

Minutes of **GRANT NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

Board Meeting August 4, 2022 6:15 pm Broadway Commons and online via: Zoom video conference

AGENDA ITEM

#1 Introductions

BOARD MEMBERS:	PRESENT - P	ABSENT - A	EXCUSED - E
JEANNE BOATWRIGHT	P	TINA HANSEN	P
MARK DECOURSEY	P	TERESA JOSLIN	P
TIM FRANCE	P	CYNTHIA KAVANAGH	P
CHRISTOPHER HACKETT	P	NICK MASELLI	P
LOLA HACKETT	P	SUSAN NAPACK	P

Others present: Jeff Keniston, Laura Herrmann, Mindy McCool, Virginia Stapleton, Carolin VanOrdin, Alice LaViolette, Scott Munford, Carol DeCoursey, and Brandon Southward.

Paul made a motion that ***“We approve the June minutes as submitted.”*** Tina seconded the motion. Vote was 10 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention (Christopher).

#2 Great Story from Grant

- Laura Herrmann, one of the coordinators of the Cottage-Belmont Street Painting, brought a time lapse video, which her husband took, that showed a good deal of the street painting endeavor. She said that she has noticed that many people stop and enjoy it, take photos, and, bring other folks back with them to see it. It is very popular. She is pleased that it is meeting the goals of the coordinating committee: to infuse placemaking and ownership in the project and to promote contact and form friendships in the neighborhood. Travel Salem, the organization that promotes Salem tourism, has provided \$6000 to be awarded in \$1000 grants to other neighborhoods who want to undertake a street painting project in their neighborhood. Travel Salem will be visiting our painting, accompanied by Virginia Stapleton in the next week, or so.
- Mindy McCool, from the Oregon State Fair was present to invite all to attend the fair beginning August 26th and running through Labor Day. She had free admission tickets available for any who would like them.

#3 Neighbor Concerns

- Teresa commented about the plan to put a protected bike lane on the east side of Capitol Street in front of Parrish Middle School. She asked how that is going to work with the bus and parent vehicle turnout. Virginia said it will be designed with a hump to separate the two uses while still providing access.
- Concern was raised about the abysmal condition of the pavement on Winter Street between Market and D streets in the GNA area. Additionally, the portion between D and Union streets, in the Can-Do Neighborhood, is also in bad condition. These areas are part of the Maple-Winter Bikeway, but are horribly rough and bumpy for bikes to navigate. Teresa moved that ***“Grant Neighborhood Association provide a formal letter to Salem Public Works requesting pavement repair on Winter Street from Market Street to D Street in the Grant Neighborhood and from D Street to Union Street in the Can-Do Neighborhood.”*** Susan seconded the motion. Vote was 13 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstained.
- Paul asked how many ash trees in the Grant Neighborhood will be removed, preventatively, as the Emerald Ash Borer infestation threatens. There are 1300 ash trees on city-owned property. It was suggested that the State Forester be invited to come and provide information. Christopher asked if any of the non-infested wood will be salvaged for lumber; suggesting that it should be.

#4 Officer's Report

Officer Keniston reported that he is supervising the Behavioral Health program at the Salem Police Department. The focus of SPD will still be on serious crimes, and things like theft and speed racing. These are handled by the Community Action Unit (CAU). However, it is important that the public still report livability issues so the SPD can keep records and identify repetitive and chronic situations. Other issues will be responded to, depending on certain aspects of the situation. For example, a noise complaint will not generate a response, but, a loud party with underage drinking will. If they should get 20 complaints for a noise incident, it will kick over to the CAU for response. A staffer will take the info and follow up will be based on previous reports for the same location.

The city's patrol vehicles are Ford Explorers or Chevy Tahoes. The department is adding hybrid versions. They already have hybrid non-patrol vehicles.

Officer Keniston reminded us of the car-care program that provides vouchers to pay for repairs of broken or missing items on cars that could prompt a police stop. So, if someone knows they have a light out, or a broken turn signal, a voucher can be picked up at the Salem Police Department.

A new public outreach program will be added - "Cookie with a Cop" - to let kids meet with officers. The SPD will also be restarting the Bike Rodeo program. The event will be held on August 14th from 10:00 am-2:00 pm. Cycle maintenance will be provided, along with free helmets. All kids are welcome.

The SPD has some new canine units coming in.

A neighbor asked if incidents of cars burning street "cookies" or "donuts" are becoming more frequent, based on the number of tire marks that have shown up on central city streets. Officer Keniston said it is not too bad yet, but he urged that it be reported if observed and a license plate can be identified.

#5 Councilor Report

Virginia reported:

- Education money has been allotted to City Departments. A neighbor asked Officer Keniston if we can have a presentation on how the SPD would use their dollars for education. Also, do you have free items that you hand out to the public? For instance, the Fire Dept has smoke detectors. Do you have something comparable?
- The new City Manager is Keith Stahley, from Olympia, Washington. He has a depth of knowledge in climate management issues. He starts September 12th. A neighbor suggested that he be invited to GNA meeting.
- She welcomes any questions folks have about the Bond Measure issue on the November ballot. She will be meeting with the Downtown Business group and the Chamber of Commerce.

#6 2022-2023 Neighborhood Goals

Susan moved that ***"Grant Neighborhood Association continue the goal of spending down our communication funds, including improved neighborhood outreach to provide information about the neighborhood, providing postcards of our meeting calendar, and, installing more Heritage sign toppers."*** Tina seconded the motion. Vote was 12 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention (Mark).

#7 Board Officer Elections

Susan nominated Marissa to be Vice-Chair. Aaron, Sam and Jeanne were willing to remain as the other Board Officers, if no one else was interested in the positions. Christopher moved that ***"Grant Neighborhood Association elect Aaron and Sam as Co-Chairs, Marissa as Vice-Chair, and Jeanne as Secretary."*** Paul seconded the motion. Vote was 13 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

Cynthia announced that she would be stepping down from the board effective at the end of this meeting due to family issues. She vowed to continue to attend meetings, as she is able.

#8 Boys & Girls Club

Brandon Southward, the new Program Director and Volunteer Contact at the Knudson Branch of the Boys and Girls Club, on Summer Street, joined us to rekindle the Club's relationship with GNA and to tell us what is happening at the Club. The club serves kids from 1st through 12th grades. During the summer, the facility is open from 7:30 am to 5:30 pm, while during the school year the hours are 2:30 pm to 6:30 pm. About 150 kids attend each day and somewhere in the 70%-80% range are from the Grant neighborhood. Volunteers are welcome to help with the existing programs and can propose ideas for other programs that they might be interested in teaching and sponsoring. When asked how the GNA can help, Brandon suggested getting involved with their: health fairs; holiday gift drive; sponsorship of a child or a family; or, become a mentor. He said he will try to stay in touch and become a regular at our meetings. We suggested he contact us to get on the agenda whenever there is an upcoming event or a particular need that we can help with or publicize.

#9 1294 4th Street 22-11837-BP

#10 1056 Jefferson Street, ADJ 22-09

Paul brought some information about both of these developments as neither applicant was in attendance.

Both properties are zoned multi-family but the submittals to the city fell on either side of the adoption of new code language. Grant NA has been committed to requiring that alleys be used for vehicle access if available. The goal is to keep the neighborhood exceptionally walkable and to eliminate driveways and curb cuts. The city has recently adopted that policy.

1294 4th is proposed by the Dorn's, who have met with the neighborhood in the past. They are proposing 50-foot driveways on 4th. Their application was held up in order to get other benefits of HB2001. But in so doing, ran into the city's adoption of regulations regarding street vehicular access when alleys are available.

The application for the 1056 Jefferson property was made prior to HB2001 taking affect, so the 50-foot curb cuts and driveways they proposed were not specifically regulated so, therefore, were allowed.

#11 275 Hood Street, ADJ 22-10

Ian Levin, the property owner and developer of this site, was present to discuss his proposal and to answer any questions. Paul put the plan and elevations of the proposed changes up on the screen. The site, on the east side of a north-south alley through the block, has a single-family residence constructed in 1930. The new Saffron Supply location is west, across the alley. He is rehabilitating the house; removing old porches that were added without building permits, and replacing an improper foundation. To each side, and towards the rear of the house, he is adding 2 units to create a triplex. Each new unit will be 1-bedroom, one-bath. All three will have street frontage on Hood. They will be affordable, not high-end, rentals. The original house has 2-bedrooms and 1-bath. Each unit will have their own washer and dryer. The existing basement of the house is not dry. He intends to make three secure storage units there. One will be available for each occupant to store things like bikes, sport equipment, etc. that don't necessarily require an absolutely dry environment. There is an Oregon White Oak along the alley that is diseased and dangerous and he has obtained a permit to remove it. His planting requirements include at least one Oregon White Oak tree. The adjustment he applied for is for the lot size square footage. Under Our Salem code language, it would be allowed outright. A neighbor asked about the rent scale. Ian said he didn't yet know. It will be based on a market percentage, but will allow Section 8 vouchers. Ian has served on the Salem Planning Commission and related how the city has had Section 8 vouchers to assist low-income citizens, but had no place to use them. There was no low-income housing available, so they had to use federal dollars to make up the rent difference. He made a deal that if this lot was not sold with the rest of the properties on the block, he would buy it and develop it into low-income housing – and that is just what happened.

#12 Board Member Reports

- CERT - Lola reported:
 - The in-person CERT class begins September 6th and will run for three weeks on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6:00 pm at the Airport Fire Station on 25th Street. The final drill will be September 24th and volunteers are welcome to assist or to play the “victim” roles.
- Communications/Outreach – Susan reported:
 - She noticed that the next time we have Heritage Neighborhood signs installed, we need to be more specific about their placement;
 - We now have 100 email contacts;
 - Saturday Market booths brought in 4-5 new neighborhood contacts;
 - We now have stickers to hand out with the Grant Neighborhood Logo and website info on them;
 - Irma Dowd has married and is now Irma Coleman;
 - The Civic Center is celebrating its 50th anniversary on August 18th and all are welcome to attend the festivities
 - The SHINE walking tours of Salem have been transferred to the auspices of the Willamette Heritage Center;
 - The Willamette Heritage Center will be looking to identify neighborhood walking tours.
- Land Use Updates - Paul reported that the Our Salem document has been passed.
- North Neighborhoods CPT – Sam was absent this evening.

#13 Other Business

Lola said that the Willamette Heritage Center is going to hold their Trick-or-Treat drive through again this year. It will be on Sunday October 30th. Grant Neighborhood is invited to join in the activities again.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm

Respectfully submitted by: Jeanne Boatwright