



Emerson-Garfield Neighborhood Council

Wednesday, June 8, 2022

The meeting began at 6:01 pm with 15 voting members present. The roster also recorded 7 guests. The minutes were approved without any changes, with no objections and no abstentions.

There were two additions to the agenda. Faith Bible Church discussion item was added to share their city rezoning plans. Gene Brake discussion and action item was added to address a neighborhood council vote to oppose a change to the owner occupancy requirement for accessory dwellings.

Nominations for officer positions were held. Nominees were:

- Chair: Mark Carlos, EJ Iannelli
- Vice-chair: Gene Brake, Taylor Phillips
- Secretary: none
- Treasurer: none
- Community Assembly representative: Tim Musser

The group discussed the options for the two positions in which there were no nominees. Katie Schneider is interested in serving as secretary but is not yet a voting member. Carlie Hoffman agreed to continue to serve as interim secretary for two more months until Katie is able to become a voting member.

We discussed a potential change to the by-laws to combine the vice-chair and treasurer positions to be voted on at a future meeting. We also discussed appointing a Community Assembly representative alternate at a future meeting.

Nominations were closed. The group voted for chair and vice-chair by secret ballot. Results:

- Chair: Mark Carols 3 votes, EJ Iannelli 11 votes
- Vice-chair: Gene Brake 14 votes, Taylor Phillips 0 votes

City Council (Gabby Ryan): The deadline for Community Engagement Grant applications is Friday, June 17. These funds can be used for a variety of items or activities to increase engagement of neighbors with their councils. The group voted to allow the neighborhood council board to apply for the grant based on previous vote on how to spend the funds. The next [Traffic Calming](#) workshop is on July 12 at 5:30 pm at North Central High School. If you are unable to attend and would like to bring an issue forward, email Carlie Hoffman at aq4646@gmail.com.

Clean Up (Karl): He hopes to provide a way to do email signup for large curbside pickup. [Disposal passes](#) will likely remain a year-round program. We hope to have another roll-off program next year.

[Emerson-Garfield Farmers Market](#) (Anne Luttrull): Last Friday got rained out. The next event is July 1. The Inland Northwest Opera will perform Carmen and the Bull from around 5:30-6:30 pm. Kids' day is July 15.

Building Stronger Neighborhoods (Anne Luttrull): There was lots of conversations about inclusion and how to get people involved in leadership trainings.

Community Assembly (Sarah Lickfold): Community Assembly/City Council meeting is on June 30. Public comments are open for [comprehensive plan changes](#) until July 25.

[Transitions](#) (Sarah Lickfold): This organization provides housing, transitional housing and childcare. They have 24 cottages for previously homeless individuals and families. Their [New Leaf Kitchen and Café](#) program is opening second location. Come to their ribbon cutting at the Downtown Library on July 11 at 9 am.

Land Use (Bill Heaton): They provided clarification of proposed zoning changes with a reminder that the directive to change density along main thoroughfares is from the state legislature.

[Faith Bible Church](#) presented on the proposed zoning changes to their land. They are seeking a zoning change that would allow more units per acre of land and a building height of up to 75 feet. They discussed how this rezoning would fit into the values and vision of the [Land Use chapter of the city's Comprehensive Plan](#). They affirmed that the church does not plan to move from the land. Learn more about the [zoning change proposal and leave a public comment](#) by July 25.

[Corbin Senior Activity Center](#) (Heidi Weir): They are holding an indoor garage sale on Saturday, June 11. They recently had volunteers clean up the property and install planter boxes that will provide food for members. [Blue Hawaii Luau](#) will be on July 20 at 3:00 pm. Tickets are \$25. They are hoping to have a picnic in Corbin Park in August. They now must store their vans off-site due to catalytic converter thefts.

Gene Brake discussed the upcoming vote on the Phase 1 amendments to the city's municipal code ([Shaping Spokane Housing](#)). The final vote on these amendments will take place on June 27. Gene expressed concern that accessory dwelling units will no longer require the property owner to live on the lot. This may entice developers to buy properties with the goal of removing the existing structure and placing two dwellings on a lot for profit. We also discussed the ascetic guidelines that would be required, the potential for non-adherence to these guidelines, and the potential of pricing people out of the neighborhood.

He asked for a vote for the neighborhood council to oppose the Phase 1 code changes approved by the plan commission as it pertains to the accessory dwelling unit code revisions that remove the owner occupancy requirement, urging city council to maintain the owner occupancy requirements. The group voted and the majority approved, with one opposing vote, for Gene to draft a letter to the City detailing the neighborhood's opposition to this code change.

Treasurer (Gene Brake): \$783.95 balance.

The next EGNC meeting held at Corbin Senior Activity Center ([827 W Cleveland](#)) on Wednesday, July 13 at 6pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 pm.