



Emerson-Garfield Steering Committee and Neighborhood Council

Wednesday, September 14th, 2016

The meeting began at 6:00 p.m. with 25 voting members present. The August, 2016 minutes were approved without any changes, with no objections and no abstentions.

Brandon Ropez-Betty from Spokane Transit Authority (STA) presented information in favor of the second-attempt at Proposition 1 for the operating funds of \$4.1 million per year. The April 2015 equivalent failed the ballot by 572 votes, so the November, 2016 version will ask for a smaller tax increase, a two-tenths of one percent sales tax, and phase in the taxes over a 3-year period. Of every dollar, 44 cents would be allocated for expansion, 33 cents for improvement, and 23 cents for maintenance. This is a long-term decision, beyond the ten years of the levy, as STA would adapt to their new level of income. More information is available to the public at STAMovingForward.com.

Charlie Kline from the Office of Neighborhood Services reported on the Comprehensive Plan, available at ShapingSpokane.org. West Central Community Center will be a venue for talking about the plan in an open house on September 29th from 4:30 to 8:00 p.m. All of the traffic calming projects are going forward, with no projects cancelled.

The attendees discussed the \$50,000 CDBG funds, of which \$25,500 had already been devoted to the transition zone between Emerson-Garfield and the Garland neighborhood on North Monroe.

The Spokane Public Library, talking on behalf of the West Central Community Center, is interested in setting up a 24-hour library, similar to Red Box, and is requesting \$100,000 distributed between the nearby neighborhoods.

Charlie Kline offered to look into various questions about pre-existing funding allocations, such as the status of the already approved walkway surrounding Emerson Park and the SNAPS program relating to the removal of tree stumps in lower income housing areas.

Fulcrum Institute on Ash Street is requesting input on what to do for a mural on the side of the building. The owner of the building has contacted the Arts Commission and is still in the research phase.

Jay Cousins suggested requesting Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding for neighborhood beautification through the form of wall murals.

E.J. Iannelli reported on a conference regarding the increased use of social media. The Farmers Market will be having a cooking demo. Boeing Employees' Credit Union will have a booth and will be treating visitors with some giveaways. The season finale on September 30th will have the traditional cider press.

The new Community Frameworks housing development on Washington and Maxwell will be having an Open House in October. They are open to partnering with EGNC in requesting a park area... and additional parking... in the area to the east of them. Toxic waste could be a concern.

Bri Musser reported on the STA presentation from the last North Monroe Corridor Project meeting. A pullout for a bus would require 7 or 8 parking stalls, and would increase the risk of collision involving drivers who choose not to yield to a bus resuming their route. A sidewalk extension, with the bus stopping on the street,

would only take 2 parking stalls and would delay traffic about 15 seconds total.

The project website is <https://my.spokanecity.org/projects/north-monroe-corridor-project-2018/>

Laura Schlangen reported that the cost of the elevator repair has gone up due to the very protective Fire Marshal, but that should not exceed the amount of the existing funding. Since August 1st, the Corbin Senior Activity Center has 34 new members.

Jay Cousins reported that the Community Assembly is nearing their annual retreat, and is discussing the collaboration between CA and City Council, CA and the neighborhoods, and neighborhoods with other neighborhoods. If neighborhoods would collaborate on projects, bigger projects could be funded. With a new form of collaboration within the CA, involving much discussion prior to moving for a vote, there are very few objections.

Peaceful Valley will be having a community wide yard sale on Friday, September 30th and Saturday October 1st, 9 a.m. to noon, at 214 N. Cedar St.

Karl Boldt spoke about the Fall Cleanup. Faith Bible Church will be having a Free Clean Green Pickup on Saturday, November 5th. Kids can come to a home and rake, too, rather than you having to transport the leaves to the church.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m.