

NORTHWEST NEIGHBORHOOD MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Victor Frazier, vice-chair ran the meeting due to the out of town absence of Jeff Stevens. Minutes were approved as read Victor announced the four concerts for this summer.1.

Army National Guard Band, 2. Dog House Blues who play jazz and blues, 3. Men of Rhythm and 4. Spokane Junior Symphony who will be finishing a tour. The insurance for the concerts may be more than last years \$900. He asked for help from the membership in obtaining ads for the concert brochures, and people who are willing to learn how to chair the concert committee, etc.

Victor as a member of the Advisory Committee of the Spokane Transit Authority, with the help of Steve Blaska from the Transit Authority presented a Power Point explanation of why the Transit Authority needs a raise in fares. The T.A. is now in the process of a proposal for public comment. This began in February meetings with groups of disadvantaged persons, such as handicapped and blind. The Committee will make a recommendation to the Board in May. Riders now pay less than 20% of the total cost. All over the U.S. Transit Authorities are increasing fares Phase 1. In September 2009 the increase in fares will bring the Farebox Recovery Ratio to 19.4% (because of increase in ridership). In January 2011 the increase in fares will bring the recovery rate to 22.4%. The proposal complies with Federal and state laws who demand that cities provide public transportation. Para- Transit fare are too cheap and should be the same as adult fares. There will be more public hearings in March and April.

Bob Turner suggested that Joe Albi Stadium Complex should be involved with STA to pay to have a transit center there for people to use the bus service. He said it had been discussed. Fairmount Cemetery has wanted to trade 15 acres for 5 acres of parkland. An easement has been signed. The City Council will vote on this February 23, 2009 .

Our Resource police officer, Paul Taylor spoke about auto crime is lower in our N.W. area. He spends some time in the cop shop at Shadle Center.

Victor noted that our Web site is in operation with a calendar of events. Use [nwspok.org](http://nwspok.org) to engage. A newsletter for N.W. N. will be published in May by O.N.S.

Larry Gleason announced a workshop called Sustainability Committee will be held in the Community Building at 35 West Main on Sunday from 2-4:30 PM. The Council is working on a sign ordinance, as the LED signs are distracting. He felt there are too many tall signs at the round-about on Wellesley and "A" street. About Snow Removal: Should neighbors take care of sidewalks in their own block?. Also the council is working on an ordinance concerning cars, campers and trailers, etc. parked on streets or private property.

Respectfully submitted, Dorothy Carson, Secy.