

DRAFT MINUTES

Gresham Butte Neighborhood Association (GBNA) General Meeting

December 10, 2025

7pm, Hybrid

Gresham Japanese Garden Kyoudou Center and via Zoom

Attendees:

Board Members

Stephen Estes (President), Sue Protz (Vice President), Tamaryn Newton (Secretary),
Jim Buck (Land Use Director)

Guests

Representatives from the Gresham Fire Department and Oregon State Fire Marshal's Office

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:00 PM by President Stephen Estes. Technical issues related to Zoom audio were resolved at the start of the meeting.

A quorum was confirmed with 11 members present.

Approval of Previous Minutes

Minutes from the October 8, 2025 GBNA meeting were reviewed.

Motion to approve the October 8, 2025 minutes was made and seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

Main Agenda - Fire Safety and Wildfire Preparedness Presentation

Representatives from the Gresham Fire Department and the Oregon State Fire Marshal's Office provided a detailed presentation on wildfire risk, emergency response, and community preparedness.

Presenters introduced themselves, including Battalion Chief Peter Graves, Fire Chief Jeffrey Hairston, Fire Marshal Shawn Durham, Deputy Fire Marshal Brandon Baird, and Wild Fire Risk Reduction Specialist Simone Cordery-Cotter.

Key topics discussed included:

- Wildfire risk factors in the Gresham Butte area, including steep slopes, vegetation density, east wind events, and limited access routes.
- Fire department response times and station locations serving the neighborhood.
- Challenges related to topography, road access, and bridge weight limits for emergency vehicles.
- Human caused wildfire statistics and prevention strategies.
- Use of brush rigs, engines, and air resources during wildfire season.
- State and regional coordination for wildfire response, including contracted air tankers.
- Importance of defensible space, vegetation management, and community awareness.

Residents asked questions regarding evacuation routes, vegetation near homes and waterways, tree code regulations, response times, and coordination between city, state, and regional agencies.

Fire department representatives emphasized that while wildfire risk exists, the neighborhood benefits from relatively close proximity to multiple fire stations and rapid response capabilities.

Treasurer Transition

President Estes noted that Treasurer Theresa Tschirky would be stepping down due to personal reasons.

With a quorum present, nominations were opened to fill the Treasurer position.

Cheryl Breeden was nominated for Treasurer.

Motion to elect Cheryl Breeden as Treasurer was made and seconded.

The motion was approved unanimously. Cheryl Breeden was elected Treasurer.

Theresa Tschirky will be removed as signatory from the bank account, and will be replaced with Cheryl Breeden. Jim Buck will stay on as additional signatory.

Reports

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer's report was not presented. It was noted that there had been no financial transactions since the October 8, 2025 meeting.

Land Use Report:

Minimal land use activity was reported. No significant projects or applications affecting the neighborhood were identified.

Future Meetings and Topics

- January 14, 2026 meeting to include a presentation from the Gresham Police Department, potentially including the Police Chief.
- Ongoing concerns regarding gunshots reported near creek areas will be raised with the Police Department.
- Members were encouraged to submit questions or topics in advance via greshambutte.org.

Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned without objection.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30 PM.