



Emerson-Garfield Neighborhood Council

Wednesday, June 14, 2023

Meeting Started: 6:01PM

Voting Members Present: 25

Guests Present: 7

Minutes:

Motion to Approve Minute: Karl Boldt

Seconded to Approve Minutes: Randy Baker

Minutes pass unanimously.

Chair's Report (E.J. Iannelli):

- E.J. reported that the weeding day on May 27 was a success. There were 12 volunteers that participated, and 1,300 pounds of weeds were removed from the NW BLVD traffic island/pedestrian crossing. He also provided the update that about 20 EG members turned out to the traffic workshop on May 18 at Shadle Park Library. The members voted on the prioritization of the projects. Members were disappointed by the condescension of the engineer and the fact that the projects didn't fully reflect priorities previously identified by the EGNC or residents.

Guest Speaker

LT Jake Jenson, Northwest Sector Precinct Report:

- LT Jenson provided an update and answered questions. He summarized that there has been an increase in break-ins along the NW Blvd corridor. He also provided the update that progress is being made in decreasing nuisance houses in the northwest sector.

Gerriann Armstrong, Way Out Center:

- Gerriann presented about the Way Out Center. The Center has been open for 18 months. This is a phase 2/3 facility whose goal is to assist guest towards exiting homelessness. Gerriann shared two success stories of guests who have graduated and are on their journey to exit

homelessness permanently. The Center has also received a new funding stream that allows for additional follow up care for guests who have graduated the program.

Discussion Items

2023 CA Community Engagement Grant update

- Ginnee provided an update on the concern in the park. She has worked with Gene Brake to narrow down a date-which is tentative scheduled for Saturday, August 26. Gene mentioned that we needed to update our MOU on file with the City and has submitted that. He is waiting for the MOU to come back approved from the ONS. Gene is continuing to look for a band for the event and asked for members to forward suggestions if they were aware of any bands that would be suitable for the event. The CA application deadline has been extended to June 26, which we should be able to meet. Only 9 of the 29 city NC's have submitted their CE grant applications thus far.

Motion to approve Concert in the Park, tentatively, for Saturday, August 26, 2023: Patti Marland-Stevens

Seconded to approve tentative date for Concert in the Park as Saturday, August 26, 2023: Heath Kays

Motion to approve tentative date for Concert in the Park as Saturday, August 26, 2023 passes unanimously.

August Potluck in Emerson Park:

- The August Potluck will be in Emerson Park, barring any issues like wildfire smoke/air quality.

Action Items

Meet in July

- E.J. summarized that we typically do not meet in the month of July, due to members having vacations and other commitments. However, we do have time sensitive items that meeting for a short meeting in July ideal. Some of the pressing business includes traffic calming and potluck and concert planning.

Motion to Meet for a Short Meeting in July: Ginnee McNeel

Seconded to Approve a Short Meeting in July: Karl Boldt

Vote to Approve a Short Meeting in July: 24

Opposed to Approving a Short Meeting in July: 1

Abstaining from Vote to Approve a Short Meeting in July: 1

Motion to Approve a Short Meeting in July passes.

Reports:

Spokane City Council (Karen Stratton):

- Karen presented that the City Council members continue to work with the Parks department and the Spokane Police Department to bring back no trespassing in City parks from 10:00PM-5:00AM. This used to be a rule prior to 2017 but had lapsed. NW Parks are being hit in the night hours which results in damaged equipment, and violence. The process must be done through the Park Board. This will give SPD another tool in reducing incidents in the park. The final vote will be in July. The measure will go into effect 30 days after approved if it is approved. The Equity Committee with the City and the Civil Rights Director will also be reviewing prior to the vote. The North Hill/EG gateway sign is complete. Karen is trying to find funding for the final \$6K needed for the installation. The West Quadrant TIF awarded \$300K to West Central neighborhood to hire a consultant to evaluate the neighborhoods infrastructure. They also approved \$500K of funding to work with Habitat for Humanity for more affordable housing. This will include updating older homes and building new ones.

ONS (Gabby Ryan): not present

Clean Up Program (Karl Boldt):

- June 16, 2023 is the last day to obtain disposal pass online.
- The annual clean up event has been going on since 2009. The Department of Corrections helpers who had signed up did not show up to work at the event. The event served 150 residents and moved 17 tons of refuse, 2.6 tons of compost and 2.2 tons of recycling. Everyone who showed up was served. The recycling generated \$179.85 from Pacific Recycling and a \$40 cash contribution from an anonymous donor. A total of \$219.85 was given to the Treasurer. Faith Bible Church is interested in continuing the event. We used the \$6,500 budget we were given. Karl will be stepping down as the Clean Up Program Coordinator and will mentor the next volunteer Coordinator. Contact Karl if interested in volunteering as the Clean Up Program Coordinator.

Emerson-Garfield Farmers Market (Anne Luttrull):

- There has been two Markets thus far this season. Kids day is coming up on June 23. There will be face painting, balloons, ice cream and cotton candy. There is a need for a volunteer to distribute otter pops.

Building Stronger Neighborhoods (Ginnee McNeel):

- Amber Groh from ONS is still doing neighborhood council outreach. The group is working on doing a Spokane neighborhood summit, which is an event to train on how to effectively run a strong neighborhood council. They would like E.J. to come and speak at the summit. The next meeting is to continue to strive for implementing neighborhood council best practices.

Land Use (Bill Heaton):

- Bill mentioned that land use meeting attendance is trending down in the past two years and the group is encouraging increased neighborhood council attendance. While not in our neighborhood, the Latah Creek left turn access was discussed. This was a good example of how to work with the WA DOT and City Hall.

Pedestrian, Traffic, and Transportation (Carlie Hoffman):

- At the last meeting, the Committee discussed internal policy updates. They also discussed the traffic workshops that took place in May-specifically the communication around the workshops and what actually happened at them. Nobody from the City attended the meeting. However, the next meeting when a City representative does attend, the committee plans to discuss the 4 year process, with no chance of review during the project timeline.

North Monroe Business District (Anne Luttrull):

- The Business District is taking over the Farmers Market on July 21st.

Corbin Senior Activity Center (Claudia Ouwerkerk): not present

Community Assembly (Eileen Kazura):

- There is a hearing on June 28 for the Comprehensive Plan Amendment for Building Opportunities for Housing. The program is to liberalize policies around multifamily housing. There is also a meeting on June 29 aimed at revitalizing the relationship with city council. They will review the strategic plan. Along with that, a group of delegates is working to refocus efforts on a more collaborative Community Assembly/Council partnership. There is an upcoming neighborhood townhall on July 17. E.J. will be presenting at this meeting.

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

- COPS is located in the back of Knox Presbyterian Church and the hours are 10:00AM-2:00PM. Reminder that there are 25 neighborhood signs for pickup. When a car is broken into, COPS NC can lift latent prints. Call for an appointment. The phone number is 625-3248. To set up a block watch, please contact COPS NC or call Gee at 714-6265. You can obtain nuisance logs from the COPS shop.

West Central Community Center (Heath Kays):

- Group voted to initiate endowment. Building Dreams is accepting donations for event in September.

Way Out Center (Gerriann Armstrong):

- No update

Treasurer (Gene Brake):

- Bank balance \$1,006.93. There is an extra \$390.00 credit to the account (not reflected in that balance) that Gene believes is a bank error.

Transitions (Sarah Lickfold):

- There are some job openings. Contact Sarah for more information.

WQTIF (E.J. Iannelli): Group did not meet-no update.

The meeting was adjourned at **7:30 PM**.