



Emerson-Garfield Neighborhood Council

Wednesday, July 12, 2023

Meeting Started: 6:01PM

Voting Members Present: 23

Guests Present: 9

Minutes:

Motion to Approve Minute: Karl Boldt

Seconded to Approve Minutes: Judy Heaton

Minutes pass unanimously.

Chair's Report (E.J. Iannelli): none

Guest Speaker:

Northwest Sector Precinct Report:

- It's been relatively quiet in July. Reminder to call crime check with any suspicious activity.

Spokane County Commissioner, Chris Jordan

- Chris is the newly elected County Commissioner in District 1 (county district) who took office in January. Chris discussed that he is working on policies to address increased transparency. He also summarized his activity to address homelessness, and wgrant funding to address opioid addiction.

Legislative Assistant of State Senator Andy Billig-Maddie Sontag

- Maddie came to provide a summary of what Senator Billig's role is in the community. The legislative session is over for the year, and the office is focusing on community engagement. She discussed that the office can assist constituents in resolving issues with state agencies, such as unemployment and housing. Senator Billig's office can help escalate issues. Senator Billig's contact information is: andy.billig@leg.wa.gov and the phone number is 360-786-7604.

Discussion Items:

Summer Concert Update

- Things are going well in preparation for the summer concert in the park. We have been granted the needed permit from the City Parks Department and received approval on our CA grant from the ONS office. We have selected an 8-piece jazz band to perform. We are in need of individual and small businesses to sponsor event. A \$100 sponsorship will include the individual/business will be listed on the event and can set up a booth at the event. The concert will be Saturday, August 26 from 5:00-7:00PM on approximately the 300 block of west Park place by the stone building.

August Potluck in Emerson Park

- The August potluck in Emerson Park will be our normal meeting day, Wednesday, August 9 but an hour earlier at 5:00PM. Plates, napkins and silverware are covered. Katie will be sending out a shared document so that members can sign up for what they would like to bring. We will also be needing several tables. Don't forget to bring a chair/blanket to sit on. There will not be a grill at the park.

FYI: Traffic Calming ThoughtExchange results

- ThoughtExchange survey was sent out regarding the traffic calming workshops. This was due to the general dissatisfaction from the workshops. While EGNC was well represented at the workshop, we did not agree with the list we were given to vote on for prioritization. The ThoughtExchange survey was open a very limited time, and initially included the wrong link. There was not sufficient time to get good survey engagement. The City Council will be voting on traffic calming projects to fund at their upcoming meeting on July 24. Please consider attending the meeting, or emailing City Council to them know your thoughts on priorities for the EG neighborhood.

FYI: Parking Minimums Interim Zoning Ordinance

- This ordinance would reduce the required minimum number of parking spots with new construction. This ordinance would waive or reduce the requirements in the downtown area. This is being discussed at the City Council level.

Action Items:

Recruiting a new EG Building Stronger Neighborhoods Representative

- Ginnee provided the update that she will be stepping down as the representative due to an ongoing scheduling conflict. She provided an overview of what the volunteer position entails. Alexandra volunteered for position.

- **Motion to approve Alexandra Golikov as new Building Stronger Neighborhoods:**
Representative: Ginnee McNeel
- **Second to approve Alexandra Golikov as new Building Stronger Neighborhoods:**
Representative: Heath Kays
- **Motion passes unanimously.**

Reports:

Spokane City Council:

- No one present but sent report that discussed the zoning ordinance update. The report summarized that the ordinance waives parking requirements within a half mile of frequent transit. Additional report information can be obtained from E.J.

ONS (Gabby Ryan):

- Gabby provided an update on the upcoming Maple Street Bridge closures, and potential impacts to the EG neighborhood. She pointed out that there are frequent changes to this evolving plan and she will keep us updated. Gabby discussed cooling centers and when they are open. The plan is activated when the National Weather Service forecasts two or more consecutive days of 95-degree temperatures. Library system is the cornerstone of the city plan. They offer water, restrooms, books, interactive play area and wi-fi. Donations of water, Gatorade, hydrating drinks, and sunscreen can be made to the Emergency Management Team who will get them to the cooling centers for distribution. Cooling resources are available for everyone to use. The new Spokane City Line through STA has free fare through Labor Day. The Salvation Army is available to assist with transportation to local shelters. The phone number for that service is 509-280-6860.

Clean Up Program (Karl Boldt):

- Looking towards the 2024 Clean Up event that will tentatively be the 3rd Saturday in May. Reminder that Karl will be stepping down and there is a need for a new volunteer to lead the Clean Up Program.

Emerson-Garfield Farmers Market (Anne Luttrull):

- Anne discussed how hard the vendors work, and that farming is about three weeks behind which is causing supply issues. Please show up and encourage the vendors.

Building Stronger Neighborhoods (Ginnee/Craig McNeel):

- No update.

Land Use (Bill Heaton):

- There was no meeting/no update.

Pedestrian, Traffic, and Transportation (Carlie Hoffman):

- Carlie was not in attendance but provided the following update:

At PeTT, we discussed Cycle 10 Traffic Calming projects to be constructed in 2023. There were not any in Emerson-Garfield. <https://my.spokanecity.org/projects/cycle-10-traffic-calming/> . You can also view projects on a map with orange representing completed and green representing current work. <https://spokane.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=099bd41aac844ebfb4c940098b1f0202>

Traffic calming update/discussion

- No date yet for when projects discussed at the workshops will begin
- City Council is supposed to vote on projects on July 10
 - They will be using a logic matrix to prioritize projects based on equity and cost
 - Projects placed on the back burner - they will seek out additional funding (grants, the state, etc.), including CTAB funds
- District 3 had the strongest presence at the workshops. A total of 138 projects were discussed across the districts.
- The city is adding more cameras. There is discussion of using traffic calming funds to support traffic cops.
- We discussed possible changes for next time - what went right and what went wrong

North Monroe Business District (Anne Luttrull):

- North Monroe business district is taking over the farmers market on July 21. Indaba will be there to give out coffee.

Corbin Senior Activity Center (Claudia Ouwerkerk):

- Not present

Community Assembly (Eileen Kazura):

- There is still an open volunteer position for the Design Review Board for the Community Assembly Liaison position. CHHS is looking for 10 volunteers to support review RFPs for grant submissions. Christie Jeffers presented on CDBG grant program. She mentioned that there will be a survey coming out regarding neighborhood fund usage and Eileen will forward the link when she has it.

C.O.P.S. (Gee Sutherlin):

- August 1 is night out against crime. One event is being held at 122 West Euclid from 5:00-7:00PM. Reminder to register bike at the Spokane C.O.P.S. shop.

West Central Community Center (Heath Kays):

- No update.

Way Out Center (Gerriann Armstrong):

- The Way Out Center will be having a Night Out Against Crime on August 1 at around 6:00PM. There will be food and a band.

Treasurer (Gene Brake):

- Bank balance is \$1,008.72.

Transitions (Sarah Lickfold):

- Several job openings including Preschool Teacher and CFO. Job postings can be found at the Transitions website: <https://help4women.org>

WQTIF (E.J. Iannelli):

- No update

The meeting was adjourned at **7:21 PM**.