



## Emerson-Garfield Neighborhood Council

*Wednesday, June 9, 2021*

The meeting began at 6:05 pm with 22 voting members present. The roster also recorded 4 guests. The minutes were approved without any changes, with no objections and no abstentions.

Linda Carroll shared her work on the [Sustainability Action Plan Subcommittee](#) with the group. The city is investigating responses to changes in ecological conditions. The city has secured grants and will continue to pursue more grants. The Subcommittee is [seeking feedback](#) from residents that will help guide plan revisions and provide City Council guidance on moving Spokane toward a more sustainable future.

We held neighborhood council elections. Mark Carlos was elected Chairperson. Karl Boldt was elected Vice-Chairperson. Carlie Hoffman was elected Secretary. Gene Brake was elected Treasurer. Since the Community Assembly Representative position had more than one nominee, the new Chairperson will convene a nominating committee who will reach out to the nominees to gauge their interest. The group will vote on Community Assembly Representative at the next meeting.

City Council (Candace Mumm):

- The city has been getting a lot of calls about changes to the recycling program. Recycling is now every other week in order to prevent raising rates for residents. If you would like a larger recycling bin, request one by calling 311.
- EMTs are giving COVID vaccinations at free walk-up clinics. Find a list of dates and locations on the [Spokane Regional Health District website](#).
- Spokane received \$84 million in federal COVID-19 stimulus funds. If you have ideas for these funds, email Councilmember Mumm at [cmumm@spokanecity.org](mailto:cmumm@spokanecity.org).
- [Pools](#) reopen June 21. Free open swim will be in 1-hour block sessions, and registration will be required.
- [Free bus passes](#) are available for students ages 6 to 18 or students enrolled in school from kindergarten to grade twelve.
- [Riverfront Eats Food Truck Series](#) is every Tuesday (June-August).
- The mayor announced accelerating changes for homeless shelters.
- City Council allocated funds for advanced planning and research to fluoridate water.

Way Out Shelter (Gerianne Armstrong):

- The last night the emergency shelter will operate is June 30. They are transitioning folks to other community partner services. They plan to stop doing intakes beginning the week of June 13.

- The shelter has served as 651 unique individuals at the shelter. 64 now have more stable housing. 12 have active verified employment. The majority are males over 45 that have SSI income. 70% are completely vaccinated.
- This fall, they will offer 60 beds of bridge housing. The focus will be on assisting with housing, employment stability, and accessing other services. There will be a future opportunity in the basement to be an emergency shelter location during air quality problems and cold weather.
- They are looking for volunteer, employment, and internship opportunities for their guests.
- If you want a tour, contact Geriann Armstrong at 509-866-5476 ext 2502 or [geriann.armstrong@usw.salvationarmy.org](mailto:geriann.armstrong@usw.salvationarmy.org).
- Beginning June 25 and continuing through August 27, The Salvation Army Spokane will host '[Movies in the Park](#)' every Friday for families at Sally's Park, 222 E. Indiana Ave

#### Spokane Public Library (Jeff Benefield):

- Shadle Park Library will open in late summer.
- Spokane Public Library is going to cashless payments – credit, debit, cashier's check, personal check, or money order.
- This is Jeff's last Emerson-Garfield Neighborhood Council meeting, as he is retiring. Congratulations Jeff!

#### COPS (Dale Wells):

- The traffic enforcement emphasis on Division for two months did very well in changing the behavior of street racing and late-night noise. They are discontinuing the monitoring for a bit but plan on revisiting.
- Based on the positive outcomes of the Division project, Spokane Police are requesting additional areas for focused enforcement. The group offered many suggestions.
- City Council passed resolution to lift the hiring freeze for police, but it has been difficult to fill the vacant positions.

#### Emerson-Garfield Farmers' Market (Anne Luttrull):

- The first [market](#) had a windy start with a great set of volunteers.
- The first community resource was [Transitions](#). They gave out 50 pamphlets and had a lot of positive feedback for the market.
- The market will hold a vaccination clinic on Jun 18 with a follow-up second dose clinic on Jul 23.
- On July 9, the market will host local legislators.

#### Building Stronger Neighborhoods (Anne Luttrull):

- Building Stronger Neighborhoods Committee will be hosting the first part of their [CliftonStrengths](#) Leadership Training on Tuesday, June 29th from 6-7:30 pm. This training will be held virtually via

Zoom and will be recorded for folks to view after the training is complete. Neighborhood Councils can send up to two folks in their respective councils to participate in this training.

Clean Up Program (Karl Boldt):

- The city will be sending out a mailer on how to get Disposal Passes soon. They are still working on getting everything [online](#).

Land Use (Bill Heaton):

- The meeting focused on the [Housing Action Plan](#), the [Downtown Plan Update](#), and the [Comprehensive Plan amendments](#).
- They are placing emphasis on access to affordable housing. There is a public comment period for comprehensive plan amendments zoning changes. In our neighborhood, amendments include the Community School rebuild, and two houses petitioning for multifamily status.

Pedestrian, Traffic, and Transportation (Carlie Hoffman):

- There was more discussion of the changes to the [Traffic Calming Program](#) and the need for the committee to help develop a decision-making tool.
- The [Citizens' Transportation Advisory Board](#) was changed to a six-year program.

North Monroe Business District (Gene Brake):

- They have a new website design. Check it out at [meetonmonroe.com](#).
- [Atomic Threads](#) has leased corner building that used to house Boulevard Mercantile.

Community Assembly (Christopher Savage):

- Council President Beggs spoke about finding a solution for renters when the moratorium ends in June.
- The mayor talked about police reform and de-escalation ideas.
- The Cannon Street Shelter will soon be open year-round.
- They city is re-starting the alley resurfacing program.
- There was a presentation about the [Six Year Comprehensive Street Program 2021-2026](#).

West Central Community Center (Heath Kays):

- Neighbor Day had good turnout.
- They have been working through board changes and are starting to get back to normal.
- WIC is expanding curbside offerings to other locations in the city.

Treasury Report (Gene Brake):

- We have \$824.43.

Parks Report (Gene Brake):

- He is working with the Parks Department to get COVID-delayed tennis court work done at Corbin Park.
- Speed limit signs have been installed on all four corners of Corbin Park. Local business sponsored speed limit signs for resident front yards around Corbin Park.
- Saturday, June 12 is the Corbin Park rummage sale from 8 am – 4 pm.

The next EGNC meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 14 at 6 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:32pm.