



Emerson-Garfield Neighborhood Council

Wednesday, October 13, 2021

The meeting began at 6:02 pm with 21 voting members present. The roster also recorded 14 guests. The minutes were approved without any changes, with no objections and no abstentions.

Mark Carlos reported that a representative from [The Way Out Shelter](#) reached out to him to write a letter of support from the neighborhood. He declined at the time and invited them provide a more formal way to gather neighborhood feedback before we could agree to write a letter.

City Council (Karen Stratton):

- City staff and the Mayor's office are working on project to prevent suicide on the Monroe Street Bridge, including safety procedures.
- She attended a meeting of the owners of the Lloyd Apartments and their neighbors to discuss the recent increase in crime near the building. They discussed ways to help the owners mitigate the illegal activities and working with the police department. She was impressed with the profession and neighborly interactions among the group.
- The City has posted the draft of the [Citywide Capital Improvement Plan 2022-2027](#).
- The Mayor released a preliminary draft of the [2022 priority-based budget](#). The City Council will discuss the budget soon.
- The [Community, Housing & Human Services](#) department has lost a lot of staff and there is concern about obtaining grant funding without staff to apply for grants. The Mayor's office has a plan for filling vacancies and are interviewing now for some positions.
- They may have found someone to build the North Hill/Emerson-Garfield neighborhood gateway sign. More information will be shared soon.

Clean Up Program (Karl Boldt): [Disposal passes](#) are still available. You can apply for 1 pass every 30 days. You can also pick up paper passes from any of the [COPS locations](#). Through November, you can also get a paper pass from City Hall's 311 desk.

Emerson-Garfield Farmers' Market (Anne Luttrull): This year's marked finished on Sep 24. Sales were up this year, and the averaged 25 vendors at each market. Everyone is looking forward to next year.

Community Assembly (Sarah Lickfold):

- The City is giving away an extra \$200 for printing. We need to apply for these funds by Oct 20.

- Neighborhood Services approved yard signs for speeding, but they not sure when they will be available.
- City Council requested same budget for neighborhoods.
- The [Park Board](#) is accepting applications. The deadline is Oct 25.
- Johnnie Perkins, Spokane City Administrator, visited and discussed the city's response to homelessness.

Land Use (Bill Heaton): View the [Land Use Comprehensive Plan amendments](#) and contact Planning Services with your feedback. The group discussed some concern regarding the owner of the Lloyd acquiring another apartment building included in the amendments. We also discussed concern regarding removing historic townhouses on W Sinto.

Pedestrian, Traffic, and Transportation (Carlie Hoffman): The City hired a company to help them with designing and facilitation training for the revamped [Traffic Calming Program](#). Workshops will begin near the end of 2021 or early 2022. [Mobile Speed Feedback](#) data is coming later this fall.

Neighborhood Services (Gabby Ryan): If you are interested in getting involved in boards or commissions, there are many vacancies coming up.

COPS/SPD (Keith Cler): The neighborhood has a pretty low crime rate. The traffic unit has been moved back to patrol. If you notice speeding, please call crime check with a description of the vehicle(s) and license plates if possible. The changes in Washington State law limits police from making contact with individuals unless an obvious crime is in progress. Continue to contact [crime check](#) with any concerns.

Treasury Report (Gene Brake): \$785.36 in our account.

Way Out Shelter (Gerriann Armstrong): The building is still under construction. City Council members and Emerson-Garfield leadership will be invited to the ribbon cutting, but there is no date set yet. They were asked to propose a good neighbor agreement to the neighborhood and the city to have a protocol of what to do when there are issues and to make sure neighbors' concerns are heard. If you see anything that needs to be cleaned up around the building, please contact them at 509-866-5476 or thewayoutshelter@usw.salvationarmy.org. The group discussed concerns that the shelter will become a low-barrier shelter.

Four local candidates presented individually to the group on their qualifications and platforms for the offices. [Zack Zappone](#) is running for City Council District 3. [Gloria Ochoa-Bruck](#) is running for Spokane court Municipal Judge Position 3. [Riley Smith](#) is running for Spokane Public School Board Position 4, and [Dr. Melissa Bedford](#) is running for Spokane Public School Board Position 3.

The next EGNC meeting will be held online on Wednesday, November 10 at 6pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 pm.