



Emerson-Garfield Steering Committee and Neighborhood Council

Wednesday, November 11th, 2015

The meeting began at 6:01 p.m. There were 21 voting members present, and the roster recorded 7 guests. The October 2015 minutes were approved without any changes, with no objections and one abstention.

Officer Tracy Douglas reported on the statistics for area P2, which includes Emerson-Garfield. The statistics are only discussed on a monthly basis. Neighborhood officers are being pulled out of COPS shops, to put the officers in precincts instead. 1800 W Montgomery is a drug house that is being shut down on November 12th due to the involvement of the neighbors. There were no sexual assaults in our area last month, nor any commercial robberies. There were 2 robberies of a person, 1 domestic violence, and 14 violent crimes in the last month. For residential burglary, there were 9 this month, and the same (9) for garage burglaries. Commercial burglaries are at 7, less than 13 in the previous month. Vehicle theft is at 20, slightly more than last month, but less over the yearly average. There is a decrease in overall property crime compared to the previous year.

If you leave your vehicle running and unattended, parked on a street rather than in your own driveway, you could be fined \$124. Officers like to have address numbers shown on alley garages to use as a point of reference. Officer Douglas also warned against having a glass window built into your back door, which is very tempting for thieves to break when entering.

[Candace Mumm](#) reported on [Drumheller Springs Park](#) by Ash and Euclid. A neighboring piece of property, 3121 Ash, came up for approval for sale as a CDBG property. It is possible that the property could help to rescue the park.

Monroe is going to be completely replaced during its repair, because of 110 year old pipeline. The business association needs to be involved.

There is an active effort to put Knox Presbyterian Church on the register of historical buildings.

Gayle Haeger and Rachel Sumagpang spoke on a house at 820 W Spofford that the neighboring Spokane Seventh-day Adventist Church (828 W Spofford) bought for an after-school program for kids 3rd to 5th grade (tentatively), between 3:30 and 5:30 P.M., four days per week. They encourage adult involvement.

The meeting shifted to [Community Development Block Grants](#) (CDBG) money allocation decisions, which are required to be made earlier than normal. After all of the other CDBG allocations, the neighborhood is left with \$24,145 to allocate. It was proposed that \$2,135 be allocated to the West Central Community Center for an even \$10,000 along with the already reallocated 2015 funds; \$11,010 toward the \$78,198 sidewalk project on Cedar from Alice to Euclid; and \$11,000 toward a \$24,793 dog-walking path in Emerson Park which may also discourage transient camping in that area.

The proposal was approved by a unanimous vote with no abstentions. Jackie Caro, even while absent (which is rare), was applauded for her involvement with this project.

Amy Dutton reported on the Northwest Boulevard Greening Grant project that took place on October 31st involving 15 volunteers. While the area looks beautiful, the southern triangle was not completed in time, as the other two traffic triangles took much more effort than anticipated.

Karl Boldt reported on the neighborhood cleanup program. Faith Bible Church has stepped up in wanting to be involved with the neighborhood. They brought 2 dumpsters for clean-green on Saturday, November

7th, and they spent three hours driving around the neighborhood to help people rake up and dump leaves. May 21st is the proposed date for the 2016 neighborhood cleanup.

Transitions Development had a community meeting on November 10th regarding the development of a 24 unit cottage-style development for low or moderate income housing. Transitions Development was very eager to solicit the feedback of both neighborhoods sandwiching the property. If you have strong feelings about that area, it is recommended that you follow up with Transitions directly.

Laura Schlagen reported on the [Corbin Senior Activity Center](#). There was a full house of 120 people at a performance by the Corbin Players which included 8 short plays. On December 5th at 5:30 P.M. there will be a performance by the Spokane Magic Club, with a requested donation of \$3.50 per person and \$7.50 for an entire family. The elevator was estimated to cost around \$400,000, and \$291,000 of that cost will be covered by the Department of Commerce.

Jay Cousins reported on the [Community Assembly](#). The Neighborhood Notification process is now in effect. There are going to be two people per neighborhood who are listed with neighborhood services who are going to be notified of any projects happening in the neighborhoods, and then those two people are responsible for disseminating the information to the neighbors. The neighborhood council chairman volunteered to be one of them.

There is a pool of \$15,000 among the 28 neighborhoods to draw from for neighborhood projects, such as concerts in the park. Council members agree that the funding is hardly enough, so there is an effort to increase the pool. The Office of Neighborhood Services is who to apply to for the funding of a project.

The CDBG funds are allocating \$150,000 total for sidewalk improvements any place in the city, as long as the area is in a zone that qualifies based on restrictions that were introduced this month. That is half of the \$300,000 that was allocated last year. There is a concern that the city is not responsible for maintaining the sidewalks or street trees that are considered to be on city property, a trend of neglect that was reported to be more common in cities west of the Mississippi. It is up to the landowners, rather than the neighborhoods, to apply for sidewalk repair projects.

Megan Kennedy reported on the [West Quadrant Tax Increment Financing](#) (WQTIF) committee, which operates with 5 voting members (3 were present at the last meeting). The committee and their advisor, Andrew Worlock, are evaluating whether the committee is to be an ear for revitalization projects initiated by others, or if they are to take their own initiative for projects (or a balance of both).

Please bring a dish to the following meeting. Karl Boldt will bring plates; Tim Musser will bring plastic ware; Jay Cousins will provide coffee; Rose Fanger will bring paper cups; and Ed Yarwood will bring napkins.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:08 p.m.