

**Coalition of Gresham Neighborhood Associations
March 8, 2016 – Oregon Trail Room, Gresham City Hall**

Meeting Minutes

NEIGHBORHOOD	ATTENDEES	NEIGHBORHOOD	ATTENDEES
Centennial		Northeast	INACTIVE
Central City	INACTIVE	North Gresham	Kathy Schwabe
Gresham Butte	Theresa Tschirky, Tracy Slack	Northwest	Kat Todd
Historic Southeast	Frani Grover	Gresham Pleasant Valley	
Hollybrook		Powell Valley	Tom Griffith
Kelly Creek	Mel Roemmich, Carol Rulla	Rockwood	John Bildsoe
Mt. Hood	INACTIVE	Southwest	Jack Ardner
North Central		Wilkes-East	
Guests:	Aaron Abrams, Madison McGarity, Chris Strong, David Ris, Karen Pearson, Kirk French, Mario Palmero, Mary Ashford, Jef Kaiser, Chris Cozzetto, Talia Searle, Dax C., Angelene Adler		

Welcome: Meeting was called to order by Coalition President Carol Rulla at 7:03 PM. Quorum was established later.

Public Comment: Jef Kaiser asked if other NAs had his experience with plans for larger developments being well along and developers not being in the mood to change plans in response to neighbors' input at the ENN meeting. He asked if there was a way to give earlier input. Mel – It's expensive to build in Gresham. Frani – Hasn't had many developments but would agree with Jef's experience. John – Has heard both. Not sure how to change process. He's had problems with developers messing up and needing to redo ENN meetings which is confusing to neighbors. Carol – We should think about this more and consider discussing with Planning.

Gresham Fruit Tree Project and Earth Day Recycling Event: *Madison McGarity, intern with City of Gresham.*

There's an informational meeting on March 16 to measure interest in expanding Portland's Fruit Tree Project to Gresham. The project uses volunteers to harvest unused fruit from people's trees and donates the fruit to local food pantries and service providers. The city is also looking for volunteers, especially groups, for the April 23 Earth Day Recycling Event. There are two shifts 8:00-11:45 and 11:30-3:00. Lunch is provided. Madison distributed flyers for each event.

Wireless Communications Facilities (WCFs) in the Right-of-Way (ROW): *Chris Strong & David Ris, City of Gresham*

Chris Strong reviewed the current code (GRC 6.30.300) for WCFs in the ROW: allowed outright if WCF meets code standards (e.g., on existing or replacement utility poles on arterial streets, within specifications for height, equipment, etc.); waivers are allowed only if there's a gap in service and no feasible alternative. Proposed changes are to meet new FCC regulations and to provide clarity based on the city's experience with the current code. New FCC rules require approval if a WCF meets certain conditions and add some process time limits. **Proposed changes to standards:** (1) Add a prohibition on WCFs in view corridors. (2) Allow additional height up to 20' (instead of 15') above the existing utility pole but no more than is needed for clearance. John – Could stacking of collocated WCFs allow more than 20' of additional height? A – It's not specified, but this would be unlikely because PGE has to give permission to use the pole and the clearance and pole strength needed would likely preclude stacking. (3) Allow the dimensions of the primary cabinet on the pole (height + width + depth) to add to no more than 120" (instead of requiring specific limits on each dimension). The current cabinet limits of 30" high x 30" wide x 24" deep are too small for available cabinets which means all applications need waivers, which is time-consuming for staff and applicants. The objective of the proposed dimensional requirements is to limit the need for waivers while still addressing aesthetics. **Proposed procedural changes:** (1) Require more details in initial application. (2) Add more explicit time limits to meet FCC requirements. (3) Add notice to tenants (in addition to property owners and NAs) for waivers. (4) Add notice to NAs (in addition to those who submitted comments) for protests of decisions. **Policy question:** Should small cells be treated differently? Small cells target smaller areas (like coffee shops), have smaller range and smaller infrastructure, so the cell industry has asked for separate regulations. Staff's recommendation is not to treat them differently since the definition of small cells is still evolving and they can be accommodated under current codes both in the ROW and outside the ROW. Council will give input in May, and code revisions are expected to be adopted this summer. Tom – Are cabinets on poles high enough so they don't impede visibility for drivers? A – Yes, bottom of cabinet must be at least 16' above roadway. Tom – Does putting WCFs on street corners give better range? A – No, there's no difference between placement on corners vs. mid-street. Tracy – Is there a requirement to remove WCFs if they're no longer needed? Could we be littered with small cells, and have we modeled the saturation of coverage? A – Staff has heard that more are needed due to increased demand and the need for more band

width for devices. Since the city charges a lease fee, there's an incentive to remove unneeded WCFs. Tracy – All the big providers are in Gresham. Do we confirm their service coverage before allowing them to put up new WCFs? Can they stack and share equipment? A – Federal law encourages expansion of services. Currently the city only has two WCFs in the ROW. Staff doesn't know if different providers could share equipment. Mel – Is there a color requirement for poles and cabinets? What about signage? A – Yes, existing code limits colors to neutrals colors that match existing poles and requires a small sign with FCC ID and contact information. Frani – Streets like Hogan have power lines in unpaved ROW; what would happen to a WCF on one of those poles if utilities were undergrounded? A – Existing code requires removal of the WCF if the pole goes away. John – Has it been a problem to relocate these WCFs? A – Undergrounding of utilities is unusual, so it's not been a big problem. It will take years to widen Hogan, and the industry would have time to relocate a WCF. Coalition consensus on the policy question about small cells: There should be no special rules at this time. John – What is the lease fee for a WCF? A – Staff is looking at the fee schedule. Portland charges \$5,000-\$10,000/yr. Mel – What is the definition of a utility pole? A – Any pole carrying transmission lines. Jack – Would the fee be the same for small cells vs. large WCFs? A – Likely the same. Jack – Is that realistic for a small coverage area? A – The fee is determined by what the market can bear. Tracy – Is the fee a major expense for a WCF? A – No, it's relatively minor.

Code Review: *David Ris, City of Gresham.* Code Review is a regular Work Plan project to review the Gresham Revised Code for efficiencies and needed changes over time. These are more technical tweaks, not usually policy changes. This year's Code Review looks at: (1) Utility licensing code to update 15-year-old language and make sure the city captures all usage, including buying power from another (non-PGE) source. Theresa – Are you looking at new technology like Google Fiber? A – Yes. (2) Street & sidewalk vendor code (GRC 9.45) from 1980 and written for hot dog carts. We haven't had a lot of street or sidewalk vendors. Have the NAs had any problems? Kathy – There was a scary guy with an ice cream truck. A – Call NET about those concerns. This code is locational and not applicable to mobile trucks. Kathy – Do ice cream trucks need a business license? A – Yes. (3) Short term room rental (like Airbnb). Under current code, the rental inspection program doesn't apply to rentals under 30 days. They do pay the transient lodging tax but don't need a business license. The Development Code has rules for bed & breakfast uses, and this project is only looking at how to regulate short term room rentals as a business. Mel – How many can be on a block or street? A – There are no limitations in current code. John – What are the rules for services like Uber? A – The city doesn't regulate taxis.

Police Chief Recruitment: *Karen Pearson, City of Gresham.* Chief Junginger is retiring July 1. The city is doing a nationwide recruitment and seeking input from stakeholders (police, NAs, Chamber, etc.) to attractively but realistically market the job. Staff is writing a brochure, and the opening will be posted in April for 30-45 days. Deputy Chief Sells is staying until a new chief starts. Tom – Will the CVIPs give input? A – Yes. Input on Gresham's strengths: NET, community policing, no shootings, no high speed chases, accessible chief, good mutual aid with other jurisdictions. Challenges: homelessness, changing demographics, officers need education for dealing with low income citizens, budget constraints, low staff levels. Talia - Why do so many officers show up to one incident? Councilor French – Based on his experience on several ride-alongs, multiple officers can show up because of their quick response. Tom – Because of mutual aid agreements, officers from other jurisdictions often respond as well. Talia – Why do so many stay when they aren't needed? John – They often stay if there's not another call to respond to. Dax – What is the new big black police truck for? Aaron will ask about it. Desired attributes for new chief: good listener, experience with a diverse community, supportive of community policing, personable & comfortable in public, good incident command & disaster experience, commitment to hiring officers that reflect the demographics of our community, a seasoned commander, experience with gangs and with problems of homelessness. Mel – How does this recruitment compare to last time? A – Similar national search. John – Will it look at local talent? A – Yes, there's a lot of talent in Oregon and Washington. Mel – What if we can't find the right person? A – We won't rush a decision and will conduct another search. Jack – Is there a role for the NAs or Coalition in the process? A – There might be a meet & greet with the community or possibly 1-2 NA representatives on an interview panel. Karen will be accepting further input for another two weeks.

Additional Public Comment & Approval of Minutes: Chris Cozzetto asked why the SWNA survey was mainly filled out by SWNA members. Jack – The main intent was to survey SWNA members, but it was posted to the 8 neighborhoods that SWNA could reach on Nextdoor to allow others to respond as well. Some people from other neighborhoods didn't respond because they didn't think the survey was for them, so SWNA will be clearer with any future surveys. Chris – Did the Coalition reach out to homeless individuals to find out what their needs and wants are and to be part of last month's discussion? Carol – The point of last month's discussion was for the Coalition to find out what the city could do about problems from illegal camping, particularly environmental damage. One reason the executive director from JOIN was invited was to help provide perspective from their work with the homeless. Chris – His last name is misspelled in last month's minutes. Talia – SWNA survey questions & responses were broad, emotion-filled and not understood by some respondents. Jack – SWNA learned a lot to improve any future surveys. Approval of Minutes: Minutes of 2/9/16 were approved with correction to spelling of Chris Cozzetto's last name.

Neighborhood & City News & Reports:

Carol – Wants NAs to be aware that significant trees can now be delisted by a vote of the Urban Forestry Subcommittee (UFS) with no public notice. Powell Valley NA was surprised to learn of the first such a delisting at a recent ENN meeting, and the lack of notice was raised at a recent UFS meeting. The UFS and staff are looking into giving notice to allow NAs & neighbors to give input when the UFS considers significant tree delistings.

Carol – Next Council Listening Session is on disaster preparedness on March 29, 5:45-7:45pm, at Friends of Children.

Carol – Noted the recently emailed report from Joe Walsh on what the city's done on homelessness since last September's Listening Session. A new citizen task force on homelessness is being formed, and anyone interested in being on the task force should apply. It will meet 6-8 weekday evenings for about 3 months. John – How does this new task force fit with GHAT (Gresham Homeless Action Team)? Is there a deadline for applying for the task force? Councilor Palmero – The Council subcommittee on homelessness is still looking at how we apply city resources towards homelessness and making decisions about the structure of the task force. There's no deadline yet on applications for the task force. He encouraged anyone interested in being involved to apply.

Carol – The community forum on DCIP-8 draft code is scheduled for April 7, 6-8pm, at City Hall.

John – North Central NA is having trouble with drones, some flying into backyards. Call NET with time and location of any drone problems.

John – He and Carol met with Transportation staff to discuss future streets vs. platted but unbuilt streets. The meeting raised more questions than answers. Staff is working to identify all of these types of streets and looking into making them available on a GIS layer. Jack – Has tried to use the GIS layers to look up street classifications, widths, etc., for different streets built under different standards, but the information doesn't seem to be there. Carol – Is pretty sure current classifications are available on GIS layers and will look at the layers on GreshamView.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Notes by Kathy Schwabe, Coalition Secretary, and Carol Rulla, Coalition President
Minutes prepared by Carol Rulla, Coalition President

Next meeting: **Tuesday, April 12** – Oregon Trail Room