

Northwest Neighborhood Association

October 5, 2015 meeting minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

The May 18, 2015 minutes were approved.

Ann Pytynia, City of Gresham's Principle Urban Planner, presented a report of the Northwest Neighborhood Historic Homes Survey, which looked at homes built between 1937-1965. Two homes in our neighborhood were found “significant.” Before the homes can be officially classified the homeowner must consent.

Suzi Cloutier, representing the Columbia Land Trust and the Audubon Society, informed us about the Backyard Habitat Certification Program. The goal of the program is to create healthy landscapes in backyards to help support local wildlife.

Joe Walsh, Gresham Policy Advisor for Gang Prevention and Homelessness, provided information about his work dealing with the issue of gangs in Gresham.

GANGS

- In 2013 six of the seven homicides in Gresham had gang connections
- Gangs is a complex issue with no easy solutions
- If a teen is going to join a gang, they often make the decision when they are in middle school
- The Gresham Police Chief has hired two outreach officials
- Rather than solely focus on enforcement, the department is also working on prevention
- The county received a grant from the state in 2014 to go toward prevention and intervention—a basketball program for middle school and high school youth has been created through the grant funding

HOMELESS

- There has been an increase in homelessness in Gresham. This problem parallels with gang issues
- The department has coordinated with groups who work with the homeless population to get a count—176 unsheltered individuals were counted in East county, 10% are veterans, 2/3 are men, 2/3 are chronically disabled
- Working with the program “A Home For Everyone”
- in 2013 contracted with JOIN to help homeless into housing, this year 35 individuals received help getting into housing

NWNA board election: a slate of officers was presented

Kat Todd for president

John Bildsoe for vice president

Naomi Butler for treasurer

Barbara Adams for secretary

Elizabeth Livingston for land use chair

No one else was nominated or volunteered to run for office. The slate was unanimously approved by all who NWNA neighbors who were present.

Treasurer's report by Naomi Butler:
\$475.63 current On-Point balance

Announcements: There will be an Adopt-a-Park clean-up at Bella Vista Park Saturday, October 24 from 9-noon. Coffee, doughnuts, and cookies will be provided. The next Nwana general meeting will be held on Monday, January 25, 2016, at Gresham City Hall at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.