

York Neighborhood Association General Meeting

March 14, 2018

Garden Street United Methodist Church

Meeting Minutes

I Call to Order, by Mark Sherman

II Potluck Taco Dinner and General Neighborhood information

Treasurer's report, by Jean Ryan: Donations from the January fund drive are still coming in. These are the bank account balances currently:

- Savings 914.02
- Parks 2028.08
- Checking 1300.12
- Total 3242.22

MNAC representative report, by Jean Ryan: The February 21 MNAC meeting discussed a new housing statistics information tool accessible through the COB website: cob.org/housingstats.

Police report by Officer Osterkamp

- He has posted a link on NextDoor York to available information on crime statistics by neighborhood and year.
- A 2-hour program on responding to an active shooter event is offered for neighborhood associations and other organizations on request.
- Responses to questions included the information that the City's police activity log is not a regularly updated record of current events, but a brief log of officers' reports (<https://www.cob.org/gov/dept/police/news/Pages/police-daily-activity.aspx>), and in case of traffic accidents, whether 911 is called or not, it is best to at least report accidents with the information available, including photos of license plates and insurance information. If an officer response to a 911 call, ask for the accident report number.

Report from Julia Burns, WWU Campus Community Coalition & New Student Program Initiatives Coordinator:

- Julia reported that the Tenant Waste Task Force is meeting to arrange for neighborhood clean ups as the WWU Spring quarter ends. **Action:** Tom Scott will coordinate with Julia about dates for the neighborhood and WWU dumpster/cleanup efforts.
- WWU student representative Anna Kemper reported on a proposed housing panel to take place at WWU on May 23, to include WWU, Bellingham Housing Authority, and the Opportunity Council.
- Asked about parking issues, Julia responded that neighborhoods have the option of pursuing establishment of resident-only parking zones. The question of who pays for the permitting process was raised.

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III Housing Issues in York, by Sean Wheeler

Sean showed an 8-minute clip of the video, *Don't Ballardize Bellingham*. He outlined the 1990 Growth Management Act's legal support for maintaining both neighborhood character and residents' input in crafting a vision for growth in Bellingham. He described the York neighborhood's current split between Single Family and Multi-Family zoning, and commented that civic participation tends to fall off when renters outnumber homeowners.

Sean pointed out that although a housing shortage is being presented as justification for changing the Single Family zoning in some of the city's older neighborhoods, the City also claims that there is currently ample buildable land available within the city limits.

IV City Transportation Presentation on Lakeway and Lincoln Bike Lanes, by Chris Comeau & Freeman Anthony

Chris Comeau described plans "intended to improve mobility and safety for pedestrians and cyclists across busy arterials and through the Puget and York neighborhoods. It will include the installation of four new Hi-intensity Crosswalks (HAWK) SIGNALS." The plan includes new bike lanes in the York neighborhood, to include Puget, Grant, and Humboldt Streets. He also answered questions about other traffic and safety issues along Lakeway.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.

Minutes approved April 14, 2018