

FINAL Meeting Minutes – WSNA – 2019-01-21

Jim Allhiser called the meeting to order at 7PM. xx members signed the roster, but more bodies were present. Tyson Pruett moves to approve minutes, Second by E.M. Vote unanimous approval.

Reports:

Salem Police – Officer Amador

3 business burglaries (2 Patterson, 1 industrial), residential burglary, this morning 5:30am. 5 stolen cars, 2 recoveries.

Question – Meredith Russell – Question about smash-n-grabs.

If anything happens, call it in (non-emergency number). Please do report it even if there is no evidence left behind. Most of the time windows are down or doors are unlocked. Don't leave things sitting in plain view, which makes the car more of a target than it would've been otherwise. More patrols? We're behind on officers per 10,000 and we're always going call to call.

City Councilor Jim Lewis

Councilor Kaser apologizes for not being able to make it. She had a family commitment.

This Wednesday, the 23rd, is a council work session to work on the policy agenda and how the priorities will mesh with budget.

Monday the 28th is the council meeting, agenda still forming.

Wednesday the 30th, a council work session regarding the Salem River Crossing. The advance materials from staff are somewhere north of 240 pages of information.

Land Use – Wes Hill

Decision on the 2 driveways on Orchard Heights – all is well. Just making sure driveways comply.

Tomorrow, Tuesday the 22nd, there is a feedback workshop for Land Use chairs regarding the multifamily design standards. Looking to see if there can be something “in between” massive apartment complexes and single-family dwellings, such as quads or other smaller developments.

Traffic & Infrastructure – Nick Fortey

Glen creek concrete lane dividing island seems a little off. I know striping will be re-done. Will inquire.

Concerns about Dutch Bros backing up traffic onto Wallace. Councilor Lewis says that the business has been warned on more than one time. If you see it happening, let the non-emergency phone number know. The city would have the authority to cite drivers that are blocking the road.

Parks – Micki Varney

SPRAB “board retreat” at Pringle Hall – discussing roles, responsibilities, etc.

Feb 4 – Softball and Kickball registration opens.

Councilor Lewis - “Surplus property” – RE: previous discussion about property near Kingwood Dr. Once it is identified as surplus, it will go to a “sealed bid” process, highest bidder wins. There's always a possibility to discuss with Public Works. E.M. reports that on this specific piece of property that public works / parks stated the property was too small or that it was simply not possible to use the property as a park, as such.

Edgewater – Steve Anderson

Something Old, Something New – Walk – meet at Urban Grange. 4th Sundays, 3-5PM.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1032420160277078/>. You'll hear about new Cherriots info, northwest human services info, and more.

Wednesday 9:30-3:30pm – Homeless Connect – <https://www.co.polk.or.us/fco/polk-county-homeless-connect>. Services like haircut, showers, etc.

Grassroots afterschool soccer program this Fall. Bike Rodeo – Harritt Elementary 7th of June

This Wednesday the 23rd – State of City address, moderated by Dwayne Hillty.

Watershed – E.M. Easterly

Conversations with consultants and the Rickreall watershed council continue. Next meeting on the 30th.

Chair Announcements – City training session for neighborhood association chairs is upcoming.

Old Business –

New Business –

Citizen complaint about concrete runoff/drainage from Linwood/Orchard Heights development.

Citizen complaint about the damage to the creekbed/streambed and banks from the transient campers.

E.M. comments/suggests N.A. involvement via discussions, in the Our Salem planning. Asks that N.A. facebook page repost information from the city. Councilor Lewis said that Eunice Kim would be happy to come discuss the Our Salem process at the N.A. Jim Allhiser comments that the idea sounds wonderful. Look for Eunice to visit the N.A. meeting soon.

E.M. reports that the concern about the stream is valid, and that it appears that a potential source of the issue is Orchard Heights park. Suggests contacting public works / parks.

Citizen asks Land Use chair Wes Hill to contact Planning RE: construction site runoff getting into the stream. Another citizen mentions that State DEQ could be contacted.

Salem Parks Foundation – Linda Bierly

Speaking about Neighborhood Park Grant Program. In the past, Ellen Lane Community Garden benefited, created new planting beds and benches.

2 grants – Salem Park Improvement Fund (“SPIF”) Grant (larger in money). Neighborhood Park Grant (little money), but small projects could be done. “Chandler Nature Park” – idea from Linda. \$2000. Requires community match. Orchard Heights trail? SPIF grant? Lots of possibilities. I’ll give information to Micki Varney, Parks Chair.

You can also collect cans and bottles for Parks. I have bottle drop bags that are barcoded to donate to Salem Parks Foundation if you would like. Comment from Jim Lewis about potentially adding a sidewalk or walking trail from the new apartment complexes on Linwood to Orchard Heights park. Comment from Steve Anderson – we can “match” with Labor as well. Question from Craig Evans – how much would such a project cost according to public works? Jim has asked and will ask again.

Union Street Bridge discussions – B. Lee Coyne

Emergency Beds on this side? Plans for Union St bridge during emergency – emergency services only? When could citizens access? Bus shuttles across union st?

Most questions were answered by Greg Walsh – City of Salem Emergency Preparedness Manager, before and during the CERT summary presentation.

Homelessness in West Salem – Meredith Russell

Seeing people form their own groups. Official way to link that energy with a coordinated, focused effort? UGM and Arches to start. Discussion on communication improvement and linking via NextDoor app. (secretary's comment – NextDoor has an assumed radius from your home address that it will consider your neighbors. Whereas I can converse with many neighborhoods of Keizer, I am "out of range" of Edgewater and Wallace Marine Park neighborhoods.) Jim Allhiser asks if Meredith would like to spearhead that effort. Not yet 😊.

Greg Walsh – City of Salem Emergency Manager – CERT Summary Presentation (1 hour)

<https://www.cityofsalem.net/Pages/sign-up-for-cert-training.aspx>

Greg did address B. Lee Coyne's concerns.

Bridges could be made 2-way traffic. Emergency medical could be deployed from Portland, helicopter in with supplies, set up tents and/or mobile medical services. Union street could initially be used for emergency services / medical transport, but that could expand. We'll discuss it at the city and with Cherriots. Public Works is staging equipment and caches of supplies on the west side. Fire Station 11 being open provides a massive improvement in service on the west side in case of emergency. Thanks for the input.

Meeting ended at 9:15PM

Respectfully submitted – Chris Wilhelm – WSNA Secretary