

**Coalition of Gresham Neighborhood Associations
February 11, 2020 – Oregon Trail Conf Room, Gresham City Hall**

Meeting Minutes

NEIGHBORHOOD	ATTENDEES	NEIGHBORHOOD	ATTENDEES
Centennial	INACTIVE	Northeast	INACTIVE
Central City	INACTIVE	North Gresham	Mike Elston
Gresham Butte	Theresa Tschirky, Tracy Slack	Northwest	Dave Dyk
Historic Southeast		Gresham Pleasant Valley	
Hogan Cedars		Powell Valley	
Hollybrook		Rockwood	
Kelly Creek	Carol Rulla, Charles Teem	Southwest	Gail Cerveny, Clarence Lankins
North Central	Mary Gossett	Wilkes-East	Greg Hartung
Staff & Guests:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blanca Gaytan Farfan, We Count Oregon / East County Rising • Ethan Knight 		

A quorum of neighborhoods was present. Carol Rulla initiated the meeting at 7:00PM. No attendees asked to provide public comment. Minutes from the meeting held on 1/14/20 as presented; No motions for changes were made, and the minutes were adopted as presented.

Census / We Count Oregon

Carol Rulla introduced Blanca Gaytan Farfan, with East County Rising who has partnered with the We Count Oregon campaign. The We Count Oregon campaign is a coalition of organizations in Oregon who are working to ensure full coverage for the census.

Blanca described the census and the We Count Oregon campaign. This included a description of the organizations in the campaign. A primary focus of the campaign is to use census equity coordinators, where a focus on traditionally under-represented communities is planned.

Blanca described the census process. New for 2020, the Census Bureau will be using online self-responses. For individuals without access to a computer or smartphone, libraries will be used as a location for census data collection. Library staff will receive some training to enable them to assist when asked. Paper forms can also be mailed, or a call center is available. Many communities will receive a mailed Internet First invitation, encouraging online response. All of the Portland metro area will be in this Internet First program.

The census day for 2020 is planned for April 1st. Campaign activity is happening primarily in advance of the census day. A key goal is to communicate that there is no citizenship question, to reinforce the privacy controls, and the positive uses of census data.

The census form asks for basic information about residency and identification. It does not ask for sensitive information such as social security numbers or bank account information. Title 13 is federal law which governs census data privacy. This includes keeping census data on individuals private for 75 years and requiring census employees to take an oath to keep the data private.

In Oregon, approximately 450,000 new people live in the state since the last census. There is the

potential that Oregon will be allocated another Congress seat if that growth is reflected in the 2020 census. Additionally, funding for a variety of federal programs are allocated using census data.

For individuals who are interested in paid work, the campaign is working hard to recruit part-time workers, in particular those with second-language skills. There is a hiring fair coming up March 7th 9AM – 3PM at Fairview City Hall. Positions will pay \$17-\$18/hour, will be part-time, and will start on April 4th. Details are available at www.eastcountyrising.com.

Multnomah County District Attorney Candidate Ethan Knight

- Mr. Knight attended the Coalition meeting as a citizen making public comment. He briefly presented an overview of his campaign for the Multnomah County District Attorney.
- Gail Cerveny asked if there is a threshold for prosecution. Mr. Knight noted that he believed the primary focus should be how to deal with low-level crimes in effective ways.
- Mike Elston noted that there had been over 70 shootings in the Portland area since the first of the year, and asked if Mr. Knight had a response. Mr. Knight noted that recent conversations with colleagues in the gun enforcement team (GET) indicated to him that there are younger individuals involved in shootings. He noted that from a strategy perspective, becoming more proactive in advance of shootings is important. Other strategies he favors include policies that encourage police to be visible in the community, and robust prosecution of gun crimes.
- Greg Hartung noted he had seen an increase in thefts from front porches, and that was an example of a crime that is rising. Mr. Knight noted he believed the role of the DA was to serve in advocacy of public safety.
- Gail Cerveny asked how Mr. Knight felt about working with federal government in cooperation around prosecution. Mr. Knight noted he is a current federal prosecutor, and would bring an active approach. He gave the example of focusing on gun violence. Gail followed-up by asking about whether Mr. Knight would partner with ICE. Mr. Knight noted he is concerned about the impact of ICE deportations on undocumented communities reporting crimes. He did favor engaging with ICE on issues such as human trafficking or drug enforcement, which are ICE's most common enforcement issues.

Neighborhood & City News & Reports

- Carol Rulla noted the following updates:
 - o An update related to Participatory Budgeting implementation for the Metro regional parks and nature bond funds. The City of Gresham is planning training but has delayed holding it until staff can communicate with City Council to clarify any policy guidance prior to implementation. Metro staff also needs time to manage the implementation.
 - o The City of Gresham has some yard stakes available to associations, and to-date only two neighborhoods had expressed interest. Interested associations should contact Michael Gonzales.
 - o Updated guidance for Early Neighborhood Notification (ENN) meetings was shared, highlighting the changes. Staff has begun to give this document to applicants to include with their ENN meeting notices.
 - o The legacy land-use planning system (pre-dating ePlan) is no longer being supported by the vendor, and some documents can no longer be opened. If associations cannot open a pre-application summary or decision in the old system, they should contact city staff to ask for the document or go to City Hall to review the file. This only applies to non-ePlan applications. Documents for ePlan applications are stored in ePlan
 - o Follow-up on draft wireless communications right of way code which was presented last

month. Carol noted that the existing public process for applications with waivers is proposed to be replaced with temporary neighborhood notifications for all applications for a period of 2 years or 50 applications. This will allow staff to collect information for future code improvements while still meeting the strict FCC time limits for reviewing applications. The proposed code will be presented to Council on March 3.

- The five-year capital improvements program (CIP) work session is scheduled for Monday March 24 at the Planning Commission meeting.
 - Also the same night the Charter Review Committee will hold a listening session at the beginning of its meeting, to deliberate on potential changes to refer to voters for the Gresham City Charter.
 - A community dialog on a potential supportive housing bond hosted by County Commissioner Lori Stegmann and other elected officials is scheduled for February 13th at the East Multnomah County Building.
- Mike Elston noted weather had delayed the Kirk Park playground project implementation. He also noted that the North Gresham NA board had recently met with City staff about the well-drilling project. He imagines that there will be good turnout at their general meeting, following the notice about well-drilling work.

Carol Rulla thanked everyone for attending and participating. The meeting was adjourned at 8:34PM.

Minutes prepared by Dave Dyk, Coalition Secretary-Treasurer

Next meeting: **Tuesday, March 10** – City Hall Oregon Trail Room