

West Hills Meeting Notes for February 16, 2023

Over 40 in attendance

A. Introduction | Meeting Agenda

- 1) Chair Report – debriefing of the WHNC presentation to City Council Town Hall, summary of content – open Q&A; everyone responded positively and showed appreciation.
- 2) Annual Fish Lake Trailhead Volunteer Cleanup date coming soon
- 3) Neighborhood litter pickup planning with Noah to create a monthly event when neighbors meet for a healthy walk, socialize, and pick up litter – it has been successful in other neighborhoods by way of bringing neighbors together while increasing Public Health and Safety
- 4) Community Engagement Grants funding for 2023 / Signage for events, potluck/ice cream party in Whittier park or Finch Arboretum. – Movie night in the park?

B. Reports and Updates

- 1) West Hills Updates:
 - a) WHNC Facebook group member base of 140ppl
 - b) Live Feed test pilot program for Facebook members to join remotely
 - c) (Strike)Pallet Shelter murmurs what is our next step? Empire received the Grant. (Move to questions below)
 - d) City of Spokane Good Neighbor Agreement – (In progress)
 - e) Catalyst Update from Catholic Charities
 - **See Attached | Safety Team phone number (509) 953-4769**
- 2) **SPD Update and Report from the Watch Commander**
SPD Lieutenant Terry Preuninger
 - Southwest Precinct
 - 4 Police Officers for SW Precinct / West Hills
 - a) Reporting of Crime
 - How it takes place
 - How it impacts you
 - b) Trent Shelter
 - 4 calls for service before they opened
 - 247 at Shelter since they opened
 - 100-370+ calls around the facility within ¼ mile
 - c) Catalyst Crime Update
 1. (Waiting for numbers)
 - d) Questions From West Hills Neighbors answered by SPD

1. Crime Check response at the phone level seems disinterested.
 - City has opted out of Crime Check
 - Inappropriate Officer conduct? - hold SPD officers accountable
 - 3 ways to report crime; 911 is being threatened, Crime Check for non threatening
 - 15 ways to report police misconduct
2. Washington Grain Commission Encampment on North Side of Latah Creek / 11th bridge
 - Camp Hope 2.0 concern
 - Need to get a GPS pin for actual locations of remote encampment(s) / 311
 - Continue to call 311 and Crime Check Keep Calling!!!
3. Is Public Camping Illegal?
 - For a Municipality to enforce Public Camping, you have to have another excuse to move them along or have alternative housing | Title 9 Court ruling
4. Are camp fires illegal
 - Hard to answer this – yes and no...certain warming fires are at times permitted
5. Is there a law about camping next to city parks or trail?

3) Mayor Woodward Update

- (a) Woodward has been attending legislative Sessions focused on the following
- Testimony to the Governor/Importance of the North South Freeway Completion
 - Meetings in Olympia to push potential Legislative changes: Blake decision / Negative effects on Communities
 - Pursuit Law / Negative Effects on Public Health and Safety
 - Hiring More Officers / Spokane need to hire nearly 100 SPD officer to be within the National average of 2.4 officers per 1000 residents
 - Camp Hope Update - 600 down to 100. Still in the process of assessments on the most difficult individual needs regarding housing or shelter due to chronic drug use/addiction.
 - Catalyst Update: received in meeting (see attached)
 - Stated Catalyst residents are to be from Camp Hope as funding was allocated for use.
 - Shown further opposition for Pallet Homes in West Hills / Community wide
 - Meeting with the state on a weekly basis to determine what to do with the rest if the individuals from Camp JHH/WSDOT
 - Federal Lawsuit regarding WSDOT/JHH Encampment.
 - Stu asks what Nadine can do to not give us tiny homes.
 - Stu asks what we can do about the cease and desist letters
 - Question about failures
 - Catalyst Housing could transition to Low income housing or barrier housing for the duration of the 40yr contract granted by Commerce
 - Questions
 - Revitalization of Neighborhood/SRTC traffic study/Moratorium
 - Sex Offenders Treatment Senate Bill 4467

*****Nadine commends West Hills on our work with City Council. She wants us to stay engaged*****

4) Office of Neighborhood Services Report – Annie Easy

- a) Clean Up Training Friday, February 17, 2023 at 6:30 (See Report)
 - i. Helps with Crime Prevention with disposable passes
- b) Community Engagement Funding
 - i. Grants provided up to 850 dollars for Neighborhood Council Activities
- c) Traffic Calming
 - i. 2023 Mobile Speed Feedback Applications are on line
 - ii. Deadline April 7, 2023. Get these in as it is our voice that will help determine where these go.

APPROVED FEBRUARY 19, 2023