spokane, including the northern 1/3 of West Hills) has the fewest. In 2019 Districts 2 and 3 each will get \$200,000 for paving. The next year there will be \$700,000, to be divided among districts according to need. Criteria for selecting streets still are being developed, and this might be influenced by requests from citizens. The LID program, in which residents pay some portion of the cost themselves over a 10 yr period, still can be used, and willingness of residents to pay some portion of the cost themselves is likely to increase the chance that their street will be selected.

We have discussed D Street, from 8th to Substitute, and from 4th to 6th, at previous meetings. These appear to be our highest priorities. Brian and Peter will write a justification for the 8th to Substitute section, and Rick and Susan will write a justification for the 4th to 6th section. These will be emailed to Breean.

ZONING CHANGE REQUEST FOR 3004 W 8TH AVENUE

Tirrell Black, city planner, informed West Hills yesterday that the zoning change request for 3004 W 8th Avenue was approved by the ad hoc committee to continue through the process. The next hurdle for this request is a February 25 city council meeting. Any citizen may submit a written comment to Tirrell (tblack@spokanecity.org) before February 25 or speak at the city council meeting.

We decided that West Hills will submit a comment on behalf of the neighborhood council. After much discussion, we decided that our comment will include the following: We do not oppose the zoning change. Exceptions should not be made to the usual maximum building height for the new zoning. Exceptions should not be made to the usual minimum parking requirement for the new zoning. If the required traffic study finds that mitigation needs to be made in the surrounding streets or intersections, the developer will pay for the mitigation. A motion was made, seconded and approved that a letter with these comments will be submitted on behalf of the West Hills Neighborhood Council (yes 9, no 2).

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT GRANT

Each neighborhood council may apply for a Community Engagement Grant. The purpose of these grants is to support neighborhood activities that attempt to increase neighborhood participation in the neighborhood council. We have considered these in the past and decided against it. Do we want to apply this year? Consensus was no.