



Emerson-Garfield Neighborhood Council

Wednesday, August 12, 2020

The meeting began at 6:05 pm with 16 voting members present. The roster also recorded 7 guests. The June minutes were approved without any changes, with no objections and no abstentions.

We voted to add Timothy to the discussion item about the Community Engagement Grant.

Rachelle began discussion about the Parks committees and projects for Emerson Park and Corbin Park. We found that working with Parks has been challenging this summer because the department has been understaffed and overwhelmed. Gene is serving on the committee to focus on Corbin Park. He found that people were taking down signs and caution tape on the playground equipment. He is also seeing people of large groups gathering and not social distancing. We will reach out to Eline to see if she is interested in participating with a focus on Emerson Park.

We next discussed COVID-19 concerns and the neighborhood. The following topics came up.

- People gathering in parks
- City investment in an online meeting platform for neighborhoods
- Concern about neighbors who do not have online access and may need assistance but cannot leave their homes
- City staff have been slow to respond to emails from neighborhood council
- Communication about dump passes has been challenging

This moved into discussion about our options regarding Community Engagement Grant application amendments. We discussed the possibility of applying to mail postcards to residents rather than our original plan of in-person promotional items. The postcard would include information about our online meetings as well as social service resource information. We could amend our application to purchase a Zoom account which is approximately \$16/month. Since so many questions regarding the amendments to the application were unanswered during the meeting, we voted to allow the officers to look into this further and make the decision for EGNC regarding the application amendment. Gene volunteered to reach out to the City about the best way to provide social service and resource outreach to our neighborhood.

Rachelle is no longer able to attend Land Use meetings and a new representative is needed. Email chair@emersongarfield.org if you are interested. The meetings are on the third Thursday at 5:30 pm.

We discussed the temporary homeless shelter run by the Salvation Army at 55 W Mission, a building owned by Spokane Housing Authority. The City is hosting an online meeting weekly on Mondays at 3 pm.

Use this link to attend:

<https://spokanecity.webex.com/spokanecity/j.php?MTID=m9c9d1648997bb3bacb7bc1baaadbb3cb>

Spokane Public Library (Jeff Benefield) – All library buildings are closed, but they are offering materials pick up through a curbside service and you can call 444-5300 with any questions. Use the [library's website](#) to place a hold on an item. When it is ready to pick up, you will receive a notification and can schedule a pick up time. Also contact the library if you need assistance with student learning from home. Jeff showed the group photos of the progress of construction of Shadle Library.

Farmers Market (Taylor Phillips) – The Market is going really well and successful all things considered. Vendor feedback has been great and sales are record-breaking. They also have a part time intern and Spokane Police Department has provided security. They will need a new market manager next year. There has been an ongoing and unfortunate incident with a customer. Please online and leave positive reviews ([Facebook](#), [Google](#)).

Clean up program (Karl Boldt) – The City will be setting up an online portal to request a dump pass. More information will be provided when it is available.

Building Stronger Neighborhoods (Anne Luttrull) – They are working on brochures. The Traffic Calming subcommittee is meeting to look at the COVID-19 impact on future revenue and business development services.

Land Use (Rachelle Bradley) – They discussed relabeling collector vs arterial roads, improving bike lane and infrastructure, and maintaining more consistent language.

Pedestrian, Traffic, and Transportation (Carlie Hoffman) – The last two meetings focused on amendments to the City's Bike Plan, and area trails and the difficulty in having three agencies working on them.

North Monroe Business District (Gene Brake) – They are holding two events: [Alchemy with Plants](#) on August 15 at Urban Art Coop and an [Upscale Rummage Sale](#) on Aug 22 at Corbin Senior Center.

Community Assembly (Brenda Martinson) – They talked about the Stronger Neighborhoods Workshop, dump passes, and demolition of a nuisance property at 441 W Sinto.

Treasury Report (Gene Brake) – We still have a \$824.74 balance.

The next EGNC meeting will be held online on Wednesday, September 9 at 6 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 pm.