



## Emerson-Garfield Neighborhood Council

*Wednesday, February 9, 2022*

The meeting began at 6:02 pm with 21 voting members present. The roster also recorded 12 guests. The minutes were approved without any changes, with no objections and no abstentions.

We added one item to the agenda to discuss [House bill 1782](#) and [Senate bill 5670](#) (Creating additional middle housing near transit and in areas traditionally dedicated to single-family detached housing). Gene Brake led the discussion and stated his concerns about the possibility of these bills overriding local control and decision-making. Discussion included traffic issues, conservation of older houses, and residents being priced out of neighborhoods.

City Council (Karen Stratton):

- City Council is working with the city administration on adding a temporary warming shelter.
- Council Members Cathcart, Zappone, and Stratton are continuing to work on creating a Good Neighbor Agreement template.
- We discussed the stalled plans for the Emerson-Garfield/North Hill gateway sign. Council Member Stratton said she will work on finding out how the CDBG funds were spent.
- There is money available for rental assistance, but it is going quickly. If you or someone you know needs assistance, visit the [rental assistance page](#) on the City's website for more information.

Office of Neighborhood Services (Gabby Ryan): [Community Engagement Grant](#) training will be held on Feb 28. We are eligible for \$850. [Clean Up Program](#) training will be on Mar 2. This program will now go into Nov and disposal passes will be year-round. The new [Traffic Calming Program](#) continues to take shape. Green cart subscribers are [eligible for free compost](#). There are [board and committee openings](#).

Building Stronger Neighborhoods (Anne Lutfull): They are working on updating the Community Assembly handbook. There will be another strength finders training, and they looking for ways to help neighborhoods build capacity.

Emerson-Garfield Farmers Market (Anne Lutfull): The vendor application is now available, sponsors are lined up, and the market will be open Jun 3 – Sep 30.

Community Assembly (Sarah Lickfold): There are 22 Good Neighbor Award nominations. Spokane City Credit Union is holding the [Great Spokane Parks Challenge](#) campaign to raise money for the Spokane Parks Foundation.

Land Use (Bill Heaton): They discussed land use concepts for an action plan. Concepts include eliminating the requirement for 7200 sq. ft. lots so they can be split to accommodate two dwellings, accessory dwellings where the owner does not live on the property, short plots that allow duplexes on smaller footprints, and physically adjoined units that cross property lines.

Pedestrian, Traffic, and Transportation (Carlie Hoffman): There was a Traffic Calming Program update. The plan is to hold 3 workshops per district with engineers present in listening only capacity. They will also be looking at prior submissions. The 2020 submissions were reviewed by City Council on Feb 3. In 2023, residential projects include a chipseal on Normandie from Montgomery to Buckeye.

Neighborhood Resource Officer - SPD (Tim Schwering): He is focusing on drug houses and unregistered vehicles on the street and addressing chronic nuisance issues. If you have issues with houses or vehicles, call crime check (509-456-2233), 311, or email Tim directly at [tschwering@spokanepolice.org](mailto:tschwering@spokanepolice.org).

Treasurer (Gene Brake): We have a \$783.66 balance.

Way Out Shelter (Gerriann Armstrong): They opened the facility on Dec 22, served 12 guests by end of Dec and 42 by the end of Jan. There are currently have 37 guests, 10 guests have discharged this month, and 13 placements were made this week so far. They will hold an open house in the spring.

Kiantha Duncan, president of [NAACP Spokane](#), presented to the group about Black History Month. She said she celebrates by chatting with others as an individual rather than focusing on bigger cultural programs, noting that we don't have to only talk in February – we can share with everyone at all times. NAACP has been in Spokane for 102 years. She is excited and hopeful for all that can happen in the city. Anyone who cares about the wellbeing of the city can [become a member of the NAACP](#). To celebrate and observe Black History Month, make it your goal to introduce yourself and ask after your neighbors who are people of color. Check out [The Black Lens](#).

COPS (Georgina Sutherlin): She reminded us to not leave items in your cars as she is seeing of lots of theft. They are patrolling at schools to ensure winter safety. They are always looking for [volunteers](#).

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 pm.