

Rockwood Neighborhood Association

March 18, 2024 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Rockwood Village Community Center

15 residents, 2 guests

At 6:07 p.m. President Catherine Nicewood called the meeting to order. The Rockwood Board Officers were introduced. Rocio Reyes, the Resident Services Coordinator from Hacienda CDC spoke about her job at Rockwood Village, and gave an opportunity for people to ask her questions.

There was discussion about the November Meeting minutes. It was voted to table the minutes to our next meeting.

At 6:20 p.m. City Councilor Dina DiNucci spoke about the Gresham Safety Levy. The Levy is to improve response times for police and fire. Homeless Services are going to rely on funds from Multnomah County.

At 6:25 p.m. Tina Nunez-Osterink spoke about the upcoming Tree Code. The last update to the Tree Code was in 2015. In 2007 the Urban Forestry Plan was made. In 2024, it is scheduled to update the Tree Code. Several funds are being used to support the update. East Multnomah Soli and Water Funding has been used to plant trees. A \$4,000,000 grant has been awarded to the City of Gresham. Friends of trees provide five years of support for watering the trees that are planted in the planter strips. There will be a workforce development component to the Grant. Youth and Adult urban Foresters will be used to collect data. There will be culturally informed engagement early and often throughout the process.

The Rockwood Greenspace Now Project at 270 NE 188<sup>th</sup> Ave is looking through an equity lens. They are looking into a Community Land Acquisition for the site.

On a private lot an owner can cut down three trees a year with a permit. But a developer can cut down 30 trees on a lot depending on the size. The question was asked, why the difference? Tina responded that they will look at these situations on the upcoming tree code project through an equity lens. There will be public involvement and a broader engagement for the Tree Code. They will

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also be updating the Tree List for residents and commercial. The Project will take 18 months to 2 years.

Jason mentioned that the street trees on Burnside that were planted are being taken down because of the development on 165<sup>th</sup> and Burnside.

On the Shaull Property lots of trees fell during the storm. One tree fell through a house. The question was asked, "How do we save old growth trees that are really stressed?"

On March 16<sup>th</sup> Friends of Trees planted 120 trees.

There is a 1.5 million grant to be used in Rockwood. Some of the money will be used to put air conditioners in multi-family units.

John Bildsoe asked about the Yeon Property. The County is cutting down 36 trees and replanting 29 trees. Tina didn't know about the application.

At 7:15 p.m. Jason Naumann, Board President of Rockwood Commons, gave an update on the Rockwood Tool Library. The Carpentry Shop behind Taco Bell was bought by the City of Gresham Urban Renewal. The City is looking at various uses of the building and property. One of the possible uses is the Rockwood Tool Library. March 29<sup>th</sup> there will be a Resource at Nadaka Park.

At 7:20 p.m. Janet Unruh, a community member, gave a presentation on the Rockwood Greenspace Now Project at 270 NE 188<sup>th</sup> Ave. She showed a power point presentation. There are 50 Douglas fir trees on the property. The City of Gresham Waste Management Department suggested less units on the property. There is a consideration of more traffic and a school bus stop at 188<sup>th</sup> and Everett Court. There is speeding already on 188<sup>th</sup> Ave. The Petition for the Project has 1356 signatures. The developer wants to build 19-20 townhomes on the property.

We had time for open discussion. There were questions about Rockwood Village. There are 224 apartments, 400 children, 400 adults. There needs to be more resources for immigrants. Rocio is working with the City of Gresham. Lt. Van Beek has been assigned to Rockwood Village.

There was a question about why 197<sup>th</sup> is closed. A water main is being put in.

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Meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.