



# Emerson-Garfield Neighborhood Council

Meeting Minutes: Wednesday, May 14, 2025

**1. Call to order:** 6:00pm

**2. Attendance & Introductions**

*a. Voting members present:* 20 (quorum met)

*b. Guests present:* 4

**3. Housekeeping**

*a. Approval of April 2025 minutes.*

i. Linda Carroll moved, Jeff Stevens seconded

ii. Unanimous approval

*a. Approval of May 2025 agenda.*

i. Linda Carroll moved, Anne Luttrull seconded

ii. Unanimous approval

**4. Guest Speakers**

**SPD Northwest Sector Precinct Report** (Captain Tom Hendren)

- Going into the summer months, calls for service are starting to pick up.
- Current focus is on parks with particular emphasis on Emerson Park. No violent crimes last year in northwest parks, but seeing an uptick this year (e.g., Emerson, Audubon).
- Good results to show for current missions. Mission in North Hill with graveyard emphasis since start of year has seen a 50% reduction in overnight garage burglaries, 50% reduction in vehicle prowling, 50% reduction in vehicle theft. SPD presence drove numbers down.
- There have been and will be improvements to traffic patrols on Division.
- Gene Brake spoke about ICE and emotional impact of arrests. Cpt. Hendren said that state law prohibits local law enforcement from initial involvement in deportation arrests.

**Spokane City Council** (CM Kitty Klitzke)

- No drawings available yet for Buckeye and Washington road changes. News soon.



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- Looking for feedback on homeless policy (e.g., investments, partnerships, camping policies, interventions, enforcement of sit and lie). Trying to develop universal tools and identify resources, address root causes.
- When you communicate with CMs about issues, try to do so in writing because it helps CMs and assistants keep records and establish a history.
- Gene Brake asked about derelict homes and any changes to ordinances. CM Klitzke said there is not a good process in place for dealing with derelict homes but that she hopes to spearhead improvements.
- Lime scooters: They are being abandoned everywhere, rendering sidewalks impassable. The abandoned scooters need to be reported, and there needs to be more resources and consequences for dealing with the problem. If you have strong opinions about scooters, e-mail CMs [Klitzke](#) and [Zappone](#).

### **St. Andrews Episcopal Church** (Michele Taylor, bishop's warden; Henry Salzano, bishop's committee)

- [St. Andrews Episcopal Church](#) is located on Howard St.
- Church has a mini free library and food pantry. Started a community garden to show people how to grow their own food. Works with Growing Neighbors.
- Part of a grant called Building Bridges, Healing Divides. Planning to tap into GU Climate Fund to build a solar project, update HVAC, etc. Also includes an outreach component.
- Implementing an initiative called "Reimagining the Church" to live out values of the church within the community.
- Looking for fellow dreamers and neighbors to join them in making things better, bringing community stakeholders together.

### **Washington Trust for Historic Preservation** (Breanne Durham, Program Director, [WA State Main Street Program](#))

- ARPA funding is being allocated (via City of Spokane) to business districts. ARPA is federal funding that was meant to mitigate effects of pandemic.
- The North Monroe Business District is one of four business districts to receive ARPA funding. Approx. \$450k has been allocated to each district. Offered history of grant program and results of early Activation Grants (roughly \$20k in funding).
- Megan Kennedy of the NMBD shared some project ideas and priority areas: organization stability, capital improvements, placemaking, marketing. June 20 is Monroe Day at the EGFM.



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**Women's shelter in Emerson-Garfield** (Zeke Smith, [Empire Health Foundation](#); D.J. and Barbra Bowman, [Jewels Helping Hands](#))

- When the warehouse-style TRAC shelter closed, Empire Heath Foundation started working with organizations to "play matchmaker" and build out scattered-site shelters across Spokane. No more than 30 individuals per shelter.
- EHF has worked with a number of providers, including Jewels. Helped Knox Presbyterian address serious plumbing issues. As of April 1, Jewels has been operating a women's shelter there. Women (no children) are only there at night, enter at 6pm, depart by 7am. About 56% of the individuals who have stayed at the shelter are not back on the street.
- Shelter is looking to enter into Good Neighbor Agreement (GNA) with EGNC. GNA lays out expectations and protocols. Request for contact info to be distributed to residents and business owners so they know how to deal with and refer unhoused folks.
- If you're interested in volunteering, contact Stefanie Damm @ (509) 992-2239. Or ask for D.J., who runs community cleanups.
- GNA to be included with agenda for discussion and voting in June.

## 5. Voting Items

None.

## 6. Discussion Items

None.

## 7. Committee reports

**Office of Neighborhood Services** (Gabby Ryan)

- Heather Hamlin begins as ONS director June 2.
- Spokane Neighborhood Summit scheduled for Saturday, October 25, offering a great opportunity for peer-to-peer learning. Currently accepting request for presenter proposals (through July 17).
- *This Is Spokane* is a new civic guide for neighbors.
- Community Engagement grants are due June 16.



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- CDBG funding application for Emerson Park improvements was not selected to move forward. Funding might be covered by upcoming Parks Levy.

### **Spring Cleanup** (Jeff Stevens)

- This year's event is on Saturday, May 17 at Faith Bible Church. Bring your junk! There will be donuts and pizza for volunteers.

### **Community Assembly** (Linda Carroll)

- City Council passed an alcohol ordinance, which might impact the Mansfield 'Grocery' that is in fact a convenience store.
- CA is engaging in rigorous self-examination in an effort to streamline processes.

### **C.O.P.S.**

- No report

### **Corbin Senior Activity Center** (Tim Musser)

- Fundraising auction on May 31 is already sold out. Lots happening!

### **Emerson-Garfield Farmers' Market** (Anne Luttrull)

- Season opens on June 6 in Emerson Park, continues to be on Fridays from 3–7pm.
- KREM and KXLY picked up the press release advertising the new location.
- Billboard is coming on North Monroe.

### **Land Use Committee** (Bill Heaton)

- Committee is examining parking ordinances and parking minimums. Neighborhoods may be able to weigh in on parking requirements.

### **North Monroe Business District** (Megan Kennedy)

- All the headlines were covered during the Washington Trust ARPA presentation.

### **PeTT Committee** (Carlie Hoffman)

- Carlie did not attend. She has moved and this is, sadly, her last EGNC meeting.
- A new PeTT representative is needed.

### **Community Safety Committee** (Ted Stevens)

- The committee did not meet in May. The next report will be in July.

### **Transitions New Leaf** (Sarah Lickfold)

- Volunteers are needed! Reach out via [help4women](https://help4women.org) and put your name forward.

### **Treasurer** (Judy Heaton)

- Balance jumped to \$1,542.81 (later determined to be a banking error).
- Need to check with SCCU regarding signing authority.

### **West Central Community Center**



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- No report.

## **Way Out Center**

- No report.

## **West Quadrant Tax Increment Financing Neighborhood Project Advisory Committee (E.J. Iannelli)**

- NPAC did not meet in May.

## **8. General Announcements**

### **EGNC concerts and Corbin Homeowners Association (Gene Brake)**

- Summer concert date is set for August 24. Looking for sponsors (\$100, \$300, \$500 tiers), hoping to raise \$1,000 total. Also looking for band.
- The Corbin Park Yard sale will be on June 21.
- On July 4 there will be a free and participatory kids bike parade. It begins at 10am.

### **Mansfield Grocery (Ron Devonport)**

- Application was approved by the hearing examiner. A further appeal would be too costly. The hearing examiner accepted all the assurances of the property owner that he would maintain the property in accordance with the stipulations.

## **8. Adjournment: 7:49pm**