

October 08th, 2008

Meeting Opened at 7:28 AM

Board Members present:

Terry Lynch, Larry Rudy, Ray Perry, Milt Neumann, Dick Behm and Chuck Simpson. Excused: Carlos Landa / Phantom of the Opera prep work underway...

Guests:

Scott Kuhta, Mike King, Councilwoman Rose Dempsey, Councilwoman Diana Wilhite, Bobby Lynch, Mary Kate Martin, Carobelle Branch, Mike Phillips, plus several names missed.

**Speaker: Mike Stone, Director of the Spokane Valley Parks Department
Topic: City of Spokane Valley's Parks Department and it's current and long range plans.**

The overview of the PARKS DEPARTMENT was to acknowledge it is for the most part a contract maintenance system with the small in house staff doing the planning and oversight. Included in the department is the management of Maribou Parks Center Place.

The theme for the discussion/presentation was that there would be some major improvements in the three swimming pool parks for next summer. An effort will be made over the winter to gather together a group of citizens to act as an Advisory Board for the Parks Department to help develop plans for the future. There are very ambitious plans being developed for a children's park but financing needs to be put together through grants and land acquired. The city of Spokane Valley has too little park space per acre when compared to the city of Spokane.

The second discussion for the day was with Dick Behm and Chuck Hafner raising the issue of revitalization. Chuck's comments essentially were that the "citizens" he speaks with are unaware of the facts no matter how hard the city tries to inform and how often citizens are invited to meetings to discuss planning. Diana Wilhite spoke of her meetings with Auto Row folks on the one way/two way issue. Her message was not as positive in that she finds the south city homeowners like the ability to travel Appleway rapidly (or at least they think it is fast) when returning from working in Spokane. This writer and others didn't raise the question that if both streets are posted at 35MPH how would that be faster if it was two way and the MPH remained the same?

Dick Behm reported on the changes underway in the flood plains designation after many years of his work. The end result should be a large savings of flood insurance for those businesses and homeowners no longer in the "flood plain". This savings should be available to those that read their mail from the city when informed of this factor next spring and advise their insurance carriers and mortgage lenders there no longer is a need for flood plain insurance. The savings Dick has generated should be in the millions of dollars of insurance no longer

necessary.

Respectfully posted: Terry Lynch