

**Coalition of Gresham Neighborhood Associations  
June 14, 2022 – Remotely Held (Zoom)  
Meeting Minutes**

NEIGHBORHOOD	ATTENDEES	NEIGHBORHOOD	ATTENDEES
Centennial		Northeast	INACTIVE
Central City	INACTIVE	North Gresham	
Gresham Butte	Jim Buck, Tracy Slack, Theresa Tschirky	Northwest	John Bildsoe
Historic Southeast	Kate Batten	Gresham Pleasant Valley	
Hogan Cedars	Matt Callison, Kelsey Smalley, Ria Ward, Christina Pettigrove	Powell Valley	Stella Butler
Hollybrook		Rockwood	Catherine Nicewood
Kelly Creek	Charles Teem, Carol Rulla	Southwest	Gail Cerveny, Dana Duval
North Central	Mary Gossett	Wilkes-East	
Staff & Guests	Tina Nunez Osterink, Natural Resource and Park Planner for City of Gresham; Michael Gonzales, Office of Neighborhood and Community Enhancement; Sue Ruonala; Tom Stanley		

After a quorum was established, the meeting opened at 7:02 p.m., Jim Buck, Coalition Co-President presiding.

1. The May 10, 2022, Coalition meeting minutes were approved with two minor corrections: the date in paragraph 1 and the spelling of an attendee's name.

2. Tina Nunez Osterink, Natural Resource and Park Planner for the City of Gresham, as well as Staff Liaison for the Urban Forestry Sub-Committee presented an urban forestry update.

a. In the near future, the Urban Forestry Sub-Committee plans to continue the neighborhood tree walks which were started last fall and the City will continue the "Green Gresham, Healthy Gresham" (GGHG) tree inventory. This year, they will have some interns to help with the tree walks and tree inventory.

b. In the spring there were 3 events—2 with elementary schools and 1 other volunteer event—to plant trees. In the last 4 ½ years there have been about 400 trees planted and there is funding for about 100 trees in the next year.

c. Climate resiliency planning: Some of a GGHG grant will be used to have a landscape architect analyze the identified heat islands for cooling solutions. Some intervention examples are taking up some of the pavement to add structural soils for planting trees, adding evergreen trees to residential buildings and green roofs.

d. Spatial Mapping Canopy Tool: With funding from East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District, CAPA Strategies has been hired to take the heat island information, as well as other layers, such as tax lot information and census block groups, etc. and put that information into a dashboard for public use. The City is currently reviewing the product from CAPA Strategies and beta-testing of the tool is expected in August/September.

e. Gresham has an overall tree canopy of 28.1%. To establish priorities for the tree plan, the tree canopy data was reviewed and the areas with the least amount of tree canopy were to be the focus.

f. Friends of Trees is looking for a neighborhood tree coordinator(s) to help organize tree plantings in East County.

3. Follow-on from the May Coalition meeting on the tree code briefing from Jim Buck, Coalition Co-President and Chair of the Urban Forestry Sub-committee: The coalition group was asked if we, as an advisory to the City Manager and Council, would advocate for making changes to the tree code a priority for the preservation of tree canopy and mitigation for loss of trees. After questions and discussion, Jim agreed to take the information and condense the proposals to 4 or 5 proposals and come back to the group.

4. Also a follow-on from the May Coalition meeting on the Financial Sustainability, Outcomes Monitoring and the Role of the Coalition presentation from Tracy Slack of Gresham Butte Neighborhood Association: After a quick review of the May presentation, the coalition was asked to “take this on and be part of the continuity of conscience that this [sustainability monitoring] needs.” There was discussion on whether we should wait until we hear about the City’s goals from City Manager Vetter at our July meeting. It was also mentioned that the tasks were not specific enough to know what needs to be done. Lastly, should we advocate to the City Manager and the Council that they have smart goals and then we look at what they come up with and if we don’t think it is enough then advocate for more.

5. Carol Rulla, Coalition Co-President, asked if the group had any questions for City Manager Nina Vetter that we can give her so she can come prepared to discuss the topics at our July meeting. Some of the discussion topics brought up were 911 system, budget development process—what are the key performance indicators to justify the budget requests and what are the expectations, safety concerns, how are the City’s 5 goal areas measured, how will department managers be held accountable and who is responsible for wildfire planning. Coalition members should send their questions for the City Manager within one week. Carol and Jim will then compile the draft questions to send out for Coalition review before sending them to the City Manager.

6. Agenda item “Concern for Development of a Wildfire Plan” was tabled until next meeting due to meeting running late.

7. Neighborhood and City News and Reports:

a. Michael Gonzales ONCE report: National night out planning is underway and they are taking registrations for any events that are happening. The City is planning to have a singular event on August 2<sup>nd</sup> in Rockwood, assuming everything is open and ready for public use. For the neighborhood matching grants, there have been 5 requests, all have been approved and the awards were expected to go out on June 15<sup>th</sup>.

b. Catherine Nicewood, Rockwood Neighborhood: Rockwood is having an “I love Rockwood” event on August 28<sup>th</sup> at the Rockwood Plaza.

c. Stella Butler, Powell Valley Neighborhood: Powell Valley is having a work party in East Gresham Park on June 25<sup>th</sup>.

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Dana Duval – Coalition Secretary-Treasurer

Next meeting: **Tuesday, July 12th** – Remote via Zoom