

Coalition of Gresham Neighborhood Associations
May 12, 2020 – Meeting via Zoom
Meeting Minutes

NEIGHBORHOOD	ATTENDEES	NEIGHBORHOOD	ATTENDEES
Centennial	INACTIVE	Northeast	INACTIVE
Central City	INACTIVE	North Gresham	Mike Elston, Linda Parashos
Gresham Butte	Jim Buck	Northwest	John Bildsoe, Dave Dyk, Kat Todd
Historic Southeast		Gresham Pleasant Valley	
Hogan Cedars	Matt Callison	Powell Valley	INACTIVE
Hollybrook		Rockwood	
Kelly Creek	Carol Rulla	Southwest	
North Central	Maggie Anderson	Wilkes-East	
Staff & Guests:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Michael Gonzales, Tina Osterink, Jim Wheeler, Lee Dayfield and Sue Ruonala 		

Pre-meeting: Dave Dyk gave an orientation to Zoom buttons and shared general protocols for the meeting. Michael Gonzales said space bar also allows participants to unmute and he said meeting was being recorded as well. Michael said there have been a number of updates which users will need to accept to continue to use the application.

Carol Rulla called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM. Dave conducted a roll call of those present, and Carol indicated that the number did not constitute a quorum at this time. Due to no quorum, the minutes were neither reviewed nor subject to a vote.

Michael Gonzales said it had been decided to move to use Zoom ENN meetings during the COVID crisis. The applicant will email the NA as normal regarding the date and time of a meeting and once there is an agreed upon date, there will be coordination with city staff to produce the signs with instructions for the Zoom meeting and the applicant will send meeting notices with the Zoom instructions. The process for meetings will otherwise be the same. Mike Elston asked who will lead the meetings under the Zoom process. Michael said the city staff will set up the logistics for it but they won't participate. Michael is planning to sit in on one meeting just to ensure it is proceeding as anticipated.

Dave shared an ENN letter that NRNA had recently received, and Michael and John Bildsoe reviewed aspects of the letter. Carol said the letter referred to telephone conference and asked whether there will be video as that is unclear. Michael said he thought the meeting will be a video meeting and he is awaiting confirmation from the applicant on that. Kat Todd was wondering how people would see the visuals which are an important element of the process. She said there hasn't been confirmation of whether the meeting will take place since the applicant mailed the notices late. She said it may be helpful to have a modified date for the meeting. The project could

involve three neighborhoods, all of whom should have been notified. John said he didn't know when others got the message.

The Tacoma phone number in the letter raised some confusion. Michael confirmed that it is a toll number. Michael clarified that the city is starting the meeting and then holding it open to the applicant. Jim Wheeler said Noah Myhrum is setting up the meeting. John asked who would be hosting or running the meeting. The applicant would be running the meeting according to Jim Wheeler.

Carol posed the question: if no one shows up in 15 minutes can the applicant turn off the meeting or whatever that time specification is in the code? Jim W. said the same ENN rules still apply. Mike asked if questions could be typed in using the Zoom chat. Michael said he has seen that chat bar feature and it has been used. Dave thinks that can be controlled when you set up the meeting. Kat wondered who would be handling which comments were addressed or if they had additional questions. Michael said the host would be in charge of that and he felt there would be opportunity for followup questions. It would function more like a conversation or discussion once the meeting began. Michael will share what he learns from his Thursday session. Carol asked if the city gave the applicant a protocol or template to follow. Michael confirmed that the city created the template for Zoom ENN meetings. John suggested getting rid of the provided phone number which is confusing so people understand that documents can be viewed and that video will be used for conducting this meeting. Michael said the phone number will remain to help those who don't have internet link connect to meeting. John asked about recording the meeting. Jim W. said the applicant will take minutes as in a standard meeting, but a recording could also be made but is not required. David thinks only hosts can record. Kat said she felt the letter also gave the impression it was only audio and the text should be clarified. John asked about timeframe for a response to resolve the problem with the late notice NWNA got on its ENN letter, and Michael said it will be up to NWNA and the other affected NAs to determine action. Michael said they could request that a different date be established for a new ENN meeting, but he recommended that the applicant hold the scheduled meeting since notices have been mailed. It should be easy to reschedule since there isn't a venue to arrange. Michael said the last he heard from the applicant was April 27.

Carol asked Michael about the option for NAs to use Zoom meetings or other platforms for remote meetings. Michael discussed the process with GBNA's initiative on this front before COVID and noted that they had looked at a number of platforms. With Zoom there was consideration about cost, and so GBNA used Free Conference Call as the platform. The only issue was downloading of the client on city computers, but that should no longer be a problem since City Hall will not be the venue for holding NA meetings during the COVID emergency. Zoom took off in popularity and the restrictions aren't there for IT, but his solution is to avoid cost to neighborhoods for the license. Michael is trying to set up an option for NAs to use Zoom for its convenience and consistency of use. He is looking at what tiers might be involved with NA meetings. He's wondering about use for National Night Out, for example. Can it be done in a social and fun way without actually being in the same location? He was wondering even if a performer might be hired to provide entertainment for a National Night Out event. He was thinking of using grant money for the purpose of employing artists. He repeated he would look at picking up cost for the Zoom license. Maggie Anderson said she heard that National Night Out was requesting a move to October. Michael said he had not heard that and he's not sure about kicking the ball down the road. He wonders about weather turning in October here in Oregon. Jim B. asked if that would be a factor if it's a Zoom activity. Michael talked about Michelle Kosta from Family and Friends Mentoring putting on a performance. She wrote the Gresham song. Kat said she felt the governor put a hold on large group gatherings through Sept. She also felt the extent of daylight also was notably diminished by October. Michael felt we needed to adapt to deal with the circumstances. John asked what the cost was for Zoom license. Michael said cost depended on number of participants and he would share that information later since it wasn't available to him at the meeting. John asked about the city's matching grant funds for neighborhoods and what could be shared now. Michael said many used the funds for National Night Out, purchasing neighborhood signs might be another option. He said this might be time for little bites and in November examine larger objectives. He said matching grants would be available this fiscal year, and he would send out information soon. He said no food would be involved with National Night Out this year, so that would allow money to be used in other ways to celebrate.

Matt Callison thought a talent show might be a good idea, but would Zoom meetings be streamable? Michael didn't think that Zoom would be streamable. Carol said that neighborhoods are not restricted to using just Zoom. Dave said he'd be happy to partner with Matt on exploring options.

Carol raised the issue of oral public comments not being allowed during city meetings and wondered about people's thoughts on that. Matt felt there should be a period to speak one's mind. John gave the example of Maupin on how they handled comments or questions. Jim B. asked for clarification on the issue. Carol said there was no notification or discussion of the change in policy. You have to submit written comments 24 hours in advance and cannot speak during the meeting. Carol explained about a Design Commission meeting regarding a hearing for Albertina Kerr's proposed 150-unit apartment building which involved a 45% reduction in parking. She and Wilkes East NA submitted written comments and they asked for the record to be kept open for 7 more days so that they could respond to information presented at the hearing. In this case the Design Commission had questions and extended the date for other considerations or comments. Carol noted that public comments had to be submitted the evening before the hearing, and she asked Jim Wheeler when the comments were given to the Design Commission. Jim said the comments were forwarded to Design Commission via email around noon on the day of the hearing. It's unclear if the commissioners read the comments but they were given the comments before the meeting. Mike E. said we should have opportunity for feedback and comments on the new policy, and he feels the change was not thought out. Kat would agree that written comments are not as powerful as verbal testimony during the hearing. The public should have an opportunity to speak at the hearing. Dave expressed a similar perspective and appreciated Carol's comment on the change. Dave noted that he serves on the Budget Committee and said the comments to that committee were shared around 3 or 4 pm the day of the budget meeting. John wondered if Carol heard from city staff, and she said she hadn't nor what motivated the policy change. She asked Michael if he could comment on the rationale behind it, but he had no insight for the reasons. He said the city was scrambling to make sure the documents were distributed for the budget meeting. Dave said he emailed comments to the Council similar to Carol's concerns and Karyllyn Echols replied. He also encouraged the Council to consider notice for meetings on the City's Facebook page. He shared with Councilor Echols that the city averaged two Facebook postings per day, good booster information but nothing about city meetings. Sue Ruonala, who is on Planning Commission and had a hearing under the new procedure, noted that it came as a surprise to them. Two NA presidents who wanted to testify had to submit written comments instead. She asked for reconsideration of this procedure to city staff. She finds it disturbing that people are not allowed to speak. She noted that other jurisdictions are allowing testimony over Zoom. John asked if we can send a message from Coalition. Carol said that we had no quorum so we can't take a position but she can share the concerns expressed and ask for a further explanation. Jim B. asked that the letter seek the city's rationale as to what motivated the change.

ONCE news — Life has flipped as almost all city employees are working remotely. Operation Gresham Connected began in response to COVID to help vulnerable residents get supplies and to get food out to them in partnership with organizations such as Meals on Wheels and SnowCap. The operation is an undertaking with 40 staff working on contacting residents or delivering supplies. Lina is still working with East Metro Mediation in the afternoons, trying to set up Zoom meeting links and meeting times. The mediation staff is working remotely indefinitely, however, mediation has remained very busy on a number of cases. He'll be sending out recap on the matching grant applications this week. Matt asked if Gresham Connected was for city staff only or if they need volunteers. Michael said the City is sensitive to volunteers and placing them at risk. Michael said they are still doing donation drives, but city staff is not going into homes on deliveries. He showed cards with a personal greeting that were being shared with vulnerable people also. He said the city is routing out requests out to agencies and that is being repeated in mayor's podcasts and on city YouTube programs. Matt asked about signage that might be acquired with the matching grants, and Michael explained they were the neighborhood signs on metal poles at the perimeter of the neighborhoods. Maggie said she was concerned about the uncertainty of whether the city will be moving the date of National Night Out. So if it is in August she needs to know that so she can prepare. Michael said he'll speak with Chief Sells and seek guidance from them. Michael also thought regardless of date, it would be indoors and remote. John asked about mediation services and he noted that there

was currently no option for leaving a verbal message on the phone. He wondered if Michael could check on snafu with the outgoing message. Michael said he would check.

Carol asked Tina Osterink to report on staff's discussions of a potential feedback loop for tree removals during development but without an approved tree removal decision. Tina said, in terms of the ENN process, they are meeting internally regarding a feedback loop for situations like the tree removal that occurred at the Belle Vista development on Powell Blvd. It prompted concerns by the Urban Forestry Subcommittee and Planning Commission and Design Commission and NA officers. There will be more conversations about the process such as the Urban Forestry Subcommittee meeting next Monday. John commented about Belle Vista and indicated he'd like to know if there were trees that shouldn't have been cut. He thought that some trees were going to be repurposed on site. Jim B. asked for more information, and John thought the lumber was going to be used for benches or gazebo or some accents like that in the development. Kat commented that development had an initial slate of trees scheduled to be removed and a second arborist recommended other trees be cut, and she is glad Tina is looking into this issue.

Carol said that the new code for wireless facilities in the city's rights-of-way will become effective on May 21st. As a reminder, this code change was required by FCC regulations which limit the city's timeline on reviewing applications and restrict what the city can regulate. In conjunction with this code change, the city will send out notices to collect public feedback for a limited time and will use that feedback for future code changes. Staff has recommended waiting until the facility is constructed and then send out postcards that say the facility is up and invite feedback for further code improvement with a web page link for doing so. Carol said her thought was to have two categories on the web page: one for those constructed which will have a link for feedback and also another for those approved but not yet installed. There are about 10 applicants right now desiring to apply for new facilities. Staff estimates that these facilities might be installed as early as the end of June. Carol will send a sample postcard for review of the wording. She asked if there was any comment about the proposed process. Jim B. felt this was a pragmatic approach since earlier comments wouldn't affect the installation. Mike agreed and Kat also said postcards after they see the facility makes sense. Carol said people could request to be on a postcard list to receive the postcard that will go to those within a certain distance of the facility.

John B. introduced a discussion of the Shaull property north of Powell near the Grant Butte wetlands. The county assessor made a massive adjustment of the property's RMV (Real Market Value) in 2015 and decided it was \$6 million not just \$200,000. Gresham has it zoned as TLDR (Transit Low Density Residential) which the assessor calculated would allow up to 120 units and so the estimated market value shot up. A developer recently submitted a pre-app for 48 parcels, but staff determined with habitat overlays there would only be space for 25 lots on the 8 acre property. So nowhere near the 120 anticipated earlier, so the county will be reassessing it. If the developer moves forward with the development within the next few years, the property owner will have to pay back taxes based on 2015 value, which is complicated given the re-evaluation. He asked if Jim W. or Tina knew about this or if city could use it for park property. Jim W. said he was dealing with just pre-app and did not have any insight on the assessor's issue. Tina said the city looked at the acquisition given the park proximity but it was not feasible at this time. She was unsure if Metro was looking at acquiring it. John said now it looks like only 3 acres are developable. Jim B. said the map sent out was difficult to interpret since it didn't have a macro view. Carol said, if the development moves forward, it would be a type 3 hearing and she said there would be a macro map view in addition to the site map. John pulled the Portland map to show the property location off Powell. The Tubbs family now owns the property. John felt this property would provide great access to the undeveloped SW park property. Mike asked about the 5 acres that can't be developed. John said he thought it was subject to various codes, and Tina said there were flood plain and wetland constraints. The area that is developable is mature forest. John said it's in deferral now due to the forest exemption.

Carol asked for other news from NAs. No other comments. She thanked Dave for being host.
Adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Minutes submitted by Jim Buck, Coalition Co-Secretary/Treasurer