

Northwest Neighborhood Association General Meeting Minutes

April 29, 2019

- The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. John, Naomi, Barb, Dave, Elizabeth, and about 20 neighbors and guests were present.
- The January 28, 2019 minutes were approved.
- Gresham Parks Update: **Steve Fancher**, Environmental Services Director
 - ▶ Shared “Concept Parks Planning 2019” map showing city parks and future parks property sites (six total — tracks of land held by the city that are currently undeveloped).
 - ✓ Working with landscape architects to make these sites available at an affordable cost to the city
 - ✓ Four community parks and four neighborhood parks
 - ▶ The city is also looking at adding community garden sites—there are currently seven community gardens managed by the city.
 - ▶ Playgrounds: with the new school construction there have been additional public school playgrounds added.
 - ▶ Recreational programs — there are many programs in place, from basketball, soccer, art walk, etc.
 - ▶ Near-term funding potentials: asked the state legislature for \$6 million to help complete the sports park on Palmquist, to add two more baseball fields and soccer fields.
 - ▶ The city has also applied for grants to add another dog park “Better Cities for Pets”
 - ▶ Metro is planning on asking voters to approve a bond for parks and nature, Gresham’s “local share” would be approximately \$4 million.
 - ▶ Possible future project: community center with swimming pool (would ask voter’s approval)
 - ▶ Bella Vista Park slide update: an inspection was done on the slide, there were many issues. It was concluded that it was too dangerous to keep so it was removed. It is possible that the slide will be replaced with a similar style slide.
- Second Home: **Adams Jenkins**, Regional Coordinator
 - ▶ Second Home is a program of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon
 - ✓ Partners with the Gresham-Barlow School District and the East Metro Mediation Services
 - ▶ Mission: to provide stable housing and on-going support for unaccompanied students experiencing homelessness so they can complete school.
 - ▶ Gresham-Barlow has approximately 400 homeless youth
 - ▶ This program diverts students from going into the foster care system
 - ▶ Enables a higher percentage of this student population to succeed in high school

- ▶ There is a support team in place to help students with resources for things like prom dresses, sports equipment, haircuts, etc.
- ▶ A “home share” agreement is created with all parties involved
- ▶ jpratt@emoregon.org

- Land Use: **John Bildsoe**, Nwana Land-Use Chair

- ▶ Apartment development south of Bella Vista Park by Creations Northwest
 - ✓ There have been conditions on approval that the developer was not expecting, so it’s going a bit slower going
 - ✓ Creations NW has also purchased property on Birdsdale and they are looking into developing that as well—possibly a six unit row house. They are looking into arranging an early neighborhood notification meeting regarding this development
 - ✓ Someone cut down four or so trees on Creations NW property near the park and took them (stole them??), Creations NW say they didn’t approve this removal
- ▶ Waste transfer station update
 - ✓ “There is no known opposition to this....” Metro’s response even though this was discussed at the January 28 meeting and the Nwana voiced numerous concerns
 - ✓ John said he has noticed more trucks on Birdsdale
- ▶ Bus Rapid Transit update
 - ✓ The city of Gresham did not put up any money for this project, which will change the bus stop system on Division (based on the use of each stop currently). The federal funding is contingent on safety features of each stop (like sidewalks, which are non-existent along large stretches of Division)
- ▶ Civic Drive development: slated to go into development within the next few months (near Civic Drive MAX stop). There is also another development in the works near there.
- ▶ Question about K-Mart site, what’s going on with it? David Widmark said there are grand plans, no big box development though.
- ▶ Small World Daycare is expanding
- ▶ Neighbor voiced concern about speed on Wallula

- On Point balance: \$437.62

- \$61 was collected when we passed the hat.

- Raffle was held

- Announcements:

- Adopt-a-Park clean up at Bella Vista Park, Saturday, May 18, 9-noon

- Annual Picnic in the Park Thursday, July 25 (tentative) at Bella Vista Park

- Monday, October 29, 2019 Annual Board Election Meeting, City Hall 7:00 pm

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.