



Emerson-Garfield Steering Committee and Neighborhood Council

Wednesday, February 10th, 2016

The meeting began at 6:00 p.m. with 30 voting members present (out of 40 possible), including 2 new members. The roster also recorded 6 guests. The December, 2015 minutes were approved without any changes, with no objections and no abstentions.

[Patrick Striker](#), the Executive Director of the [Community Oriented Policing Services \(C.O.P.S.\)](#) program gave advice about preventing crime. [SpokaneCOPS.org](#) has a new design. Take a look.

Do not leave anything tempting in a vehicle, such as a laptop bag, whether or not it contains valuable contents. As jackets can also be used for covering valuables, that may also be tempting to a criminal. Get to know your neighbors, so you can identify what vehicles are operated by the residents. Report anything suspicious you see by calling Crime Check, 509-456-2233, or it may as well have never happened. If an incident is happening right at the moment, call 911. Some COPS Shops are in need of more volunteers, including [Neighborhood Observation Patrol](#). When criminals see more observation in a neighborhood, such as with an active Block Watch, they are less confident in committing crime.

Code violations can be submitted through a COPS Shop, so all of the documentation can be recording the Shop as the source, to keep you anonymous. If you do file directly with the Code Enforcement, you may check a box on the form to remain anonymous if you feel threatened.

Kathy Armstrong of the Spokane Police Department reported on the [Department of Justice Reform Recommendations](#), with forums bridging the gap between law enforcement and the community. The DOJ works together with the reform committee.

Officers go through Crisis Intervention Training to handle individuals with mental health issues. In addition to the 40 hours of CIT, officers went through training with Spokane Mental Health. There is additional training planned with World Relief to address the customs of cultures that are immigrating into Spokane.

A [culture audit](#) is still in development, and while the report will not be available until 6 months following the end of the audit (6 months after June), you can still contact the DOJ Reform Committee for additional information.

Jonathan Mallahan of the City of Spokane's Division of Neighborhood and Business Services (currently called the Office of [Neighborhood Services](#)) reported on the changes that will be grouping neighborhoods and businesses more closely. The City is structured into [Divisions](#), and then Departments. There will be no reduction in the workforce during the reorganization of Departments, which will take place on March 1st. Staff members in the Division will be responsible for various areas. Community Centers is an unstaffed Department of the city, which will be used for the distribution. The Developer Services Center is for building permits, inspection and review. The Planning Department guides and manages the comprehensive plan for land use in the city. [Parking Services](#) will involve more than just parking enforcement. Much of the questions that were brought up following Mr. Mallahan's presentation were related to the enforcement of parking (Parking Services), so an additional speaker will be invited to the Neighborhood Council on that topic. The "My Spokane" customer service line is currently 755-CITY, but it will be the 311 line later this year.

The division of responsibilities for managing the Emerson-Garfield Farmers Market in the 2016 season (starting June 10th) was discussed among the council. The market has been applauded for accepting [EBT](#) funding, and has been active in bringing the community together, but there needs to be more division of the labor among volunteers. Jonathan Martinez, Amy Dutton, Tim Musser, Brianna Musser,

Steve Anderson, Desire McGinn, Malia Woods, Abraham Woods, Donna Emmingham, Christy Frazier and Don Dysart volunteered to assist.

Another new development that has been discussed with our Neighborhood Council is the [Neighborhood Notification Ordinance](#), which currently notifies our Chair and Vice-Chair of the applications for construction projects. Steve Anderson reported on the training for Neighborhood Notification, which is currently a large quantity of code information that can be challenging to sort through. It allows the residents to know what is happening, and to have oversight. Anyone will be able to sign up for alerts of developments within a certain distance from their property. Another training will be available later in 2016, and more information is available on [SpokaneNeighborhoods.org](#).

Executive job descriptions were briefly mentioned, and will be edited in the [EGNC Bylaws](#), section 5.

[Traffic calming](#) requests are due in March, 2016, such as the traffic circles on Montgomery, and will be voted on in the March EGNC meeting.

Laura Schlangen reported on the [Corbin Senior Activity Center](#). Beth Daniels is a new administrative manager, and will be responsible for tours. The Movin' and Groovin' Fair will be on March 5th. The Parks Department has decided not to support the elevator project financially.

Jay Cousins reported on the [Community Assembly](#). The main issue was a three hour discussion regarding the funding of sidewalk projects. There will be no sidewalk projects in 2016. EGNC used to receive \$300,000 per year, but it is now down to \$60,000 due to cuts at the federal level.

The [Land Use Committee](#), which Barb Biles attended, discussed the impact of high volume housing at Indian Trail, but there were no issues discussed which would impact Emerson-Garfield.

Jonathan Martinez reported on the Rental Housing Stakeholders Group, which is in Phase 1. Concerns regarding landlord-tenant issues will be presented at the YMCA corporate building on Boone and Monroe on Feb 23rd at 3:30 p.m. You may contact Jonathan at jonathanedwardmartinez@gmail.com.

The [West Quadrant Tax Increment Financing](#) Committee, represented by Megan Kennedy, did not have a quorum for the past two meetings. The main focus in our neighborhood with the committee is North Monroe. An additional position on the committee is open, so please consider serving.

Carlie Hoffman reported on the [Pedestrian, Traffic and Transportation](#) (PeTT) Committee. The Washington State Department of Transportation may provide counters to measure bikes and pedestrians if the City can find funds for installation and maintenance. The City is currently working on updating the Transportation chapter of the Comprehensive Plan.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.