



## White Salmon Community Development Committee Meeting

### A G E N D A

December 18, 2023 – 5:30 PM

100 N Main Ave and via Zoom

Meeting ID: 842 9623 2929

Call In: 1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84296232929>

#### Call to Order

#### Public Comment

#### Discussion and Action Items

1. Follow Up
  - a. Parklet Outline
  - b. Community Member Acknowledgement
2. Next Year - Native American Heritage Month
  - a. Signage
  - b. Partnering with the museum
3. For April or May: Mental Health Awareness Month
4. Community Block Party Idea

#### Adjournment

**File Attachments for Item:**

1. Follow Up
1. Parklet Outline
2. Community Member Acknowledgement

## Community Member Acknowledgement Ideas

Recognizing the contributions of people in the community is an important aspect of city pride. It helps foster a sense of belonging, encourages civic participation, and promotes a positive community spirit. Here is an initial list of ideas to consider along with placeholders for effort on the city's part (which need to be validated by the city):

- **Awards and Honors:** Establishing awards to acknowledge outstanding contributions in various fields such as volunteering, community service, arts and culture, entrepreneurship, environmental conservation, sports, etc.
  - **Considerations of Time/Resources:** Physical awards have a cost, but overall this could be a lower usage of staff time than other ideas.
  - **Open Questions:** Beyond the physical award, how would we announce them? An award ceremony with the mayor?
- **Proclamations and Certificates:** Issuing official proclamations or certificates of recognition to individuals or organizations that have made significant contributions.
  - **Considerations of Time/Resources:** Probably the lowest financial cost, and overall this could be a lower usage of staff time than other ideas.
  - **Open Questions:** Beyond the certificate, how would we announce them? An award ceremony with the mayor? These can be presented at city council meetings or at a community event? I'd hate to put these into a consent agenda, but council approval?
- **Wall of Fame:** Creating a physical or digital "Wall of Fame" to highlight the achievements and contributions of notable community members. This can be displayed in a public space or on the city's website, showcasing the names and accomplishments of those recognized.
  - **Considerations of Time/Resources:** Again, relatively low financial cost and lower usage of staff time. I don't know if we have a physical space that makes sense for this, but ideally it'd be outside vs. inside for people passing by to see? Alternatively, if we do redo the city website, perhaps it would be easier to do online?
  - **Open Questions:** Location is the big one in either scenario.
- **Community Celebrations:** Organizing community-wide events or festivals dedicated to recognizing the contributions of individuals. These events can include speeches, performances, exhibitions, or parades that showcase and honor the achievements of community members.
  - **Considerations of Time/Resources:** This is definitely more labor intensive for city staff.
  - **Open Questions:** Seems like we don't have the volunteers and infrastructure in place to do this? I like the public acknowledgement in a public event, but we don't have enough obvious opportunities for that today so we'd be making up events from scratch, making it even more labor intensive?
- **Naming Opportunities:** Offering naming opportunities for public spaces, facilities, or infrastructure after individuals who have made significant contributions to the community. This could include parks, libraries, community centers, or streets.
  - **Considerations of Time/Resources:** Could be significant depending on what is being named. For example, if we renamed Rheingarten Park, there's signage to be replaced, public outreach prior, etc.
  - **Open Questions:** This feels possible, but it needs to be special (once a decade?) type of acknowledgement. If we were to rename a street, that shouldn't be a common situation, so the selection process would need to be extra clear and I believe should involve council voting, public outreach, etc.

## Community Member Acknowledgement Ideas

- **Volunteer Appreciation Programs:** Hosting annual volunteer appreciation events to recognize and thank individuals who have dedicated their time and efforts to community service. These events can include volunteer awards, speeches, and small tokens of appreciation.
  - **Considerations of Time/Resources:** Similar to Community Celebrations, labor intensive since we don't do this today in any way.
  - **Open Questions:** Do we think this would increase volunteer participation with the city? That would be one reason to go through the effort of something significant like this. Otherwise, doesn't seem like we have the resources or infrastructure to do this regularly.
- **Social Media and Newsletters:** Using social media platforms and city newsletters to highlight the accomplishments and contributions of individuals or groups within the community. Sharing success stories, profiles, or interviews can help amplify their impact and inspire others.
  - **Considerations of Time/Resources:** Low effort, outside of writing up the content which could be done in partnership with staff and the community development committee.
  - **Open Questions:** We don't have a great way today (much like the Wall of Fame) to do this, however we did just launch our newsletter and that would be an ideal location to acknowledge people.

### Some initial notes/thoughts (from Jim):

- I don't think we should set this up to require a monthly, quarterly, or any ongoing frequency. It should be considered when a nomination comes in, but we don't need to find someone if there isn't a nomination in any given quarter.
- Perhaps we consider all nominations each quarter, and select one? Alternatively, is there any reason we wouldn't want to highlight more than one person if we got more than one nomination?
- Who should "approve" the nominations in general? My goal is to keep this part easy and simple. If the nomination has merit, I wouldn't want to put much more into vetting, but maybe another community has figured out an easy process to do this?
  - We should make sure the nomination process requires some actual content to be submitted (as in, written nomination with 500 words or more on why that person should be acknowledged, something like that...other ideas?)
- Looking at the options above, I lean toward a combo of: award, proclamation and some kind of virtual wall on the city website, along with including it in the city newsletter.

## Parklet Outline

Parklets - Outline of what we want (has not been vetted with WSDOT)

- Program would be May 1 to November 1, annually.
- Any business can request a parklet in front of their business, regardless if it is on Jewett or a city street.
- For Jewett specifically, we'd like some kind of blanket approval from WSDOT. Ideally we'd only do this once for each business who requests the parklet, then it's automatically approved each year thereafter.
  - In order for businesses to be able to invest in better parklet facilities, they need some kind of guarantee that this program would be ongoing.
- In regard to parklet requirements:
  - ADA compliant - level with the sidewalk, or an appropriate ramp. Enough space for a wheelchair to use the space specifically.
  - Business will own all aspects of the facility: fencing, installation/removal, furniture, trash, lighting, shade, etc.
    - Perhaps some clarity on approval process once a parklet is approved, to make sure nothing gets too far that would be problematic for the city or state. Thinking of road hazards, line of sight issues, etc.
  - It must be used as part of the business, and can only take up the space directly in front of the business.
  - If two parklets are requested and would be next to each other, we should come up with something to address that - do they need to be separate? Combined? If there's x amount of impact to parking, what do we do? For example if Everybody's, Pixan and Feast all did this, there would be a massive impact to parking.
  - Maybe consider "no bigger than" x feet wide, or something that limits space impact?
  - Is there anything the city would do here besides approve plans?
  - Any traffic cones on edges of parklet?
  - No drilling or affixing anything to the actual street or road
  - Consideration for water runoff during heavy rain (can't block the gutter)?
- What else? Add all the things here, above, etc. so we can try to build a proposal. Once we have something we like, and we get some kind of direction from WSDOT, would like to share with Chamber and Downtown Business Group.