



Wilkes East Neighborhood Association **Public Meeting Minutes**

August 14, 2017

Call to Order

Kris Freiermuth called to order the public meeting of the Wilkes East Neighborhood Association at 7:00 at Albertina-Kerr campus in Gresham, Oregon.

Roll Call

Kris Freiermuth, Chair, Billy Simmons, Treasurer, Curt Duval, Land Use, Gail Voge, Member at Large

Attendance: Approximately 30 people

Guests: Officers Blake and Watkins, Josh Fuhrer, Heather Buely and Carly Rice

Officers Blake and Watkins – Community Contacts

Updated us on the homeless people in Nadaka park. They are working with St. Aiden's church to get the campers out of the church's parking lot. There is a police presence in the parks 1 to 2 times a week. They do a walk through the park. The police are hampered by the red tape so that they cannot arrest anyone for camping in the park. They would like to be able to exclude people who are urinating and other acts but cannot do that because of state laws. There are park ambassadors that also do a walk through the park and let the police know of any problems. The ambassadors offer the homeless with resources to help them

Graffiti – If any stores or private residences find any MS13 graffiti they can notify the police through the MyGresham.org. MS13 is a very violent salvatorian gang. They suggested that if a side of a building is tagged then maybe they could have a mural painted. It seems that a mural stops any other graffiti.

Billy Simmons – Treasurer

Basket was passed for donations. There were no transactions this month. WENA received a matching grant for WENA to print a newsletter. Some items that we have to pay for are postage box, domain name, buying checks that are paid for with the donations. There is no charge for space at Albertina-Kerr.

Josh Fuhrer – Update on the Rockwood Triangle

The Rockwood Triangle will be located on the site of the old Fred Meyers store. This will hopefully revitalize the community in that area. This has been a couple of years of researching what the people that live in the neighborhood would like to have. There will be a food marketplace with vendors who provide grocery goods: meat, bakery, produce daily



home essentials and also including a brewpub. 20 or so incubator spaces for micro-entrepreneurs to set up shop for lost cost, build a following, and eventually transition into brick & mortar storefronts nearby. Public plaza for the farmers market, community events, concerts, etc. They are working with Mt. Hood Community College and Adventist hospital to collaborate in having classes at MHCC and then students would have a work study at Adventist offices. This project is a \$55 to \$60 million dollar project with some money from the Oregon lottery funds. There will be a center for advance learning web development. Project website is [rockwood rising.com](http://rockwoodrising.com) on the City of Gresham's website.

Heather Buely – Backyard Habitat in your back Yard

Backyard habitat has three levels of certification: Silver, Gold & Platinum. A technician will help determine which elements are right for you and your yard. Then work with you to remove invasive weeds, add native plants, help reduce pesticide use, and wildlife stewardship. The cost is \$35. The website is backyardshabitats.org.

Carly Rice – Associate Transportation Planner, Urban Development City of Gresham City Bike routes.

Carly passed out some maps of bicycle and pedestrian priority areas that show the areas that they located with high demand for bicycle and pedestrians use. This project is to improve the access for bicycle and pedestrians to have access to the transit network and promote safety.

Lee Dayfield – Nadaka Park Update

There will be a Nadaka safety committee meeting on Wednesday, August 30 at 7:00 pm at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church. Website: friendsofnadaka.org

Approved minutes from the November 14, 2016.

Meeting adjourned at 9 pm