

KNCA Annual Meeting  
November 8, 2023  
7:00 PM  
Zoom Meeting

- **Opening:**

Meeting Called to Order: 7:04pm

Welcome and introduction by President Charles Teem.

An informal survey of attendees to see who got a postcard, email, saw a sign or saw the meeting notice on Social Media. Most attendees reported receiving a postcard. Several saw the email and other social media posts. Some signs were seen.

Quorum established with 19 KCNA members present.

Minutes from the September 27, 2023 meeting were reviewed. No corrections, additions, or omissions noted.

- **Elections:**

Board has put forward slate as follows:

President: Charles Teem

VP Karin Zachow

Sec/treasure Sara Brady Simoneau

Land Use Carol Rulla and Ken Howard

Charles Teem asked if there were any other nominations. There were none.

Motioned by Carol Rulla to elect the slate as presented, Second by Bridget Kowalski, unanimously approved by show of hands.

Gina asked for an introduction from all nominated individuals

Charles Teem in Kelly Creek for 20+ years. Involved in KNCA 17 years.

Carol Rulla Southern part of neighborhood. Over 18 years on KCNA Board. Officer on Coalition of Gresham Neighborhood Associations.

Ken Howard is new to the area as of August from Maryland. Ordained Clergy Person. Helping congregations better use their property.

Karin Zachow moved from Miami, July 4, 2021. Served on National Pressure injury advisory panel. Redrafted bylaws.

Sara Brady Simoneau Moved to Kelly Creek in 2020. Works for NWCOC and administers Committees.

- **City Manager Report:**

Charles Teem introduced Gresham City Manager Nina Vetter

Been with the city for 2.5 years. Launch of 2 public dashboards that went up in the last few months. Greatly improve transparency on what the city is working on, goals, what the police department is doing and what crime looks like in the city.

Strategic plan from 2022 outlines priorities and adopted plan. How do we know that we are successful in achieving goals? <https://greshamoregon.gov/strategic-plan/>

<https://city-of-gresham-strategic-plan-gresham.hub.arcgis.com/>

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Dashboard illustrates strategic priority areas and shows whether or not the city is successful in achieving priorities. Tied to city goals and what they are hoping to achieve.

Can see trends, data, data sources, performance measures.

Action Plan Status details out annual goals for the three-year strategic plan.

Performance dashboard – Police transparency Hub: <https://police-transparency-gresham.hub.arcgis.com/>

- Workforce Diversity
- Crime and Incident Data
- Use of Force

Looking to find out if this data is interesting and helpful to the community. Plan to add as more input comes in.

Crime summary dashboard – Year over year data

Crime Maps – Shows crime for the last 28 days

Use of Force data is also available. Shows how many times it results in an injury and how many times use of force has been used year over year.

Champion Gresham:

Choose your own adventure platform. Sign up by email

<https://greshamoregon.gov/Champion-Gresham/>

- Participate in Champion Gresham roundtables with other community members and the City Manager.
- Share your ideas on important City initiatives.
- Collaborate with other community members and local organizations.
- Expand your knowledge of civic matters.

Question about failed ballot measure – How will that affect the data that is presented now? Is it a projection?

Answer – Safety levy on ballot in May did not pass. Was for retaining staff and adding staff. Council is going to have another levy for this coming year, probably in May. Expenses higher than revenue right now. So there is still a need. No specialty teams in police because there is not enough staff. Affects their ability to respond quickly.

Question – Do you have officers trained in de-escalation and Mental Health Training

Answer – Yes. All are required to train in de-escalation. Above and beyond what is required by the state. All also get mental health training, but they also have a mental health specialty team that is paired with mental health professionals who is a trained clinician. Officers are trained to support the clinicians. Funded through a grant.

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Carol wanted to highlight that the mental health team sometimes has to go on regular 911 emergency calls due to short staffing, so they are unable to focus entirely on mental health calls. That is one reason that the levy is so important. Teams are not being used to their best effect because there are not enough officers in general. She also noted that the city used one-time funding to balance this year's budget after the levy failed, but that won't be an option next year.

- **Parks information:**

Tina Nunez Osterink with the parks and recs dept. City Natural Resources and Parks Planner. Our neighborhood parks and progress that is going to be made to develop them.

2019 metro nature bond – local share. City has the money from the bond and used some to buy the Shaul Property. Advisory Group recommended to use remaining money to help develop undeveloped parks. SE Neighborhood Park (6 acres) off of Barnes and HWY 26 and SE Community Park (16 acres) between Salquist and Chase are the 2 undeveloped parks in KCNA.

In 2021 the city did a survey of the community about undeveloped parks and 3 other projects. At that time they had \$5.4 million in local share funding. Now have \$3.6 million to spread out across 6 undeveloped parks. Parks and Recreation Manager Joe Walsh went to council on October 3<sup>rd</sup> (Council Work Session) and explained the strategy they are leaning towards. "Spread the Wealth" strategy.

Bright House at Hogan Butte Nature Park right at the base of Hogan Butte at the parking lot. Will be working on it. (\$700,000). Also have grants that they are looking to use and spread out across 6 undeveloped parks and Bright House.

SE Community Park Concept Plan – Parking off of Salquist, community garden, nature play, picnic shelter, lawn, meadow, dog park and trails. Staff suggestion: Phase 1 is parking, trails, and restrooms.

Question from Karin – what kind of courts

Answer – futsal, pickle ball, basketball are ideas. The decision will be made with community input during phase 2.

Question – Carol asked if the parking lot and bathrooms have to be phase 1 or if we have more choice in what phase 1 could be.

Answer - Yes, you definitely have a choice. The next step is to craft a strategy.

Question – Gina asked about secondary access on Jasmine Way and what is the funding approach.

Answer – We have not figured out a funding strategy. Working with consultants to develop a plan. In total about \$14 million dollars is needed to fully develop all 7 projects. The city has about \$3 million with remaining local share that could possibly be doubled with grant funding. Need to figure out timing and strategy. Would not get all grant money all at once, so a strategy has to be developed. Have to figure out how to spread the wealth. Do not want to pit one neighborhood against another. Want to activate it to a certain point and then continue to build it out as more money comes in. Have until 2027 to spend the local share funds. Also working on updating the city's park system master plan to provide more guidance.

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Charles asked about the financial piece for SE Community Park. \$2.4 to \$2.6 million for building the full concept plan.

Secondary access on Jasmine way is just pedestrian access, not parking and should not draw cars to the area. Will be signage and an entrance pathway. There would be frontage improvements as well.

Suggested priorities from meeting chat: Community Gardens, bike and walking Trails, Picnic Area, Sports courts

Two questions from Brad Busiek 1) Does Oak Grove on concept plan mean that you will be planting trees there? 2) Will there be any spur trails to view the creek?

Answer – Yes, planting Oak trees in that area. Spur trails would be part of the secondary plan.

Nature play area as opposed to a traditional playground. That did come up in the survey and a traditional playground could still be an option.

SE Neighborhood Park Concept Plan calls for trails, nature play, lawn, picnic shelter. Pretty basic, but has multiple benefits for many demographics. The concept plan cost is \$670,000-\$800,000

Kathi voiced a concern. Moved into the house in 1991 and the big sell was that a park was to be across the street. Still talking about a concept. It is disheartening because it has not happened in 30 years.

Answer - City is ready to make a move and have a few projects completed in 8 months to a year.

Carol noted that Tina led the way in developing these concept plans. This is different than what we have seen in the past. The city is actively working on finding grants and developing these parks.

**Officer Reports:**

**Charles Teem (President)** – No Report

**Carol Rulla (Land Use)** – No new land use from last meeting. 303 lot town home subdivision. Held an early neighborhood notification meeting. Carol reported on questions she asked staff after the ENN meeting.

Ken had asked about the fact that proposed Virginia Street goes in to existing Virginia in Crimson Cloud. Concern about speeding. Per staff, Code says they can't have cut through streets and the fact that the two intersections off of Chase don't line up with Virginia. That meets the code. Nothing in code that could require a change.

Also asked about pedestrian pathway. Staff thought it was allowed because the streets cannot line up due to the proposed open space. Block length is too long so they have to put in a path.

To the west the future streets cut through and leave little tiny slices of abutting properties that will not be developable. Per staff, they don't think it is worth it to change street location since abutting lots could be developed together or owners could do lot line adjustments.

Water pressure. Staff said it doesn't decrease when you add houses, but when all houses use water at the same time the Wheeler reservoir goes down and cannot fill fast enough to keep pressure high. This is the lowest water pressure area in the city. Carol asked staff if there was a plan to remedy the low water pressure. Staff is looking into situation but has not been responded to yet. Carol noted that, if it is in the capital

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improvements plan, then we need to advocate for that to get funded. A lot of new homes have already paid SDCs so there should be enough funds to improve the pump so tower can fill faster.

No new information on wetlands. Asked to take photos if we see water on the west side of the development.

The townhomes are allowed in code so we can't stop them. If the townhomes on Lusted don't sell then the developer may change plans with this subdivision.

Question from Gina – When is the public comment period?

Answer – Has not been established yet. They have not even submitted an application. Waiting on the wetland process before they submit an application to the city. Charles added that if they didn't get the wetland removal approved then they would not be able to go with the proposed plan in that area. They said they would still go through with it, but would reduce the number of homes on the west side. All of the intersections will be part of the traffic study and they may have to build out. They will still likely meet the threshold to have to put in a light at Powell Valley and 282<sup>nd</sup>.

**Bridget Kowalski (Treasurer)**– Nothing to report, but was asking about the grading on Orient going on yesterday.

Answer – Charles reported that he did not get any heads up about closing of the road on Orient or Barnes. They may be going to extend center turn lane. Charles will inquire within the city to see what is going on.

Ken said it would be nice to have bike lanes and sidewalks. Carol reminded that in Oregon that mainly comes through development. Charles noted that Safe Routes to Schools might provide funding for sidewalks near schools. Carol previously asked about Safe Routes to Schools funding for older parts of Salquist where there are no sidewalks, but was told that there are other routes, so there is no need. Funding is very hard to get.

Karin extended thanks to Bridget, seconded by Charles.

- **Adjournment:**

Charles welcomed the new board members.

Advisory to watch out for coyotes.

Charles asked how many are interested in doing in person meetings in the future. It was a majority vote for in person. Charles will reach out the SD to see if we can get into Kelly Creek or Gordon Russell.

Next Meeting submitted for the first Wednesday in February. Still tentative.

Minutes recorded by Sara Brady Simoneau 11-08-2023