

**Coalition of Gresham Neighborhood Associations
September 12, 2023 – Remotely Held (Zoom)
Meeting Minutes**

NEIGHBORHOOD	ATTENDEES	NEIGHBORHOOD	ATTENDEES
Centennial	Rick Dwyer	North Central	Mary Gossett
Central City	INACTIVE	Northeast	INACTIVE
Gresham Butte	Jim Buck, Theresa Tschirky,	North Gresham	INACTIVE
Gresham Pleasant Valley	INACTIVE	Northwest	Kat Todd, Chris Fast, John Bildsoe
Historic Southeast	INACTIVE	Powell Valley	
Hogan Cedars		Rockwood	Catherine Nicewood, Deanna Stewart, Anthony Crosman
Hollybrook		Southwest	
Kelly Creek	Charles Teem, Carol Rulla	Wilkes-East	Kris Freiermuth
Staff & Guests	Joe Walsh, City of Gresham, Director of Strategic Initiatives and Partnerships; Tina Nunez-Osterink, City of Gresham, Natural Resources and Parks Planner; Sara Hopkins, City of Gresham, GIS Manager; Tabitha Fraser, City of Gresham, GIS Senior Analyst; Thomas Stanley; Janet Unruh; Spencer Trumm		

The meeting opened at 7:02 p.m., Jim Buck, Coalition Co-President presiding.

1. Minutes for August 8, 2023 meeting: After establishing quorum, the minutes were approved as presented.
2. Parks Planning and Projects Update: Joe Walsh, Director of Strategic Initiatives and Partnerships, and Tina Nunez-Osterink, Natural Resources and Parks Planner, for the City of Gresham:
 - a. An approximately 30 member parks advisory group met over a period of a year to identify core values, inventory existing parks and recreation assets and explore partnerships and other strategies. The resulting report recommendations were presented to the City Council.
 - 1) The core values identified were accessibility, equity, and safety. These core values are being used to guide strategic planning actions such as the Parks System Master Plan, the Gradin Sports Park phase 2 goals, the accessibility upgrades for Rockwood Central Park and free recreation programming events.
 - 2) Through the inventory of the existing parks and assets, an on-line asset mapping tool was developed. This tool is in the process of being linked to the Parks Planning website. Additionally, the inventory is being used in the Parks System Master Plan to help identify needs, such as preferred maintenance and gaps in services.

3) In exploring partnerships and other strategies, the parks advisory group recommended a “share the wealth” strategy in the case of the undeveloped parks. There is an opportunity to utilize the Metro Local Share funding with other sources (such as ARPA, grants, etc.), to do what might be called phase one projects for all six of the undeveloped parks. This will require City Council approval, as well as approval from Metro to use the Local Share funding.

3. Gresham Mapping Update: Sara Hopkins, GIS Manager and Tabitha Fraser, GIS Senior Analyst, for the IT Department, City of Gresham

a. The department is currently in the process of updating Gresham Map and they would like the Coalition feedback on what is working/not working and if there are functions that we would like to see added. An on-line survey, which closes Wednesday, September 20th is at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GISMapsUsage>.

4. Neighborhood and City News and Reports:

a. Neighborhood Services Report: No report.

b. Co-President Report:

Carol Rulla:

1) There will be a police and fire event at City Hall on October 7th, with a story time for kids scheduled for 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and at 11:45 a.m., there will be a statue unveiling.

2) We are working on a repair café with a swap of winter clothing included. The repair café will be held on October 21st from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Restore on 181st street.

3) If neighborhood associations have elections, be sure to let Michael Gonzales of Neighborhood Services know the results, as well as, notifying Jim Buck and Carol Rulla, Coalition Co-Presidents.

4) If anyone has any topics that they would like to see addressed at our meetings, let the Co-Presidents know. The Coalition has asked for a presentation on the Flood-Safe Columbia initiative (deals with the levee improvements along the Columbia) but have had no response—we will follow-up. Other topics mentioned were code-enforcement reporting on My Gresham and homeless services.

Jim Buck:

1) After a short discussion on some of the traffic issues being experienced in Gresham, the group agreed that it would be good to have Chris Strong from the Transportation Department come to a Coalition meeting.

2) Council Citizen Advisory Committees (CCACs): The CCACs were put on hold last December while the city studied CCAC volunteering and the only committee that has continued to meet is the Urban Forestry Subcommittee. While the city has been tasking the Urban Forestry Subcommittee with several projects, because of the hold, they cannot recruit new volunteers for the committee. After a meeting with Michael Gonzales, it seems that the study has not progressed. Michael Gonzales is going to try to talk to the City Manager about the issue and see if recruitment of volunteers can be allowed for the Urban Forestry Subcommittee.

c. NA Reports and Concerns.

1) Carol Rulla KCNA: Lind-Carpenter Park Party to be held Sept 16th, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The address is 3842 SE Hillyard.

Meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Dana Duval – Coalition Secretary-Treasurer

Next meeting: Tuesday, October 10
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