



# Emerson-Garfield Neighborhood Council

*Wednesday, Oct 09, 2024*

The meeting began at **6:00 pm with 20 voting members present**. There were also 15 recorded guests.

Crystal Glanz-Kreutz motioned to review and approve the September Meeting Minutes in November due to technical difficulties; Patti Marland-Stevens seconded. The motion was approved unanimously without any changes, with no objections and no abstentions.

Patti Marland-Stevens motioned to approve the Oct. Meeting Agenda, with the adjustment of speaker order to accommodate guests, and the addition of time for a tree lighting update by Katie Joy. EJ Iannelli seconded, the agenda was approved unanimously, with no objections and no abstentions.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

### **Spokane Police Department –**

Maple and Mansfield continue to be a hot spot for activity. There is a new chief, the force has a low budget and so 23 officers opted to take early retirement. The SPD is hiring now, with the goal to have Neighborhood Resource Officers (NROs) re-added to their staff (Note: If approved, a portion of Proposition 1 funds would support this effort).

### **Spokane City Council – Kitty Klitzke**

Kitty took a moment to recognize the SPD staffing consistency and indicated that the selected chief had a competing offer but chose to come to Spokane. A top priority of hers during her campaign was the return of the NRO program, but she has appreciated recent SPD efforts to have all officers operate with more ownership. She would like to continue the funding of COPS shops and sees Proposition 1 as a good initial funding source to assist the Fire, Police, Municipal, and police ombudsman departments.

### **Proposition 1 – Lee McNamee from the Fire Department**

Lee spoke in support of Proposition 1. His key reasons why were:

- The Fire Department is struggling with aged equipment and needs to invest in their fleet.
- The Fire Department would like to reinstate the Fire Academy, which was cut due to budgetary issues, but provides increased fire training.

- The proposition sunsets in 2035 and is reserved to pay into 4 key funding areas (the Fire, Police, Municipal, and police ombudsman departments.)

### **Mansfield Update** – Clay Elliot

The preliminary hearing was held on 9/24/24 – there was a good neighborhood turn out. Neighbors were displeased with the open contempt shown to them by the City’s attorneys, via comments such as: “The City cannot allow land use decisions to be dictated by ‘mob rule’”. All parties are awaiting the hearing examiners’ decision. No transcript was provided. Next steps are a decision for a Type 3 review where a public hearing will be held, or the case can be escalated to the superior court (court of appeals). If an appeal is pursued there will be a right to disclosure and a transcript will be available. Planning department staff indicated that there was no precedence to be referred to for a situation like this. I.E. this case will now be setting precedence for similar land use review situations going forward.

- EGNC has provided two letters of support.
- The Gofundme is still live for donation to the cause, additional funding will be helpful if an appeal becomes necessary.
- Due to the precedence setting nature of this effort, Patti will mention this situation at the next Community Assembly Meeting.

### **Special Election** – Eileen Kazura

Previously, Dani nominated Eileen to take the Chair role. Crystal expressed interest in the Vice Chair role, but the need for someone else to oversee BSN. Since the September meeting, Crystal and Jackie Treat have been discussing the idea of being co-vice chairs to ensure full coverage of EGNC duties, especially if Eileen or Katie are out for any reason.

*EJ Iannelli motions to vote for a slate of Eileen Kazura as EGNC Chair, and Crystal Glanz-Kreutz and Jackie Treat as EGNC co-Vice Chairs. Patti Marland-Stevens seconded the motion. **The motion was approved unanimously without any changes, with no objections and no abstentions.***

### **Office of Neighborhood Services** – Gabby Ryan

- The Spokane Neighborhood Summit will be held on Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> from 8am-1:30pm. It is currently about 80% filled and the registration closes on Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup>. The event is free to attend and will be catered by a Thai chef from Feast World Kitchen.
- Community Assembly Good Neighbor Awards will be on Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> from 9am-11am. Nominations are due by Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Disposal passes expire on October 31<sup>st</sup> – use them soon!
- Gonzaga and ONS will begin accepting applications for the 4<sup>th</sup> cohort of leadership courses in November. The classes will begin in early 2025.
- The last day to skate or pedal at Riverfront Park is Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup>.

- There will be an unlimited ice pass for the Ribbon – look in the Parks Activity Guide.
- There are two upcoming Library workshops to remove racially restricting covenant language from residential properties. Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Tree Lighting** – Katie Joy Newhouse

Katie recently learned that there will be more funding needed for this year’s event because the Parks Department needs a safer and more permanent power solution than an extension cord on the ground. Due to the impending frost, the electrical work will need to be done ASAP. Please reach out to Katie if you or your business would like to donate to this cause.

The event will be the first Sunday after Thanksgiving every year. 2024’s event will be Dec 1st, 3-4pm.

**REPORTS:**

**Spokane City Council:** (Kitty Klitzke / Zack Zappone)

- Presented early.

**Office of Neighborhood Services:** (Gabby Ryan)

- Presented early.

**Clean Up Program:** (Jeff Thomas)

- Not present.

**Emerson-Garfield Farmers Market:** (Anne Luttrull)

- The Market enjoyed a great final market of the 2024 season, and a great year overall.
- Special thanks to EJ Iannelli and Tim Musser for their consistent volunteer efforts.

**Building Stronger Neighborhoods:** (Crystal Glanz-Kreutz)

- Mostly covered by the ONS report, a lot of event planning and preparing for 2025.
- Spokane Parks Foundation grant is available – look online.
- Neighborhood Councils have access to insurance waivers for events held in Spokane Parks.
- Good Neighbor Award categories will be reviewed and voted on at the November EGNC meeting.

**C.O.P.S:** (Gee Sutherlin)

- Not present.

**Community Assembly:** (Patti Marland-Stevens / Jackie Treat)

- Many updates covered by others.
- There are two new roles open, including a transportation committee liaison.
- Asphalt painting projects are in progress ahead of the winter weather.

**Corbin Senior Activity Center:** (Tim Musser)

- Volunteer Mini-bus drivers are needed.

**Land Use:** (Bill Heaton)

- Not present.

**North Monroe Business District:** (Anne Luttrull)

- October 10th is a small business mixer.

**Pedestrian, Traffic, and Transportation:** (Carlie Hoffman)

- The North-South corridor has a new target opening date of 2030.
- Open role for a transportation representative for District 3 to act as a liaison with the City.

**Community Safety:** (Ted Stevens)

- Walk audits are being conducted to identify and analyze sidewalks, pedestrian experiences, and safety issues. This pilot program makes recommendations for improvements but also highlights benefits and existing features. 2 walk audits have been completed; 14 more requests are currently pending. We can submit a route for a walk audit.

**Transitions:** (Sarah Lickfold)

- Their annual fall fundraiser, a 1-hour lunch, will be on Oct. 15th at the Davenport Grand.

**Way Out Shelter:** (Gerriann Armstrong)

- Members are moving through treatment.
- There will be a 'celebrate the season' event in November.
- There are upcoming volunteer and paid opportunities for drivers and bell ringers this winter.
- Trunk-or-Treat event on October 25<sup>th</sup>.

**West Central Community Center:** (Heath Kays)

- "Building Dreams - Bright Futures for Our Kids - 2024" auction raised \$50,000.
- Trunk-or-Treat event on October 27<sup>th</sup>, 7-8:30pm.

**WQTIF Neighborhood Project Action Committee:** (EJ Iannelli)

- No update.
- Recent Inlander newspaper had a great article on EGNC.

**Treasurer Report:** (Judy Heaton)

- \$604.88 is the current balance.
- A deposit of \$100 from 9/6/24 is to be transferred to the council account.

The next EGNC meeting will be held at Corbin Senior Center on **Wednesday, November 13th at 6pm.**

The meeting was adjourned at **7:40 pm.**