

East Lancaster Neighborhood Association

Minutes, March 3, 2022 - 7:00 p.m. Combination In-Persona and Zoom Meeting
 First Free Will Baptist Church 1390 45th Avenue NE. Salem OR

Board Chairs/Members Present		Board Chairs/Members Present (Cont'd)	
x	Susann Kaltwasser, Chair - Zoom	x	Patricia Mick, Member-at-large
x	Sue Fowler, Co-Chair	x	Terry Motte, Member-at-large
	Mary Sarabia, Vice Chair - Absent		Mike Sim, Member-at-large
	Chesta Bauer, Member-at-large - Absent	x	Beverly Quiring, Member-at-large - Zoom
	Vern Golden, Member-at-large - Absent	x	Broc Thorad, Member-at-large - Zoom
x	Clark Hazlett, Member-at-large - Zoom	x	Chuck Westbrook, Member-at-large
	Lynette Horton, Member-at-large Absent		
	Presenters: (All on Zoom)		
x	Chris Hoy, Ward 6 City Councilor - Zoom		
x	Sgt Mike Johnson - Salem Police Dept		

Sue Fowler opened the meeting with introductions. Minutes for February 2022 were presented. Terry Motte moved approval and Chuck Westbrook seconded the motion. All voted approval.

Police Office Report

Sgt. Mike Johnson said that the Police Chief had four topics he wanted him to share.

- 1) Homeless page where people can learn about what is being done and if there is a problem they can fill out a complaint.
- 2) Police Strategic Plan
- 3) Salem Transparency Portal where people can learn about issues; and
- 4) Body cameras are coming. They are looking at providers and deciding what features they want so they provide the services.

Susann said she had read the Police Chief's Strategic Plan and wondered if there is any more details on how it would be implemented. Especially of interest was how the

neighborhood associations might be involved in 'community policing.' He said that more detail was coming soon but he knew that it would include more community interaction and Neighborhood Watch programs.

There was more discussion about hosting a program by Sgt. Johnson about personal safety. It will be put on the next agenda to set details. The board said it should be outside of a regular meeting and open to the public.

Bev Quiring said she heard that there are problems in schools and teachers are wanting to get SROs back in the schools.

City Councilor Report

Chris Hoy reported that he had been very busy due to the closing days of the State Legislature which he is serving. One of his bills passed. It gives the City the right to use unused State property for shelters.

The City Manager had retired so Kristen Rutherford is acting as interim City Manager while they do a nation wide search. Using the same consultants that they used before and it should take several months.

The Legislature also passed funding for addressing the homeless issue and to upgrade the airport.

He introduced Stacey Vierra-Braendle who is running for Ward 6. He is running for mayor. The other candidate is a woman by the name of Hoy, but no relationship. She owns a local restaurant.

Sue asked about micro-shelters and if the residents are allowed to have things stored outside of their units. Chris said he thought that the camps were very clean and well organized. He did say that the new camps would have better sight obscuring fencing.

He said that the camp near the Dairy Queen had been cleaned up. It took longer than originally thought due to staffing shortages. Someone asked about the Marion Square Park sweep. Where would the homeless go? Another person asked if the rumor that Portland sends their homeless to Salem is true. Chris said that the Point in Time count in January found that there are between 1500 to 2200 homeless in Salem area. 54% are chronic homeless so it is a difficult task to find appropriate housing for everyone. The Mid Willamette Valley Homeless Coalition that he is a member of has long range goals to provide more housing. Fisher Road will have an apartment with services, there will more micro shelter camps, the Navigation Center on Mission is open and will soon be offering more services, Yaquina Hall is being renovated for veterans, and Sequoia Crossing apartments. Their goal is to invest in prevention though county health services, managing the current situation through the City of Salem and ending homelessness eventually through collaboration. Focus must be on both housing and services so that people can stay housed and contribute to the community.

Committee Reports

- a. **Land Use** - Susann gave an update on the proposed apartments at 4900 State Street. She said the application was denied by the Hearings Officer, but she had just recently heard that it will be appealed by the applicant. It would go before City Council on appeal instead of LUBA.
- b. **Traffic** - Discussion about a crosswalk being planned at Hollywood and Sunnyview. After some discussion it was voted by the board to ask staff to attend our next meeting. Chuck moved that Susann should ask for more information and set up the presentation. Terry Mott seconded the motion and all voted approval.
- c. **Parks** - no report

Neighborhood Concerns

Clark Hazlett asked about speed bumps on Weathers Street. Susann will ask for an update. Also, he said that the Honey factory property is a mess with wild blackberries and weeds.

Bev Quiring said that she still can't get a good answer about how Our Salem zoning her property as a HUB. She has yet to find out what she can use her land for within this zone.

Following some discussion it was decided that masks will be optional at ELNA meetings for now.

Chris Hoy asked that ELNA consider getting a Zoom license going forward. This will be on the agenda for a decision next month and he will host **one last time for April**.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.