

Board members present:

Jon Christenson, Christine Chute, Victor Dodier, John Prohodsky, Ron Rubel, Jim Schepcke, Jeff Schumacher, Brian Sund, Lorrie Walker, Mark Wigg

Guests were present as well. **See Exhibit A - Attendance Roster**

President Lorrie Walker called the Zoom meeting to order at 6:33 pm with a quorum present.

1. A motion to approve the April 2021 meeting minutes was made by Jim Schepcke and seconded by Brian Sund. The March meeting minutes were approved unanimously.
2. City and County Reports:

- a. Councilor Nordyke

City Council voted unanimously to explore contracts with non-profits to operate a mobile crisis unit.

Councilor Nordyke gave best wishes to those celebrating Ramadan.

The February 2021 ice storm resulted in the loss of 17% of Salem's tree canopy. Salem just received an insurance payment for damage to trees caused by the ice storm. It will be used for tree replanting.

Lack of affordable housing is the leading cause of homelessness. The Council approved a public private partnership for 184 affordable apartments at Battlecreek. The navigation center remodeled was approved by City Council. Salem partners with ARCHES, who uses a data driven approach, to operate it.

The Mid-Valley Homeless Alliance organized the point in time count. 30% of the homeless surveyed were experiencing mental illness.

April is Child Abuse Prevention month. City Council adopted a resolution recognizing the need for safety for every child. She said that [Liberty House](#) provides services to abused and neglected children and there was almost 1200 cases of child abuse and neglect reported in 2021 in Marion County. Oregon had almost 12,000 child abuse and neglect cases reported in 2021.

She noted that the [Salem Capitals](#) basketball team has a winning record and they have \$5 tickets.

The shelters in Salem's homeless pods, Councilor Nordyke noted, are built locally. An apartment owner is suing the City to prevent the proposed micro shelter village on Center St. NE across from Safeway from being built. A Marion County Judge blocked Salem from developing that site for a homeless village.

Council approved rezoning 24.8 acres in West Salem to Multiple Family Residential for up to 500 apartments.

Council voted to fund construction of kitchenets at a shelter for domestic violence victims. Councilor Nordyke noted that often it is small things such as cooking that makes a difference in the life of those abused.

Councilor Nordyke, a graduate of South Salem High School, said the [Saxon Success Fund](#) has started a fundraiser for South Salem High School.

Her presentation featured Salem's 50+ Center which serves Salem's Senior Citizens. It is a non-membership community center providing programs and services to adults aged 50 and over. Friends of Center 50+, a 501(c)3 non-profit provides support for Center 50+. Center 50+'s mission is combating isolation and loneliness through friendship and connections.

The City of Salem has tax breaks to create affordable housing:

- Multi-unit Housing Tax Exemption Program
- Low Income Rental Housing Property Tax Exemption
- Single Property Urban Renewal Areas

Mark Wigg mentioned that land in Mill Creek next to Amazon could be used for a homeless camp.

Lorrie Walker asked Vanessa if other sites were being pursued for homeless villages besides the one on Center Street? Vanessa said they are looking at a site on Marine Drive NW.

3. Candidate Forum: Salem Ward 2 Council seat and Mayor elections

a. Ward 2 Council Seat

Linda Nishioka is the only person running for the Ward 2 position. In her 23 years in Salem she has been on the board of several non-profits and Salem's Downtown Advisory Board. Her top 3 concerns are:

- Homelessness
- Transportation and infrastructure
- Tree canopy and parks

Cruz ask about a second bridge across the Willamette River. Linda said it was dead because a State Deadline was missed.

Jerry Q. asked about improving bike infrastructure. Linda said Councilor Stapleton brought forward a plan to do that. He asked about adding more bike lanes. Linda said she is in favor of doing that.

Jacqueline Heavy asked Londa what she wanted in a city manager. Linda said she wanted a good communicator who could connect with people, have a good relationship with city staff, was a good leader who people trusted, and previous applicable experience.

b. Mayor candidates

Chane Griggs

Chane has been in Salem since 1977. In 1988 she started working for the State of Oregon in the legislative library. She has been the web editor for legislator's web page, DAS Statewide Coordinator, and DOC Assistant Director. Chane has not seen much improvement in efforts to help homelessness, she would like to see increased accountability and transparency in efforts to help them; the Police Department's Strategic Plan commissioned by Chief Womack is needed; said Salem is running out of buildable land; and said the proposed infrastructure bond measure is needed.

Chris Hoy

Chris has lived in Salem for 23 years and served as the Undersheriff in the Clackamas County Sherriff's office. He was appointed to fill out the rest of Brian Clem's legislative term. As a City Councilor and State Legislator he has focused on equity. As a legislator he co-sponsored 21 bills of which 17 were bipartisan.

Questions

Lorrie Walker asked if they were in favor of micro shelter housing with supportive services based on an evidence-based approach. Chane said she would like to see more accountability and personal responsibility in solutions for homelessness.

Christine Chute asked if they thought the UGB needed to be expanded. Both said it does not need to be expanded.

Mark Wigg asked if they favored increased SDC for parks.

They were asked who finances their campaigns. Chane said a combination of individuals and PACs. Chris said mainly individuals.

When asked if they support branch libraries, they said they did.

John Prohodsky asked about innovative approaches to economic development. He provided as an example Oklahoma City's short term sales tax increases approved by voters for investments in civic infrastructure. Those investments in civic infrastructure attracted individuals and families from the suburbs and created a climate that made Oklahoma City attractive for startups. They answered that Salem has urban renewal areas, supports SECOR's efforts to attract businesses, and has grants for local businesses.

Jon Christenson asked Chane about a conflict of interest in the siting of the new Leslie School. She said she didn't.

4. Neighborhood concerns and announcements

There were no neighborhood concerns.

Lorrie Walker said when she tried to reserve Pringle Hall for SCAN's annal meeting it would cost \$450. She said Irma Dowd is looking to an exception for SCAN. Lorrie moved to authorize \$450 for rental of Pringle Hall for SCAN's annual meeting. Victor Dodier seconded. It passed unanimously.

Ron Rubel provided an update on the Art Fair. The art fair will be located on the grass field west of Bush Barn. Vendors will be located at the south end of the field and the stage will be at the north end of the field. There will be 6 food vendors. Exhibitors will park along High St. and near Bush Barn. Daily admission is \$8 and a 3-day pass is \$24. Shuttle buses will be used to transport people to and from the Art Fair.

Brian Sund said the Salem Leadership Foundation provided a \$250 grant to Howard Street Charter School for their project to add art and planter boxes to micro shelter villages. He also mentioned the Mission Street Parks Conservatory's plant sale will be at the bottom of the Soap Box Derby track this Friday and Saturday. Rian said he will talk with Michelle

Howard about SCAN meeting at SSHS. The school district charges to use meeting space at schools and Brian will pursue a fee waiver.

5. Committee Reports

a. Historic Preservation, Parks and Gardens Committee

The Historic Preservation, Parks and Gardens Committee did not meet in March. The Committee's report (**Exhibit B**) is attached.

b. Land Use Committee

The Land Use Committee met in March. The Committee's report (**Exhibit C**) is attached.

c. Transportation Committee

The Transportation Committee met on March 23rd. The Committee's report (**Exhibit D**) is attached. The Committee's focus was on the proposed transportation project list for the infrastructure bond measure that will be on the November election ballot.

6. Annual meeting planning

Victor said he believed the SSHS culinary program is not ready to do catering. Brian Sund said he will talk with Chief Todd about catering SCAN's annual meeting. Further discussion of annual meeting preparation will be done by email.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40.

Exhibit B

Historic Preservation, Parks, and Gardens Committee Report

I. HISTORIC DESIGN REVIEWS

There have been no Historic Design Review requests for properties in SCAN under SRC 230 since January 1, 2022.

Two of the factors that seem to be in play are: an unpredictability in the cost and availability of materials, for contractors to bid; and a tight market for skilled work and labor.

II. A WOODLAND GARDEN AT BUSH'S PASTURE PARK (BPP): follow up to the March 2022 (please see attachment below) Update.

The Mission Street Parks Conservancy (MSPC) is working on the detailed budget, in coordination and collaboration with Parks Operations. The City Historic Preservation Officer Kimberli Fitzgerald has been consulted.

An opportunity might be available for SCAN-Salem Parks Foundation participation by funding for plant materials, trees, volunteer support. Rough estimate on a grant request: \$1800.

Waiting for the specific costs to be identified. Hopefully, the information will be available soon, for a review by members of Historic Preservation, Parks & Gardens Committee (HPPG), and to make a HPPG recommendation for a possible SPF grant application to the full SCAN Board (May 12, 2022).

III. MILESTONE

PATRICIA FARRELL, Manager of the City Parks Natural Resources & Planning Unit, is retiring, effective May 3, 2022.

Patricia is one of few design professionals in parks, a registered landscape architect, (ASLA), graduate of University of Virginia at Charlottesville (founded by Thomas Jefferson).

Ms. Farrell has been an anchor in the City's movement toward protecting Salem's tree canopy. Her professional skills, acumen, are top notch, beginning from the early years of staffing the Salem Tree Shade Committee, her research and documentation of City's the tree canopy, neighborhood by neighborhood. Her work set the foundation for subsequent reforms, the need for enhanced protection for the City's trees, and quality standards for the parks, e.g., BPP.

In August 2012, working as a Natural Resources Specialist in Public Works, Patricia prepared the Riparian Upgrade Plan using 100+ native shrubs and trees along Clark Creek near Capitol Street and South Salem High School, working with the IB Biology teacher Dottie Knecht, PW biologist Deborah Topp, prescribing the planting that included scores of volunteers: SSSH students, members of the SCAN Board, and from Mahonia Nursery (John Miller), Creekside Rotary (Tyler Malstrom), Marion Co SWCD Ken Hetzel, et al (February 2013).

In Gaiety Hill, her "on the ground" site observations, her knowledge with Critical Tree Zones (CTZs) were fundamental to protecting the rows of the star-leaved American Sweetgums (*Liquidambar styraciflua*) in the public right-of-way (ROW) next to Salem Hospital and and outcome of a redesign of the proposed sidewalk on the Church Street.

Very significantly, Ms. Farrell was instrumental, a key staff person (2019-2021) moving for the adoption of a Bush's Pasture Park and Deepwood Estate Gardens Cultural Landscape Management Plan (CLMP).

Patricia helped to guide the selection of an outstanding consulting firm, GREEN WORKS (also MIG, WillametteCRA), and was the City CLMP project manager.

The CLMP is a major accomplishment, community engagement process of stakeholders, Native Peoples, and the public: the first comprehensive management plan adopted for the central feature of the SCAN Neighborhood, a park founded over a century ago.

An impressive career.

JonC

Exhibit C

Land Use Committee Report

April 13, 2022

The Committee submitted testimony to the Planning Commission for its March 15 hearing on Our Salem (previously sent to the SCAN Board). The Planning Commission will deliberate and vote at its April 19 meeting on a recommendation to Council. In a supplemental staff report in response to SCAN's testimony, staff said it did not object to SCAN's request for a Mixed Use-II zone on Commercial St SE south of Superior instead of the Mixed Use-III zone originally proposed by staff. Hopefully the Planning Commission will agree. SCAN has also requested the Mix Use-II zone on Commercial St SE south of Mission Ave.

The Planning Commission is still holding worksessions on amendments to the sign ordinance.

There are no active development requests for review.

There will not be a Land Use Committee meeting in April.

Submitted by Roz Shirack, Chair

Exhibit D

Transportation Committee Report

The Transportation Committee met on Wednesday, March 23rd, to discuss the transportation projects that are being considering for funding in the City's proposed Infrastructure Bond.

Attending: Jim Scheppke, Brian Sund, Jeff Schumacher, Lorrie Walker, Gary Obery and Victor Dodier

Our agenda for the meeting is review the proposed transportation project list and decide if we want to make further comments to the Engagement Committee at its March 28th meeting.

We discussed the elements of the proposal. We highlighted the Pringle Creek Path, River Road Slide Mitigation, Pringle Road SE improvements, McGilchrist Street SE, State Street Bike Lanes and Pavement, and Marine Drive NW.

I summarized the discussion at the end of the meeting. I drafted written comments for the Engagement Committee's March 28th meeting and circulated them to Transportation Committee members for review and comment. The finalized edition of the written comments were submitted by email (see attached). I also presented edited comments (what I could say in 3 minutes) at the Engagement Committee's March 28th meeting.

The Engagement Committee did not make progress toward selecting projects in any category for funding at its March 28th meeting. The Committee scheduled a subsequent meeting for April 4th to make decisions.

I circulated a second set of comments to Transportation Committee members for review with Jim's encouragement. These were submitted at the April 4th meeting.

The Engagement Committee tentatively decided to recommend Fire Equipment (\$26 million), Land Acquisition for Future Fire Stations (\$14 million), Sites for Affordable Housing (\$7.5 million), Technology and Cybersecurity (\$17.62 million), and Civic Center Earthquake Safety (\$39.4 million).

The Engagement Committee has yet to act on projects in the Park Upgrades (\$34.754 million) and Streets and Sidewalks (\$207.72 million) categories.

Please note that the \$300 million bond is over-subscribed by almost \$57 million at this point.

I have attached the listing of Streets and Sidewalks projects provided by City staff for the April 4th meeting. (3 11x14 pages if you print)

The Engagement Committee is scheduled to meet again on April 15th. Materials for the April 15th meeting have not been released.

On parks matters, Parks staff discussed the projects in Bush's Pasture Park at the April 4th meeting. The restroom slated for rebuilding is the one located at the top of the derby track. The restroom is reported to have operational problems in addition to being too small for the demands placed on it. The shelter identified to Bush Park would be on the east side of the park. It's identified as the "Lower Leffelle Picnic and Playground Area." There are a number of requests for something to facilitate use of that area.

Submitted by

Victor Dodier

Chair, SCAN Transportation Committee