

Bemiss Neighborhood Council Minutes for November 12 2015

At NECC Art Room

Attending: Ann Silia, Donna Fagan, Kathryn Alexander, Rod Menarick
Office of NS City of Spokane, Bruce Higgins, Brooke Plastino, Peggy
Slider Neighborhood Matter program from Spokane Reginal Health,

Excused Mike Fagan, Mike Rapp

Meeting opened at 6:10

Minutes for Oct. meeting were changed by adding Brooke and Rod to
the attending list, **motion** for approval by Bruce Higgins and seconded
by Brooke Plastino, *Minutes accepted with changes*

NCO not available

Mike Fagan excused At a Bemiss town hall for Courtland block

Sidewalks and Traffic Calming: January Traffic calming: awarded
Helena and Rich, stop sign. The bump out on Cook across from NECC.

The CDBG committee presented to the Community Assembly a CBDG
finance for neighborhood sidewalks plan: Create a pool of money
(\$150,000 was recommended from the CA/CD Committee) from the
neighborhoods CBDG funds and place them in a pot just for sidewalks.
Neighborhoods or individuals that are served with a code violation,
could apply for such funds that are reserved for complaint driven code
violations for sidewalk repair or replacement. 4.7% of the CDBG budget
or \$150,000 is being asked from the Neighborhood. That would mean
that Bemiss would have lost \$2,162 from our CDBG funds this year IF
the program had been in place. Discussion and questions followed.

Motion was made by Brooke to move that we resist voting for the sidewalk plan until the following questions are answered, Ann seconded 1. Can we choose what sidewalks can be done? 2. Can it be used for new sidewalks? 3. Does funding have to come from Neighborhoods CDBG funds? 4. Do they have to be code violations? (Complaint driven only) *Motion approved.*

CA Report: by Kathryn A. Survey, How are you relating to the Community Assembly had 47 Responses so far. Kathryn asked everyone attending to fill one out. Kathryn gave Information on the URL to fill out the survey. CA found out a lot of people do not know the CA is there or how or why to run or attend Neighborhood Council meetings. Sept of 1995 was when the Neighborhood Councils were created in an ordinance to be put into the City Charter and the Office of Neighborhood Services (ONS) was born.

Chair of Budget Committee: ONS gave \$5000.00 and City Council has given \$15,000.00 so each neighborhood will have access to \$500 next year. There are certain conditions the neighborhoods will have follow to use this City money.

The CA Retreat is Feb. 19, 2016 from 1-to 9 at Finch Arboretum.

Talking about CA structure, history, training, creating a calendar of events and a way to pass on information of such events. The retreat will also cover how to manage CA affairs and the new CA budget. Some ideas about what to do with money, include NUSA scholarships, training, speakers, and updating policy and procedures. The new Admin Committee has not been voted in yet. The Retreat Committee

would like to come present in Jan. The membership approved the request.

Change of CA meeting to first Thursday of the month at 5:30 still at City Hall in council meeting room.

Newsletter: Kathryn was able to get quotes on printing prices and postage. The goal is to reach all 1500 residents.

We discussed other ways to get the newsletters out: Back-pack express in schools Regal and Bemiss, Businesses, Gas stations.

We discussed the idea to have a Business Night Celebrating Bemiss Business have news letter and T-shirts available. Discussion followed

Motion: Donna motioned to use money from Councilmen Fagan for newsletter in color and to table T shirts till Jan. seconded by Bruce.

Motion accepted. Kathryn will send out draft of the newsletter to everyone before we place final order with the City.

Nextdoor: will see if we can get a map of Christmas decorations on the site. Thanks to Brooke for expanding our boundaries!

Planning update: housing asset mapping; Kathryn has talked to GU they are in process of deciding if they are going to proceed with the program. Do not know if they will yet. Professor Greg Dhorn of Eastern U. has not answered any emails or phone calls so the planning is being pushed into the Spring.

Housing inventory: Peggy, the program Neighborhoods Matter will be cut in half so she is not sure there would be time for helping with this issue. She may get a intern who can help do research, so if that materializes down the road, she can help.

We could do a survey on homes that need improvement. Peggy will try this week or next week to talk to assessment manager about housing inventory help.

New Business: Bemiss has three alleyways that are blocked off. Donna would like to start a Community land project to find ways to re-use the Public Property, starting with the alley way at 1600 Rich and Helena. Donna will come with a report in Dec.

Submitted by Donna Fagan