



Emerson-Garfield Neighborhood Council

Wednesday, November 14, 2018

The meeting began at 6 pm with 25 voting members present. The roster also recorded 8 guests. The October minutes were approved without any changes, with no objections and no abstentions.

There are three changes to the agenda – Taylor will be giving the Building Stronger Neighborhoods report, a speaker was added to the agenda for next month, and a North Monroe Small Business Saturday event on November 24 was added to the announcements.

Kitara Johnson from [Excelsior Youth Center](#) presented to the group about the residential, school, and health programs they provide. She told a touching story of her life and the story of the positive changes the organization has helped children and families achieve. Through their work with the police department, the number of security incidents has decreased greatly. They are seeking donations for outdoor winter clothing and music players. To donate, contact them at 509-328-7041

Katie Myers from the [Office of Neighborhood Services](#) introduced herself to the group as our new neighborhood liaison. She provided some information and brochures about snow season. A traffic calming application was submitted for a flashing crosswalk at Cleveland and Post which will go to the City Council soon.

Nick Hamad from [Spokane Parks and Recreation](#) presented on the local parks. Tennis courts in Corbin Park will be resurfaced in 2020. In the meantime, they will do a reseal. They are working on a parks planning process in which they will work with the neighborhood councils on their priorities for their parks.

Nick showed the group two concepts for improvements to Emerson Park and sought feedback. One option would connect a pathway to the ball court and along the back of the park. The second option involves a pathway around the ball court rather than through the court. These options were not designed to alleviate the problem issues at the back of the park. Another option is to thin the trees and add lighting to reduce illegal activity at the base of the hill.

The group voted to focus on the pathway over lighting, as this was the original intention. The group voted to move the path further down the slope of the hill, moving the backstop to save money and use any extra funds to install a light. The group voted to install a new asphalt pathway that connects the basketball court to Jefferson Street. A pathway will be striped on the basketball court with the option to add a pathway outside the court using CDBG funds in the future.

Nathan Gwinn, Assistant Planner with the City of Spokane, spoke about [infill housing](#), which the City is incorporating into planning to keep housing affordable. There was discussion regarding the reductions in

parking the proposed code changes would allow and concerns that this would not be enough for the number residents. If you have any questions or comments, contact Nathan at ngwinn@spokanecity.org.

Taylor (Building Stronger Neighborhoods) – They are still working on their toolkit.

Karl (Fall Clean Up) – Do not use plastic bags for your leaves – the City will charge you as garbage.

Mella (Neighborhood Safety Committee) – They are hoping the resource list will be available soon, and they are working on 2019 goals.

Rochelle (Pedestrian, Traffic, and Transportation) – They discussed snow removal and snow removal routes.

Gene (North Monroe Business District) – November 24 is [Small Business Saturday on North Monroe](#) from 11 am – 5pm. There are 5 participating businesses and Meet on Monroe Christmas ornaments will be available to those who spend more than \$25 or who visit all 5 businesses.

Tom (Community Assembly) – The City discussed the crime rate and handed out safety brochures. The advice is to light up property and lock windows and doors.

Jeff (Corbin Senior Center) – They had their most successful auction ever. They are applying for CDBG funds for security cameras.

We need to form a committee for the good neighbor tote bags to discuss what will go into bags, design for bags, and how to disperse the bags. This will be discussed more next month.

[West Central Community Center](#) has a vacancy for a board member from Emerson-Garfield. We are seeking a new board member to serve.

[Spokane COPS Mounted Patrol](#) will be providing wagon rides at [Corbin Park](#) on Sunday, December 2 from 12 - 2 pm. There will be treats and pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Spokane COPS would love for us to design a flag for the Mounted Patrol to use when in our neighborhood.

Dale Wells spoke about freezing your credit to prevent identity theft. He provided some brochures with more information. Do not start your car to warm it up because car thefts are increasing. [Register your bicycle](#).

Next month we will have a potluck at 5pm.

The next EGNC meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 12, 2018 at 6 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.

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