



Emerson-Garfield Steering Committee and Neighborhood Council

Wednesday, October 8th, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm, and there was a short delay before enough voting members were present to meet the quorum, so a representative of [Corbin Senior Activity Center](#) shared the good news about their fundraiser, which raised \$20,000. Of that, \$4,000 was directed towards the elevator. Corbin's new van arrived as well! There will be another fundraiser on October 17th, with tickets available at the front desk of the Senior Center.

With the arrival of the 13th voting member, the September minutes were approved.

The [Community Development Block Grant](#) (CDBG) applications were explained, and attendees were invited to participate. Timothy Diko, Megan Kennedy, Melissa Parker, Tom Powell and Sylvia Meloche volunteered to be on a committee which will meet prior to the November 24th deadline. Emerson-Garfield is entitled to the fourth largest amount due to a number of factors, such as the income level of the residents.

Timothy Diko and Melissa Parker had been involved with scouting out locations for sheltered bus stops, bike racks and trash cans to be placed along Monroe Street. Those projects would not require follow-up costs, and would last long enough to be impactful. They should also fall within the federal parameters of low income projects. Since lights include a long-term expense, they would require a more challenging application, and would be best to delay until next year's application. Likewise, trees around a bus shelter would require a neighboring business to volunteer to water them. At the next meeting, additional information will be prepared to go along with the CDBG committee report.

Northwest neighborhood identified a block of land adjacent to Emerson-Garfield where the residents rarely participate in the Northwest activities, but tend to identify with Emerson-Garfield, being on the western edge of E-G. The image identifying that land is attached to the second page of [the agenda](#). [The boundaries](#) to the north are Fairview and Ash to Cochran, south across the T.J. Meenach bridge, along the Pettit Drive Ridge, to Indiana; Indiana east to Belt, and Belt north to Fairview. A concern was raised regarding the average income of that section of land, and what the increased income may have on the qualification of Emerson-Garfield for low-income funding. A decision will be delayed until next month.

The [Greening Neighborhoods Grant](#) was approved for both applications. The Maple island vegetation can be acquired soon, but the other area may need to wait until November. We will wait on Spokane Urban Forestry to determine the dates. Over a dozen attendees volunteered to help with planting.

On Washington near North Central High School is an organization, [Community Frameworks](#), which would like to contribute to the redevelopment of the area, such as increasing walkability. They will be developing a 33 unit apartment building for lower income residents.

Because there are three elementary schools in a contiguous line, there is a justification for putting together a Safe Routes to Schools taskforce, and developing an entire network of volunteers by 2016. Lois Musser, Steve Elixman, Teresa Hudak and Candace Mumm expressed an interest in participating.

A motion was made to provide meeting notes for review and approval by email, rather than waiting until the following monthly meeting. It was decided to email the minutes shortly following each meeting, and voting members can then respond to the email.

Tim Burns, the [Police Ombudsman](#), reported that as of September 15th, the [5-member citizen oversight commission](#) over Spokane Police Officers is in effect. The Sherriff's office has expressed an interest in a similar committee. Adrian Dominguez, an [epidemiologist with the Health Department](#), represents our district. Each of the other two City Council districts selected one, and the Mayor selected two.

City Councilmember [Candace Mumm](#) reported on a \$67,000 [traffic calming](#) grant. A pilot program near Gonzaga will experiment with a permeable pavement solution, which may work with Monroe as well. [The Women and Children's Free Restaurant](#) is developing near the Community Frameworks building. The new city budget proposal was released, and a priority was given to fire safety.

Sara Kimball reported on sidewalk repair near Emerson Park, in response to some large tree roots. There were four curb cuts [near Jefferson and Alice](#) for ADA accessibility. A sidewalk on the west side of Madison all the way from Indiana to Emerson Park may be in development in the distant future.

The [Farmers Market](#) is on track to have over \$40,000 in sales this year! A long line of applicants for dump passes came to the market for their first time, and commented positively on the market. [Katherine Pryor, the author of Sylvia's Spinach](#) will read her book at the market at 3:30, 4:30 and 5:30pm on October 10th. The season finale will be on October 17th, and will include a cider press (to which you can bring your own apples).

The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 pm.