



## Emerson-Garfield Steering Committee and Neighborhood Council

*Wednesday, December 10th, 2014*

The meeting began at 6:56 p.m. with introductions, after an hour of potluck. Quorum was present, with 21 voting members, including three new members. According to the sign-in sheet, 14 other residents (not counting the children) were in attendance. The [November meeting minutes](#) had already been reviewed and edited by council members using the new email method. Three firefighters from 1001 North Foothills ([Spokane Engine 2](#)) attended as well, but had to leave early in response to an emergency.

A new charter school, PRIDE Prep (<http://prideprepschool.org/>), will be opening in 2015. They are an independent school from Spokane Public Schools, but are [authorized by SPS](#), which will be holding PRIDE Prep accountable. Because this school [is chartered](#), they are just as *free* as a regular public school, but there will be 190 days of schooling per year, which is *more* than at a public school. The old Social Security Administration building at [East 811<sup>th</sup> Sprague](#), in the [University District](#), will be used for the school.

The students will have their interests and passions developed, in order that they may have their talents discovered prior to college. They received a large [Paul G Allen grant](#) towards their Computer Science budget. One week per quarter, the students will be participating in community service. There will be a personalized learning plan, to avert any boredom, which will also accommodate students which have an attention deficit disorder. There will be a maximum of 120 students for 2015. The enrollment deadline is February 25<sup>th</sup>, and they are *already 80% enrolled*.

There were 14 voting members opposed to meeting in January, 2 in favor of meeting in January, and apparently 5 who did not vote, so **our next meeting will be in February**.

Alicia Powell informed the council about [an area next to T J Meenach Drive](#), on the [western edge](#) of the Emerson-Garfield neighborhood. It will contain trees bearing fruits and nuts, which the public will be allowed to pick from. Alicia welcomed input on other possible projects.

The [Community Development Block Grants](#) applications were discussed. Timothy Diko and Sara Kimball were applauded for their involvement with filling out the CDBG applications. [Monroe, on Dalton](#), will have a new bus shelter. The new [traffic circles on Montgomery](#) will be more noticeable in the spring of 2015, once vegetation has been planted. We received thank-you letters from the organizations who received the funding which we distributed during our last meeting, and one has requested a group photograph.

Laura Schlangen reported on the [Corbin Senior Activity Center](#), where we meet each month. Corbin's membership has increased to 1188 members! [Deeper Walk Ministries](#) is offering church services at the Center, [Sundays at 10](#).

Karl Bolt reported that 7 tons of garbage was deposited because of the vouchers we distribute. \$6,964.95 was spent on the community cleanups. The roll-off event in 2015 will be on April 18<sup>th</sup>.

There were \$41,458.28 in total sales in the [Farmers Market](#), which was only open for four hours, one day per week. About a third of the vendors reside in Emerson Garfield, so the money spent is a local investment. \$1,951 was spent using [SNAP](#) (EBT) funds. Every \$5 spent using an [EBT](#) card exchanges for \$7 in market money, with the \$2 difference being reimbursed by [Catholic Charities](#). In addition to CC, there were also collaborations [with Project Hope](#); [Knox Presbyterian](#), who supplied the location; [Spokane Hope Christian Reformed Church](#), which shares the building with Knox and sells Korean food from inside the church; and [Audubon](#) and [Garfield](#) Elementary Schools. The Farmers Market won a marketing award from [Community Assembly](#).

[Candace Mumm](#) reported on the Spokane City Council, which approved of the budget. The [Salvation Army warming shelter](#) is the only shelter funded this year, and bus passes to the shelter have been included in the budget.

Paul Kimball gave credit to the firefighters who attended for part of the meeting, and discussed some of the developments of the Fire Department.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.