



South Perry Business & Neighborhood Association (SPBNA)
To strengthen the South Perry Business District and the surrounding community

PO Box 4322

Spokane, WA 99220

www.southperry.org

APPROVED 2018-02-13 (no corrections)

Minutes for the meeting held on **Tuesday, January 9th, 2018** at Emmaus Church:

Sam Lux called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm (Ian had made arrangements to arrive late).

I. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

17 people were in attendance:

Matt Blaine*	Tracie Meidl*	Debbie Rowe
Dana Dalrymple	Mysh Miller	Ian Sullivan*
Shawna Harshman	Nora Nicolaysen	Bob Supon* (<i>voting for TEAM Grant</i>)
Autumn Hewitt	Peggy Parker*	David VonBrethorst
Klint Jenewein	Deb Ritter*	Emily Wenzel
Sam Lux*	Debbie Rowe	James Bergdahl? (<i>didn't sign in; need to confirm</i>)

* Indicates Voting Members

Excused Absences (emailed to Sam or Ian):

Deb Conklin	Bettie Stiritz	Hal Rowe
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Quorum

6 voting members in attendance (*at time minutes were approved*)
17 total voting members currently; $6/17 = 0.35 =$ 35% (**Quorum requirement is 25%**)

II. ORGANIZATION BUSINESS

Adopt minutes of prior meetings

Sam distributed copies of the December minutes, which had also been emailed out to the mailing list.

Peggy moved to accept the minutes as presented; Bob seconded the motion. All were in favor, with no abstentions. Minutes were approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report

Peggy distributed copies of the Profit & Loss Statement as of December 31st, 2017 put together by Bettie, for both SPBNA and Garden funds. The current total register balance for SPBNA funds is \$3,846.80 and \$752.57 for Garden funds. The only change from last month was the additional \$1,500 in donations voted on last month to be split up among four local organizations. For the year 2017, the SPBNA had a total net loss of -\$1,719.67. The Garden had a total net loss of -\$37.99.

III. SPD REPORT

Captain Meidl reported that they have been seeing a rash of more violent car break-ins, windows getting smashed instead of handles just getting checked. Crime analysts believe this a group that is travelling in a car and they have yet to find them. They recommend putting anything that is visible that could look valuable in the truck (gym bags, briefcases, etc.), and keep the doors locked.

Someone commented on possibly starting a Neighborhood watch. Captain Meidl said that the COPS volunteers have been trying to start a Neighborhood Observation Patrol (NOP Patrol), someone patrolling

through the neighborhood in a marked vehicle. Residents know what looks out of the norm.

[More about NOP can be found at <http://www.spokanecops.org/neighborhood-observation-patrol-nop>.]

There is a public Crime Map on the City's website (go to <https://my.spokanecity.org/police/prevention> and click on "View Crime Map" on the right hand side of the page), where you can look at specific types of crimes. It doesn't give specific addresses, just 100 blocks. Someone mentioned that the Crime Map only can show reported crimes. Sometimes it looks like people are reporting their small crimes on Nextdoor. It is important to report every crime that happens to help the police know where the crime is happening so they can focus their efforts where the problems are.

Someone asked a question about citizen's arrest; Captain Meidl said we don't have that here. You have the right to protect your property, if you feel you can do it safely, you can hold on to the suspect until the police arrive, but they don't want people to get hurt.

Someone asked if the police department is on Nextdoor. The neighborhood resource officer is on Nextdoor, hoping to be able to post information for people also if something is going on.

Police Dept. is hiring 10 new officers, hoping to hire 10 per year for the next 4 years.

Resident had issues with neighbor leaving tiki torches burning after they go to bed. Capt. Meidl said to call Crime Check (456-2233) and they will have the fire department come. Crime Check is open 24 hours. If it is a chronic nuisance the neighborhood resource officer will get involved.

IV. NEIGHBORHOOD CONNECTIONS

Library

Dana brought a flyer advertising the South Hill Library's "Bring a Friend Contest" where you bring someone to the library who doesn't have a library card, help get them signed up for one, and then both will get entered in a raffle drawing. The contest runs through February 28th.

She also wanted to let people know about their non-profit services they offer. More information can be found at spokanennonprofits.org.

ECNC (East Central Neighborhood Council)

Captain Meidl said that MLK is asking for volunteers this Saturday for people to help clean, to prepare for opening. For those who hadn't heard, the contract to manage the East Central Community Center was recently awarded to a new organization, the MLK Family Outreach Center. It will still be the same Community Center with all the resources they currently have, but will also be doing renovations to bring in all the services that MLK currently provides. One thing that has been added is to have a satellite office for the police department there, they are moving their community outreach office there. A dental clinic is going in there also.

V. COMMITTEE/WORKING GROUP REPORTS

Very Merry Perry

Ian (who had arrived by this point) updated the group on what the business had discussed about Very Merry Perry. They are hoping to make it bigger next year; not "Street Fair" level, but they want to promote it more and possibly add lights to the street trees. Peggy said that they are talking about maybe put something in Garden for next year to coordinate with Very Merry Perry.

Street Fair

Ian said nothing has been started yet for Street Fair this year other than looking at the date, which is always the Third Saturday in July. If anyone is interested in helping out, the best way to make that known is to message the South Perry Street Fair page.

Community Garden

Peggy reviewed what's going on in the Community Garden for the new people at the meeting. Each year they pick a project to work on. Each bed is rented by an individual or a family, and multiple beds can be rented if enough are available. The last two seasons they have been working on making the beds taller and improving the soil in the beds. They have also been improving the soil on the outer perimeter of the Garden, and have been planting vegetables around the fence line that are available for anyone to take. Last year they donated their extra produce to Family Promise. When asked how the vandalism was last year, Peggy said they thought that planting stuff on the perimeter help cut down on the vandalism. They are getting a new camera this year, and Avista donated and put up lights around the Garden last fall. Bed rental prices are \$25 for a 4' x 8' bed and \$35 for a 4' x12' bed, which includes water, soil, and tools. Gardeners are responsible for planting and doing their share of required volunteer service hours to help out maintaining the common areas of the Garden. They have also been doing a rotating watering schedule for the last two years to share the watering duties so that people can go on vacation, etc.

VI. FOLLOW-UP FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Website Update (Sam)

Sam reviewed what he has been working on to get the southperry.org website updated and getting all the domain and hosting ownership in SPBNA's name. He is now ready to transfer the hosting to a cheaper option he found, which should be only about \$4 per month if we pay for one year. Since having someone update the website for us, it is now much easier to make changes and add/update information on it.

VII. DISCUSSION OF SPBNA LEADERSHIP

Ian reviewed the backstory on the current status of the SPBNA Executive Officers & Board. Currently the positions of President and Secretary need to be filled. The Vice President position is also open, although there are less regular "duties" that are assigned to that officer position. But there has been discussion of transferring some of the social media duties to that position, if that person were interested in helping out with that. There are also two "at large" board member positions, they are currently filled but Matt Blaine would be willing to let someone else serve. Those positions also do not have specific duties but could have more specific duties depending on who is serving and what they feel comfortable helping with.

The SPBNA is asking what the neighborhood wants to see for the SPBNA. Ian said that even if the SPBNA did dissolve, the different things that the SPBNA is involved in most likely wouldn't go away, they might just be redistributed. Some things that we cover are also covered by other organizations, like East Central, or neighboring councils.

It seems like the businesses would want to be involved. Emily talked to John Siok, he said he would love to come to meetings but just can't get away on Tuesdays. Some felt that it seemed like the businesses have had plenty of opportunities to show that they want to be involved, but haven't really made the effort, so maybe it would be better to just make it a neighborhood association.

The Street Fair has been primarily run by the businesses, SPBNA looks like a fiscal sponsor. SPBNA used to mainly to the planning for it, or rather one person for a few years. They probably would continue doing that.

The basic question: Is this group important enough that neighbors would commit to help keep it going. One regular participant felt that this is an important and valuable organization for this neighborhood for getting to know your neighbors, having the police captain come and hearing from other representatives

Someone asked if the SPBNA could become their own city recognized neighborhood council. Shawna said that it is not uncommon for neighborhoods to splinter off (Shilo Hills, as an example). The Community Assembly gathers reps from all the neighborhood councils. The Office of Neighborhood Services (ONS) has people available for each neighborhood council. She will look into what the process is, and could have the answer by the end of the week. Someone said Amber Waldref had always wanted to come to a meeting, but felt that it wasn't feasible because we are a part of ECNC.

Someone gave an example that none of the information about the Grant Parking Solutions was supplied to the SPBNA

Shawna, who was on that working group, explained that it was mainly a thought exercise. The discussion started with the fact that that parking lot had so many problems and was not being very well utilized. They didn't think they even had access technically, but found out they did. There are liability issues with it being in the state that it is. They discussed how could it be fixed and what were some options for making more efficient use of the space, as well as some potential improvements to Grant Park. It was never to the point of going out to the public. The Spokane Matters pilot project that this was a part of is ending. But the Parks Department does have a page up showing some of the concepts the group came up with and a way for people to give feedback or to provide other ideas.

Debbie mentioned that there is always parking around her house and she is only a block off Perry, she reiterated the fact that we need to help people be more ok with walking. People might not know that there is free parking all around the park, or that there are other lots a little further away.

If South Perry were to try to become its own neighborhood, we would need to think about what the boundaries of South Perry would be. Captain Meidl suggested looking at neighborhood maps for NRO's. Someone else suggested census maps. Meidl said it would be easier to assign NRO's to calls if the neighborhood boundaries didn't overlap the territories of their NRO's..

Someone asked what is involved with being an SPBNA officer. Ian said that it can be flexible, depending on what a person is interested in helping with or what their skills are. Sam said that he added the descriptions of each Executive Officer position as listed in the Bylaws on the SPBNA website on the "Executive & Board Members" page. Matt asked if the "at large" board members could rotate visiting all the businesses each month.

One person said that they were possibly wanting to get involved more, and had also hoped to see some option for remotely listening in to the meeting. Emily said that she talked to some people and found out that Zoom is a good webinar option, and that the paid option (\$15.00/month) would probably work well for what we would need to do.

The group came to a consensus on a plan of action for next month, to take nominations and vote on any temporary amendments to the bylaws to make an exception to the rule about nominees being voting members.

VII. NEW BUSINES

[None]

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS & CLOSING

Matt said that World Relief is in need of donations for kitchen items. The list of specific items needed is on their website.

Next month's meeting is on the 2nd Tuesday of February (February 13th), to be held at Emmaus (unless other arrangements are made) and will begin at 6:30pm again.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:59 pm.

*Respectfully submitted,
Sam Lux, SPBNA Secretary*