

Shiloh Hills Neighborhood Council
Meeting Minutes April 20, 2023

Meeting was brought to order at 7:05. 15 neighbors were in attendance. Nick Hamad from Parks Department, City of Spokane was a special guest, as well as District 1 Councilman Mike Cathcart, Lt. Bart Stevens, SPD, and Jonathan Tilley, chair of Nevada Heights Neighborhood Council.

Cliff Winger presented an explanation of the Neighborhood Councils foundation in the Spokane City Charter and US Constitution. This included an overview of the Neighborhood Council structure including the Community Assembly. **Vote on Dan Jordan as alternate representative of Shiloh Hills Neighborhood Council to Community Assembly. 15 yea, 0 nay.**

Neighborhood Policing Report - Lt. Bart Stevens

The primary hotspot focus has been commercial theft at Northpointe Center. There has been an increase of daytime residential burglaries in the area framed by Addison, Central, Nevada and Francis. Police coverage will begin to focus more on park areas in May and throughout the summer.

City Council Report - Councilman Mike Cathcart

1. Proposed ordinance to allow Law Enforcement to ticket individuals participating in after hours public park activities as a gross misdemeanor. Friendship Park is on the watch list.
2. New Ordinance - "Save Open Spaces Act", makes it a gross misdemeanor to use drugs in public spaces.
3. Budget issues - The City budget is not sustainable over the long term. There is only enough money to fund the Trent homeless shelter through May. Currently there is a suggestion to take four million dollars from the Streets Dept (paving, potholes, etc) to make up the shortfall. Spokane City reserves (rainy day fund) has dropped from 21 million dollars to 5 million dollars. We have to find a way to begin rebuilding these reserves. City Council does not receive regular reports of budget status, and is asking for monthly, quarterly, and 6 month budget updates.
4. Neighborhood Working Group - A new city committee consisting of three Community Assembly representatives, three ONS (Office of Neighborhood Services) staff, and City Council representative. Purpose to improve communication and effectiveness of Neighborhood Council needs.
5. City Council Redistricting - Councilman Cathcart has proposed a rewriting of the City's redistricting ordinance. This would change the process closer to State and County guidelines.
 1. A committee of three mayoral appointees, three City Council appointees and one independent appointee to be chair.
 2. City Council members cannot propose their own changes or maps.
 3. Citizens can initiate by petition, changes out side of the mandatory ten year revisions.
6. Traffic Calming - Standard Rd is on the list to be considered for radar cameras for speeders near Friendship Park.

Parks Department - Nick Hamad, Park Planning and Development

Write letters to City Council supporting ordinance to make unauthorized after hours activities a gross misdemeanor enforceable by SPD. Vandalism and graffiti are up 20%. Call

311 or Crime check to report any incidences and email pictures of damage. A gate could be placed to block off the South Parking area after hours, if arrangements could be made for locking and unlocking it. Parks does not currently have staff to support this. Friendship Park is scheduled for full tree trimming and grooming by Urban Forestry this summer. A tool kit and presentation are available from Parks to organize a "Friends of Friendship Park" neighborhood group. Parks is researching property for park land in Shiloh Hills east of Nevada, as part of the new 10 year plan. They are looking at various funding sources, including Federal and State funds.

Traffic Calming - Mike Donahue

City staff positions have been filled to address Traffic Calming issues. **The next meeting is May 16, 5:00 p.m. at the Downtown Library. All are welcome the more people who attend the more attention is paid to Shiloh Hills concerns.**

Community Engagement Grant -

Voted 15 aye, 0 nay, to use Community Engagement Grant for direct mail postcards to Shiloh Hills residents.

New Business -

Voted 15 aye, 0 nay for Shiloh Hills Neighborhood Council to send letter to City Council supporting ordinance to make unauthorized after hours activities a gross misdemeanor enforceable by SPD.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Winger, Secretary