

**Coalition of Gresham Neighborhood Associations
November 14, 2023 – Remotely Held (Zoom)
Meeting Minutes**

NEIGHBORHOOD	ATTENDEES	NEIGHBORHOOD	ATTENDEES
Centennial		North Central	
Central City	INACTIVE	Northeast	INACTIVE
Gresham Butte	Stephen Estes, Jim Buck, Theresa Tschirky	North Gresham	INACTIVE
Gresham Pleasant Valley	Richard Barker, John Maxwell	Northwest	Kat Todd, John Bildsoe
Historic Southeast	INACTIVE	Powell Valley	Stella Butler
Hogan Cedars		Rockwood	Catherine Nicewood, Deanna Stewart, Anthony Crossman
Hollybrook		Southwest	Dana Duval
Kelly Creek	Charles Teem, Carol Rulla	Wilkes-East	Kris Freiermuth
Staff & Guests	Michael Gonzeles, Neighborhood Services Division, City of Gresham;; Thomas Stanley; Janet Unruh		

The meeting opened at 7:01 p.m., Carol Rulla, Coalition Co-President presiding.

1. Minutes for October 10, 2023, meeting: After establishing quorum, the minutes were approved as presented.

2. Discussion of Neighborhood Association Goals and Support:

a. Neighborhood association members discussed several things that they are doing within their neighborhoods to maintain interest. Some of the things mentioned were: newsletters, holding picnics in their neighborhood parks, “adopt a park” projects, and other projects to improve the neighborhood such as planting trees and picking up trash. A suggestion was made to have a joint neighborhood project or even a project competition.

b. There was some discussion on the requirement to provide your name and address when attending an Early Neighborhood Notification meeting on Zoom. Some people were uncomfortable or not willing to publically state that information on a recorded meeting and the question was asked about whether the name and email address could be collected by city staff from the Zoom registration instead of by the applicant during the meeting. Michael Gonzales agreed to check on this.

c. A Land Use training meeting is expected to be held sometime after the new year. This training is designed to help Land Use Officer and Presidents, but anyone interested can attend.

d. Michael Gonzales shared that it is a part of the city's strategic plan under "community vibrancy" to meet with the city council to discuss how to best support the neighborhood associations. One thing he would like to see for the neighborhood associations is more opportunities for social engagement. He mentioned that the park fees were waived for the neighborhood associations as well as the use of the Kyoudou Center at Main City Park. There is also a possibility of using schools again for our meetings. They are waiting for information on costs, rules, etc.

3. Neighborhood and City News and Reports:

a. Neighborhood Services Report: Michael Gonzales: No report

b. Co-President Report:

1) Carol Rulla:

(a) For our next coalition meeting will have a question-and-answer session with Mike Whitely from the Water Division for the city, specifically about the new groundwater system. We are going to collect questions about the groundwater system so Mike Whitely can have some of the questions in advance of the meeting.

(b) Reminder that Coalition Officer elections will be held during our January meeting.

c. NA Reports and Concerns.

1) Anthony Crossman reported on a meeting with the Blue Print Foundation to put air quality sensors in East Multnomah County. Carol will get contact information from Anthony to invite them to a Coalition meeting.

2) Jim Buck suggested lobbying ODOT to plant trees on the east side along Hwy. 26 comparable to the west side. Jim will follow up to invite ODOT to a meeting.

3) Kat Todd asked how the City will be educating people that this is the last backyard burning season. Michael will follow up. John Maxwell suggested a presentation on Firewise Communities.

4) Carol Rulla noted that Gresham-Barlow School District holds Key Communicator meetings to connect with community leaders including NA officers. There's a new program called Community on Duty at Gresham High School.

Meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Dana Duval – Coalition Secretary-Treasurer

Next meeting: Tuesday, December 12th
