

CITY OF GRESHAM

Gresham Butte Neighborhood Association

December 11, 2019

Officers present: Jim Buck, President; Sandy Davidson, Vice-President, Tracy Slack, Land Use Chair, Lynn Saint, Secretary.

7:07 p.m. Introduction

President Jim Buck called the meeting to order; seven participants introduced themselves.

7:10 p.m. Topic Information

Topic	Responsible Party/Those Affected by Topic Ramifications	Additional Information
Survey	Mt. Hood Community College	Poll of GBNA regarding the college and its influence on the community at large
Wildfire Preparedness	Neighbors link to each other; City of Gresham	Landline phones provide alerts. Cell phones often do not have this capability.
Environmental Overlays	City of Gresham Hillside residents	Different codes relate to tree requirements on a hillside. Trees need to be thinned to maintain their health, but strict regulations govern culling and thinning of trees.
Tax Inequity	City of Gresham	Possibly a topic in February or March
Homelessness	City or county representatives, plus a homeless individual's perspective	Portland's view on homelessness may be a necessary perspective.
Division Street Transit Plans	Metro	Fairly dormant with the 10-25-year plan
Gabbert Butte	Metro	Yearly topic
Land Sale Requires Accountable Response	Metro	Address funds management protocol as six plus million dollars of property was sold to a developer for \$1,000.
Edible Landscape Class and/or Rain Garden Class	East Multnomah County	Need 20-30 individuals to participate. Classes last from 2.5 to 4 hours.

7:45 p.m. Grant Options

The city is cutting out blackberries in the Dawncrest Preservation Area. The Wayside presents an attractive entrance. No grants are needed at the current time for that locale.

Neighbors Night Out. We spent \$240, only asking \$165 as a request for the ice cream social. Do we want to do this again? People enjoy making a connection with one another. The

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physical location of each neighborhood event is one issue which needs to be addressed. The party trailer is a definite lure for drawing in people.

A three-acre section of alders is dying out as blackberries take over the alders. Younger cedars cannot establish a presence. A **reforestation project**, off the Saddle Trail, would be a project where people could get their hands soiled in the spring and the fall. The dollar cost would involve the saplings to purchase plus sweat equity. Tools, such as machetes and gasoline powered weed eaters, would work to initially eradicate the blackberries, which are rooted on both ends. Most needed: gloves (consumables). The city would not approve sawing the alders. It is possible to enlist Boy Scouts or another group. Volunteers would need to water by taking a truck up the road to water recently planted trees, enabling them to survive. The city may not know what to plant to survive. Could be Ponderosa pines as an optional native plant? East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation has offered plants, but they would need to be protected because they are small saplings.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors presents another grant possibility.

Rain garden projects may help another neighborhood. Water has eroded pavement at 10th and Florence, for example, just west of Walters Hill in the Valle Vista area. Uneven ground and broken pavement create compromised road conditions. Because of the erosion, repaving is currently not a wise option.

7:52 p.m. Leadership Succession

Webinars are an option to increase participation in the GBNA. Residents could Skype into the monitor. With technology, there is a feasibility of presenting via Zoom, Cisco or Google. Settings can observe who is in the meeting. Questions during the meeting can be typed in. Participants can be muted. Tests can be done with various scenarios.

(Post meeting addendum after Jim Buck checked with Michael Gonzales:

Michael Gonzales was excited about our proposal to connect with other residents via internet for meetings. He indicated we can use city equipment for this purpose and is contacting the IT folks to see how to help set it up. We'll learn about new ways of joining meetings either by cell phone or computer. Exploration of this topic will be presented at the January meeting.)

8:12 p.m. Reports

Land Use Chair Tracy Slack reported that tree cutting permits have been applied for a large subdivision, east of Hogan and south of Ambleside, looking at 100 plus lots on 43 acres. The city and the applicant still need to walk through basic prerequisites. Many tree stands should be salvaged instead of clear cutting all of them. Trees can take up 6,000 gallons of water a year. Houses are too close together to allow for tree growth. Storm retention bonds remain another issue. What is the city going to offer to the developer?

Presumably, there is no change in the **Treasurer's Report**.

8:18 p.m. Meeting Adjourned