



## Emerson-Garfield Steering Committee and Neighborhood Council

*Wednesday, February 11th, 2015*

After introductions, the meeting was called to order at 6pm. Quorum was present, with 27 voting members, including two new members. According to the sign-in sheet, 13 other people were in attendance. The [December minutes](#) had been previously approved by email, although that didn't stop certain voting members from approving them in person as well.

Because there were no guests speakers, a review commenced over the 2015 [traffic-calming applications](#). Each applicant, if in attendance, was given an opportunity to describe the recommended improvements. The voting on the arterial and residential applications was delayed until later in the meeting.

The revised sidewalk list was voted on and unanimously approved. The list of where the repairs are going to be will be posted on the Emerson-Garfield [blog](#). [Candace Mumm](#) also explained the possible funding sources which may help to improve the sidewalk project if [CDBG](#) funding will not cover a particular area.

The [Pedestrian Traffic and Transportation \(PeTT\) Committee](#) has requested a representative from the Emerson-Garfield neighborhood to meet for approximately one hour, once per month. Steven Anderson volunteered to attend.

Similarly, the [Community Development Block Grants \(CDBG\) Committee](#) has requested a representative. Tim Musser volunteered.

Laura Schlangen, who is now officially a resident, reported on [Corbin Senior Activity Center](#). The best place to put the elevator would be in the Upper South classroom, and the remodeling would cost around \$350,000. March 14<sup>th</sup> is the [Movin' and Groovin' Fair](#), where a half-price membership to the CSAC will be offered.

[Candace Mumm](#) gave a report on the City Council. There may be a slight increase in [water bills](#), and the power bill is about to increase as well. The City of Spokane is committed to charge the lowest rate possible. The water pipes are so old that the system loses approximately 20% of the water that is available.

Barbara Biles briefly reported on the [Land Use Committee](#), which resolves issues such as a cell phone tower being out of place. Like our Neighborhood Council, there was less activity than usual in the winter months.

Karl Boldt also reported on the Neighborhood Cleanup, explaining it to the new attendees. We may know the available dates near the end of February or start of March. Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup> has been proposed. ***Karl would like to have an assistant to help with managing this event.*** (Is that you?) This year, we will be unable to dispose of household hazardous waste. At the first [Farmers Market](#) of each month in June, July and August, a handful of dump passes (approximately 10) will be handed out on a first-come, first-serve basis. Each pass is valued at \$20. Unfortunately, much of what was brought to the dump last year using the pass was valued at only \$5, so \$15 was wasted by those dump runs.

The traffic-calming projects discussion was resumed. For an improvement to be considered by the City of Spokane, 51% of people living within 400 feet of an improvement would need to sign the application.

For the residential improvements, the intersection of Alice and Cedar received 16 votes. Stevens and York received 5 votes. Another application regarding residential area improvements had been submitted by Montessori schools, which received 5 votes. The Neighborhood Council had determined that the Montessori application was still valuable, but it may be covered by one or two other improvement budgets.

For the arterial improvements, Lincoln and Indiana received no votes. This intersection is sandwiched between two other intersections with stoplights (Indiana and Post, and Indiana and Monroe). The only other arterial application, Adams and Northwest, received all votes aside from 5 abstentions. That pedestrian crossing is very close to [Montessori School](#), which is [expanding to K-7](#).

The Council moved on to discussion items. John and Rusty Vlahovich have moved out of the neighborhood, and will be missed. John served on the [West Quadrant Tax Increment Financing](#) (WQ TIF) Committee. Megan Kennedy will leave her position as E-G Vice Chair in April and fill John's shoes on the WQ TIF Committee. With her experience in the neighborhood planning projects, and the relocation of her business onto Monroe Street, this position will be a good fit. ***The Neighborhood Vice Chair position will be available in April.*** (Is that you?)

There have already been 7 applications for the 2015 [Farmers Market](#). Al Steuart has been very active with ideas for various events, which may draw a larger crowd (a 20% increase) to the market. He shared several event ideas, such as a composting and vermiculture; water conservation; student art; reading for children; cooking; canning and food preservation; high tech gardening gadgets; and do-it-yourself dehydrators and ovens. Music students could also be considered for playing in the background. There is consideration for relocating the Farmers Market onto Monroe Street, near [Modern Monk](#). Volunteers were solicited to either organize or assist in the proposed events - Steven Anderson, Stacy Blowers, Anne Luttrull, Lois Musser, and Edna Ripka volunteered. Anyone else wishing to volunteer, please contact Al at 760-223-0161 or [alsteuart@gmail.com](mailto:alsteuart@gmail.com).

Stacy Blowers with [Petunia's Marketplace](#) explained a seed library that will be provided in the store. The other two libraries in the area are in Hillyard and Otis Orchards. You would sign up for a library card and check out seeds for no cost. They are hoping to benefit collaborations [with Project Hope](#) and [Second Harvest](#) through this. The capacity for checkout, still to be determined, might be 4 seeds of each variety.

In January, an [application for \\$3.8 million](#) which had been submitted by City engineers for Monroe Street renovations was approved. This will bring the total available budget to \$4.1 million. There was much discussion among the attendees, with insights provided by those who had been involved with the planning committee. Although the City engineers had applied for a possible north point of Kiernan, it is more likely that the three lanes will only extend from Indiana to as far north as Cora.

Jackie Caro with the [Neighborhood Services](#) applauded our tree planting, and explained a ballot for a [\\$5,000 greening grant](#), which anyone can apply for. 8 new trees were planted on Maple, and 64 perennials will be planted this April. All voting members agreed to request an additional \$5,000 grant. There were no objections to receiving additional funding.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 pm.