



Emerson-Garfield Steering Committee and Neighborhood Council

Wednesday, June 10th, 2015

After introductions, the meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm. Quorum was present, with 26 voting members, including 1 new member, Jonathan Martinez. According to the sign-in form, at least 5 other people were in attendance. The May minutes had been previously reviewed by email, and were also approved unanimously in person.

[Julie Banks](#), the Community Development Director from the [YMCA](#), said that the neighborhood day-camp will be located in Corbin Park. The Summer Meals Program will be serving breakfast and lunch to any child, 18 years old or younger, from June 22nd to August 14th.

[Candace Mumm](#) reported on the City Council. A new parking ordinance is being proposed which will require fewer parking spaces for small businesses. A hearing will be on Monday night, June 22nd. A decency clause regarding adult entertainment may pour over into the area of adult coffee shops. North Hill Neighborhood Council is almost finished with their neighborhood plan, and they intend to revitalize Garland Street as well as preserve the bluff. A southern portion of [Northwest Neighborhood](#) will be allocated into the [Audubon/Downriver Neighborhood](#). Letters to the Editor regarding Monroe Street improvements are still encouraged.

Shanna Cejka, the Parent Liaison with Spokane Public Montessori, and Olga Lucia Herrera, a grant applicant, introduced a bike swap, where donated bikes could be sold and bike safety could be taught. They would like to join forces with Emerson-Garfield to hold symbiotic events.

Amy Dutton reported on Greening Grant locations. The traffic triangles at Northwest Boulevard and Monroe Street are potentials for planting strips. Planting strips must be at least 4 feet, and must either have direct access to water or a volunteer neighbor to commit to watering duties.

The majority of neighborhood council members voted to not meet in July. The next meeting will be Wednesday, August 12th as a potluck in Corbin Park. The entire neighborhood will be welcome. Steve Anderson and Tim and Lois Musser volunteered to bring tables. Plasticware will be handled by E.J. Iannelli. Hotdog and hamburger buns will be supplied by Jonathan Martinez. Melissa Parker and Steve Anderson will handle hotdogs and hamburgers. Barb Biles will supply condiments and water.

Bri Musser has plants for the traffic circle on Montgomery and Madison. Others volunteered to help.

[Jackie Caro](#) reported on the other traffic circle, which was recently planted by the school. The Maple and Euclid traffic calming garden may have the concrete poured this year.

The [Farmers Market](#) opened last week, and sales were 50% better than last year's opening event. The EBT clients appeared in droves. [Broken Whistle](#), a very talented youth band, performed in the background. Garden watering will be taught on June 12th; June 19th will cover garden pests; and the 26th will be a hydroponic gardening display. The market is receiving [5-star reviews on Yelp](#). Kids Eating Right Nutrition and Education for Life ([KERNEL](#)) will have a different activity each week, and will reward participants with tokens to use at the market. Sponsors are still needed!

Friends of Emerson Park will meet [at the park](#) on Saturday, June 13th, at 6:30 p.m.

Laura Schlangen reported on the [Corbin Senior Activity Center](#). The Madhatter's Tea Party had 100 attendees. The 6th Annual Golf Scramble had more sponsors and players than ever. Corbin's Boutique, a 2nd hand store, is requesting donations, which can be dropped off at the time of the Emerson-Garfield meeting. The Munch and Mingle Auction will take place on September 19th, and tickets will be sold at the end of June. A bus trip to Las Vegas, Zion and the Grand Canyon will cost only \$838.

A large portion of the meeting involved discussing the distribution of Photo-Red Revenue.

Jay Cousins requested a survey on behalf of the [Community Assembly](#). As of [2014](#), each Council district gets \$100,000 from the traffic infraction fund, which leaves a few hundred thousand dollars left over, to be distributed by the City Council. The Council would like to allocate that money to another traffic calming or public safety project, which has yet to be proposed.

Jackie Caro and Carlie Hoffman (representing the [Pedestrian Traffic and Transportation \(PeTT\) Committee](#)) clarified that the City would like to borrow \$1 million over 5 years, dedicating 200,000 per year, in order to attract matching funds from other grants. The Community Assembly would rather split that remaining funding among the neighborhoods for comparatively smaller neighborhood projects.

Paul Kropp summarized Councilman Jon Snyder's proposal in a recent PeTT Committee email:

"... leveraging unallocated photo-red revenue to make local matching funds available in a significant amount to use for grant applications to secure engineering and construction funding of larger scale community street or trail projects."

The [Mission Avenue Crossing](#) at Upriver (for the Centennial Trail) is the pilot project for this concept of long-term investment. The general consensus of the Neighborhood Council was in support of the City Council's proposal to gradually pay off larger projects (14 members *in favor* versus 9 voting members *opposed* and 3 *abstentions*).

In similar news, the City Council approved the rollover of unused traffic calming funds, and District 3 has the largest rollover, since it spent the least amount of money allocated to each of the three Districts.

Applications for [Community Development Block Grants](#) (CDBG) funding will be posted on the E-G blog.

Barb Biles reported on the [Land Use Committee](#), including the 6 month hold on the building of cell phone towers in residential zones while the zoning issue is analyzed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m. See you in August (*not July*)!