



## Wilkes East Neighborhood Association

### Board Meeting

February 10, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 pm by Greg Hartung, Land Use Co-Chair. This Board meeting was held via Zoom and recorded.

**Roll Call:** Kris Freiermuth, *President*, Bob Lundbom, *webmaster*, Greg Hartung, *Land Use Co-Chair*; Claudette Naylor, *Treasurer*, Eric El Kay, and Janet Unruh, *members*.

Approval of January meeting minutes – Greg noted that we hadn't approved October's meeting minutes. Greg sent them out again, but not all the board members reviewed them. Motion to approve both January's and October's meeting minutes, approved.

#### Claudette Naylor, Treasurer

- Wants better signs in the neighborhood for HB Lee (check recording for more info). Claudette will send information to Bob to include in the newsletter.

#### Greg Hartung, Land Use

- Owes Bob an article. It will be short!
- Property at 181<sup>st</sup> and Sandy – already built warehousing on three tax lots. Similar to another property nearby.
- Extended Stay hotel east of the Wilkes East Elementary School will be converted to an adult care facility. 17777 NE Sacramento St. See photo and NARRATIVE on the last page. It may be an assisted living facility. The applicant is PDK Hotels.
- The new Taco Bell is in progress. An ADA ramp will extend to it from the sidewalk on 181<sup>st</sup>.
- Habitat for Humanity project across from Nadaka Park is underway.
- May Cleanup – Greg and Eric will contact Moose Lodge to see if they're open to hosting the cleanup. Claudette offered to help. Steve at the Moose Lodge will do



most of the setup. We will announce the clean-up in the newsletter. It will be on May 10<sup>th</sup> in the Moose Lodge parking lot. We could put stickers on our lawn signs to announce the cleanup.

- Steve's phone number is 503 253 1891. Greg agreed to call him this week to ensure that he's "onboard"
- Billy gave Greg a lot of brand-new lawn signs.

Janet Unruh, member at large, report on the Police chief's "Fireside Chat"

Note: Janet owes Bob an article, too.

Police chief's "Fireside Chat" with Police Chief Travis Gullberg, who has over 23 years of law enforcement experience in East County and the City of Gresham and Jason Albelo, pastor at East Hill Church, 701 N. Main Ave.

Top three priorities:

1. Staffing – the levy provided funds but the department still needs 10 more officers. Recruiting has been difficult. The department has sufficient support staff and six community safety officers who are unarmed.
  - a. Sign up for the PACT newsletter
  - b. The online crime dashboard, <https://police-transparency-gresham.hub.arcgis.com/pages/crime-stats>
2. Ceasefire program, <https://www.ceasefireoregon.org/our-plan/>
  - a. Require higher standards for gun ownership.
  - b. Enhance accountability of federally licensed firearm dealers.
  - c. Improve safety standards for guns and gun ownership.
3. Crime reduction (generally) to begin next year. Will include traffic stops especially for speeders. The chief hopes to reduce injuries and deaths in Gresham. The red light intersection cameras will be piloted soon.

Q&A with audience

- When will the Rockwood station open? It will open in March.



- Will the Gresham police be involved in ICE raids of illegal immigrants? No, Oregon law says that local police are not to be involved unless there's a court order.
- Those who live in noisy and dangerous neighborhoods want greater promptness of officers to come to the scene, but the chief says he needs additional officers.
- The Neighborhood Enforcement Team (NET) has one officer. The chief would like to have two NET officers, but the good news is that the program has re-started.
- There's a Retail Theft Task Force whose mission is to reduce theft in local stores. They have received funding to continue their work. See: <https://portlandmetrochamber.com/resources/auto-theft-and-retail-theft-task-force-reports-on-progress/>
- The police force's drones are a big help. Often, they are first on the scene.
- The Hope Center received \$2M to continue its work.
- About Cook Plaza – the chief hadn't given any thought to it yet.

#### Discussion

- Eric said that if we can't hire more police officers, the department shouldn't ask for more money.
- Kris said he's dedicated.
- Eric wondered about the kind of outreach that the chief is undertaking.
- Kris said she'd like to see the Sea Bears come back – they were a group of seniors who patrolled the parks and whatever the police department wanted them to do. Another thing was to set up traffic count monitoring – the black cables that go across streets. They also did graffiti removal.

#### March articles for newsletter

- Charlotte Becker submitted an article regarding the otter statue in Nadaka. Joan Albertson is giving the funding for the replacement of the otter.
- Emon Ghassemi, Gresham Youth Services manager, will also write an article, and speak at the public meeting.



- Greg will write an article about land use updates.
- Janet will write an article about quirky, one-of-a-kind shops in Gresham.
- Lucile's article (?) – Bob has it.
- And...?
- Deadline tomorrow!

Eric brought baby August (Auggie) Elton for us to see. Robyn is on leave right now and when she goes back to work, Eric will go on leave.

Motion to adjourn. It was seconded and carried.

Adjourned 7:35 PM.

Next Public meeting, Monday March 10, 2025

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Website: [www.wilkeseastna.org](http://www.wilkeseastna.org)

All Board Meetings start at 6:30 pm.

All Public Meetings start at 7:00 pm.

Until further notice all Board meetings will be held via Zoom.

Until further notice all Public meetings will be held at the Moose Lodge, 16411 NW Halsey.



Wilkes East  
Neighborhood



#### **NARRATIVE**

**Proposal:** The applicant proposes to convert an existing 104-room hotel to a 104-unit Assisted Living Facility. Both the existing footprint and the total square feet of the building will remain the same. Other site development elements such as parking, landscaping, circulation, etc. will remain unchanged, unless otherwise required as part of the conversion.

**Site Description:** The 124,697 square feet site is currently developed and used as a hotel. The site is designated Moderate Commercial (MC) which allows Elderly Housing (Table 4.0420), with Assisted Living a subset (See Article 3 Definition - Elderly Housing).

**Review Type:** Per Table 4.0420 Elderly Housing proposal requires a Type II Special Use Review (SUR II). The proposal will also require Design Review C, being a change in use.

The applicant would like to know in details any required revisions/upgrades to the exiting development that are required for the new use. This includes public facilities, transportation, parking, landscaping, street trees, etc.

A list of the associated application fees and the review timeline will also be appreciated. We look forward to meeting with City staff to discuss and get guidance on this proposal.