

**Coalition of Gresham Neighborhood Associations
August 12, 2025 – Remotely Held (Zoom)
Meeting Minutes**

NEIGHBORHOOD	ATTENDEES	NEIGHBORHOOD	ATTENDEES
Centennial		North Central	INACTIVE
Central City	INACTIVE	Northeast	INACTIVE
Gresham Butte	Stephen Estes, Jim Buck	North Gresham	INACTIVE
Gresham Pleasant Valley	Richard Barker	Northwest	John Bildsoe
Historic Southeast	INACTIVE	Powell Valley	Stella Butler
Hogan Cedars	INACTIVE	Rockwood	Catherine Nicewood
Hollybrook	INACTIVE	Southwest	Kathy Gardenhire
Kelly Creek	Charles Teem, Karin Zachow, Carol Rulla	Wilkes-East	
Staff & Guests	Lina Sizmin, Neighborhood Services; Mary Phillips, Urban Design and Planning; Gabby Sinagra, Urban Design and Planning; Kathy Keathley, City Councilor		

The meeting opened at 7:00 p.m., Carol Rulla, Coalition Co-President presiding.

1. Meeting minutes for July 8, 2025, were approved as written.
2. No public comment was presented.
3. Tree Code Update – Mary Phillips and Gabby Sinagra: A brief recap of phases 2 and 3 of the tree code update was provided. The presentation included an overview of the draft policy approach of balancing the preservation and planting of trees with development flexibility at the start of the planning process; setting city-wide canopy goals and minimum coverage targets; using tree maintenance and planting to reach canopy goals; requiring replacement planting and payment of impact fees for tree removal; and establishing an enforcement system to ensure compliance. The draft schedule includes work sessions with the Urban Forestry Subcommittee, the Planning Commission and City Council. The scheduled adoption hearings are November 10th for the Planning Commission public hearing and December 9th for the City Council public hearing. Questions and discussion followed the presentation. The coalition attendees and Councilor Keathley offered several suggestions on the content and clarification of the tree code. Mary Phillips recorded the suggestions for use during the update process.
4. Neighborhood Association Officer Contact Information on City Website Discussion: The concern arose because some of the NA officers have received scam emails that were sent to the NA officers email addresses that appear on the Gresham city website. Stephen Estes suggested use of the “list server” as a solution. Lina Sizmin agreed to

discuss this suggestion with the IT staff. Carol noted use of one generic NA email address for all officers is another option. Discussion will continue at a future meeting.

5. Neighborhood and City News and Reports:

a. Neighborhood Services Report: Lina shared some of the Neighborhood Services office changes and staff challenges. Lina mentioned the success of the Gresham Night Out and mentioned that the NA's could sponsor an information table at next year's event. Carol felt that we could do it as a coalition and wanted us to think about that for future events. Other announcement: Volunteer Appreciation Picnic on September 4th

b. Co-President Report. Carol asked about the time frame for getting information on NA elections to the Neighborhood Services for post card distribution—Lina stated 6 weeks prior to the meeting date although she can sometimes do it in less time. Carol announced the following: Councilor Keathley will hold a listening session on the Cook's Plaza Resource Center on August 21st. Carol brought up that the Gresham Outdoor Public Art raised funds to replace a bronze otter that was stolen from Nadaka Nature Park in Wilkes East NA and Gresham Parks staff was reluctant to put the new bronze otter back in Nadaka park. Carol asked if the coalition would like to write a letter in support of Gresham Outdoor Public Art's and the Wilkes East NA's desire to place the bronze otter back in Nadaka park. John Bildsoe made the motion that the coalition write a letter in support of placing the bronze otter back in Nadaka park. Charles Teem seconded the motion. This motion passed unanimously.

d. NA Reports and Concerns. No report.

Meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Dana Duval – Coalition Secretary-Treasurer

Next meeting: Tuesday, September 9th
