



Diversity, Harmony,
Community – together we
can make a difference!

WENA BOARD MEETING

MEETING MINUTES

14 September 2026

HIGHLIGHTS

The WENA Board welcomed and appointed four new members at large: Elena, Dimitrios, Nicole, and Shawnta'. The new members will work with current board members over the coming months to learn about board responsibilities and consider roles they may wish to take on.

Call to Order	Janet	6:50
Roll Call of the Board Board members present: Janet, Bob, and Claudette Guests: Elena, Dimitrios, Nicole, and Shawnta'	Janet	1 min.
Secretary - Approval of July 15, 2026, meeting minutes - Claudette moved to approve the minutes. Janet seconded. Motion passed unanimously.	Janet	2 min.
Treasurer - Current balance: \$3,310.46. - Funding sources: Grants from the City of Gresham and Metro. - Major expenditures: The "Junk Drop" event cost \$1,690.06. - P.O. Box renewal: Bob moved to approve \$194 for the annual P.O. Box fee. Claudette seconded. Motion passed unanimously. - Business license update — in progress.	Claudette	5 min.

• Note: Checks over \$100 require two signatures (Claudette and Eric Elkay). • Note: Claudette noted that if a new treasurer assumes the position, the name will need to be changed on the checks and business license.		
Land Use Officer • No report.	Janet	0 min.
Guest and board member introductions Nicole: Wilkes East resident for about three years; works downtown and commutes by MAX. Elena: Wilkes East resident for about three years; spent 15 years working in fraud prevention at Wells Fargo. Currently a stay-at-home mother, she became interested in WENA after reading the newsletter. Has previous experience as a treasurer and is interested in becoming more involved. Dimitrios: Previously served four or five years on the WENA Board. Founded and runs a Gresham nonprofit providing day-support activities, skill building, and socialization for adults with developmental disabilities. Also served several years on the Gresham Redevelopment Advisory Committee and was involved during the redevelopment of Rockwood. Shawnta': Moved from Washington, D.C., in May 2025. Former professional chef who transitioned into gerontology and advocacy for older adults. Recently completed an addiction-counseling program and hopes to combine that training with gerontology to advocate for older adults in recovery. Active in student and community advocacy. Janet: Background in instructional design, engineering and technology management, media, communications, and writing. Secretary of WENA. Bob: Software engineer and 19-year WENA Board member who manages the website and newsletter. Grew up in the area and has seen considerable change in the neighborhood over the years. Claudette Naylor: Lifelong Oregonian and 52-year area resident. Retired educator who worked for Portland Public Schools for 33 years and served 13 years on the Reynolds School Board. Has	Guests and board members	15 min.

served on the WENA Board as Treasurer for two years and would like to continue as a member at large.		
Review board member responsibilities (attachment was included in email)	Janet	20 min.
Board appointments - Janet moved to appoint all four guests as members at large. Claudette seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The new members at large will consider what roles they may want to assume on the WENA board. In the meantime: - Elena and Claudette will meet to discuss the treasurer position. - Janet and Nicole will meet to discuss the secretary position. - Janet, Elena, and Shawnta' will form a committee to plan an emergency preparedness workshop with the new City of Gresham emergency planning director. - Dimitrios offered to assist where needed and possibly take a leadership role.	All	10 min.
Survey results: The board discussed holding one community event each quarter in 2027, beginning with an emergency preparedness workshop in January.	Janet	10 min.
Follow-up on requests from the August public meeting: - Stop sign/speed bump near Wilkes East Elementary School — these options may not be feasible because of cost— approximately \$20,000 to \$30,000. The board discussed whether the school could recruit a volunteer crossing guard before and after school. Janet will follow up. - Police speed-monitoring trailer — unresolved; Janet will follow up. - Board members and residents were encouraged to report concerns through the MyGresham app to help document recurring issues, such as loitering, homelessness, traffic, and safety concerns.	All	15 min.

Open Agenda - Bob announced that newsletter contributions are due October 16, 2026. Approximately six articles are needed. - The newsletter should include information about reviewing the bylaws and the upcoming elections.	All	12 min.
Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.	All	8:00

Next WENA Board Meeting: October 12, 2026 at 6:30 PM via Zoom

*** * ***