

FINAL Meeting Minutes – WSNA – 2019-04-15

Jim Allhiser called the meeting to order at 7PM. 15 members signed the attendance roster. EM Easterly moves to approve minutes – second by Linda Bierly. Vote unanimous approval.

Presentation: Our Salem – Eunice Kim - <https://www.cityofsalem.net/Pages/our-salem.aspx>

What – A multiyear project to update the comprehensive plan. Includes unincorporated areas. All “sub-plans” are consistent with the master plan, such as the Transportation Systems Plan (TSP), Parks Plan, etc. There are 3 phases to the project, we are in Phase 1 right now, coming to a close. An RFP for contractors to assist with the Phase 2 is out right now, hopefully closing and selecting this summer.

Phase 1 – Today – Measuring existing conditions. Salem residents helped identify 20 ways to measure Salem, called indicators. Data modeling and analysis was used to predict what would Salem look like 20 years from today, if few or little changes were made to existing zoning and regulations. Of the 20 indicators measured and forecasted, with a normal population growth model and an aggressive population growth model, most of them did not change such as percentage use of public transit, bicycle and pedestrian use, etc. Indicators tied to population growth did change, such as property tax base and greenhouse gas emissions.

Phase 2 – Vision – This is where we get to change variables to see how the modeling and forecasting changes. What happens if we change where we develop multifamily housing or how much tree canopy we have.

Much work remains to be done. Join us on May 8th at 6PM at Court Street Christian Church 1699 Court Street to hear the draft results of the first phase, and results of the first greenhouse gas emissions inventory.

Reports:

Salem Police – Officer Nick Bennett – Recent activity of vehicle break-ins and theft at the apartment complexes near Wallace Marine Park and just north of, on Wallace Road. Secure your vehicles, take all valuables with you, leave nothing in sight.

City Councilor Cara Kaser – At council or committee work session

City Councilor Jim Lewis – At council or committee work session.

Land Use – We need a new chair. Contact Jim Allhiser if you are interested.

Traffic & Infrastructure – Absent

Transit – Absent

West Salem Business Association (WSBA) – Britni Davidson (Salem Electric)

WSBA Board meetings monthly on 1st Wednesday at 3PM, at Salem Electric. WSBA General Membership meetings monthly on 4th Thursday, Luncheon, at Roth’s. June 14th – Golf Tournament at Salem Golf Club. Looking for input about what is important to WSBA members.

Parks – Micki Varney

Chandler natural area, at end of Ptarmigan: We will continue to look at what we can budget for and get energy for, but there will not be enough time to get a grant proposal together by April 30th. But, maybe a different grant, or next year.

SPRAB had a lively discussion regarding the two recommendations from the traffic congestion relief task force, RE: opening the barrier on Musgrave Ave. and utilizing a parking lot or more in Wallace Marine Park as a park-and-ride lot.

Edgewater – Jessica Preis

Sunday (monthly walking cruise) 28th 3PM – biking tour possibly. Saturday market starting up on May 2nd, and every Thursday through September 12th. June 7th – bike rodeo at Harritt Elementary School, teaching kids bike safety. June 15th – The 6th annual Super Saturday at Boys & Girls Club – 40 information tables. Free tables, no sales, family friendly activities. DJ & Food is planned. 27 tables reserved. Get yours today!

Watershed – E.M. Easterly

May 20th will be the Glen Gibson and Rickreall watershed council's meeting with OWEB (Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board) to figure out next biennium's budget. However, there is a way you can donate to the watershed almost directly. Salem Electric offers a new program called "HIP" or Habitat Improvement Program where residents can elect to donate a flat amount or a monthly amount billed on their Salem Electric bill. Funds will go to Glen Gibson watershed council in Polk County and Claggett Creek watershed council in Marion County. See <https://www.salemelectric.com/members/habitat-improvement-program>

Chair Announcements – Jim Allhiser

Sponsor grocery bags. Motion to use WSNA city funds for WSNA logo reusable grocery bags by E.M. Easterly. Second by Steve Anderson. All aye, no nay, 1 abstain. Design and color choices will be posted on WSNA Facebook page.

Old Business –

Questions on sidewalks / crosswalks near Orchard Heights park? Jim Lewis did get some quotes working with Public Works. Jim is still working on it. Question about crosswalk across Orchard Heights at Parkway. Response usually is "it sounds perfect for a bond measure." Nick Fortey said he can raise it via traffic chair of the NA, and shall. Will vote on it, pending info from Nick.

New Business –

Keep an eye out in the mail for information about Salem Electric. In addition to board member elections, there is a motion to update the articles of incorporation. In order to do so, 10 percent of membership, or more, must vote in favor of doing so. The pros and cons of what could happen if this does not succeed are presented in the mailer. Of course, feel free to contact Salem Electric if you have any questions.

Meeting ended before 8:00PM

Respectfully submitted – Chris Wilhelm – WSNA Secretary