**SOUTHWESTERN HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

**General Meeting**

**November 20, 2024**

The Forum hosted at Brody Middle School was called to order at 6:30pm with sixty-eight neighbors in attendance. Board members attending were George Davis, Joe Harrison, Steve Utterson, Nick VanPatten, Heather Carman, Pete Conrad, Penny Harrison and Steve Sarcone.

The election of Board members was approved for the 2025-2026 session expiring December 31, 2026. Elected were Joe Harrison, Heather Carman, Pete Conrad, Jon Shelness and Penny Harrison.

Chris Hensley and Lee Wheellock (DMPR) gave a report on the planned Grays Lake spray ground. Several hundred thousands of dollars have been privately raised with around $35,000 left to complete the project. No tax dollars are used for this project, and it will be a great asset for all.

The new police chief Michael McTaggart was introduced along with neighborhood resource Officer Marquez. The Chief spoke about keeping crime and neighborhood safety as a priority. He will have more organizational details as he gets settled into the job.

Elected officials all gave information about upcoming projects or areas of concern and questions from neighbors. They addressed information overviews regarding projects.

Supervisor Matt McCoy addressed new property assessments that will be coming and possible tax reductions. 40% of tax dollars go to the school systems.

Councilman Josh Mandelbaum addressed questions concerning Metro Transit and possible cost involved. Councilman Carl Voss addressed concerns regarding neighborhood code enforcements, business vacancies and the new rooster rule. Councilman Mike Simonson addressed affordable housing and lack of. This will be critical when moving forward. Mayor Connie Boesen addressed the upcoming city budget and how each department will need to be addressed. As much as fifteen million dollars will be cut. She encouraged neighbors to attend budget meetings.

The speakers stayed after the meeting and talked with neighbors. The meeting adjourned at 8:02. Minutes are submitted by George Davis for Ginny Renda (SWHNA secretary)

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