

Minutes of **GRANT NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

Board Meeting September 1, 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	AARON TERPENING	E
MARK DECOURSEY	P	TERESA JOSLIN	P	MARISSA THEVE	E
TIM FRANCE	P	NICK MASELLI	E	PAUL TIGAN	P
CHRISTOPHER HACKETT	P	SUSAN NAPACK	E		
LOLA HACKETT	P	SAM SKILLERN	E		

Others present: Cynthia Kavanagh, Tom Ellis, Ann Moore, Laura Herrmann, Ashley Dahlen, Carol DeCoursey, Rachel Collins, Carolin VanOrdin, Ian Davidson, David Collins, Kim Thatcher, Carol Snyder, Mary Heintzman, Lynn Takata, and one other neighbor.

*In the absence of both of our co-chairs, along with the vice-chair, Paul stepped up to act as chair so Jeanne could take the minutes. Thanks, Paul!*

Lola moved that **“We approve the August minutes with the corrections, below.”** Christopher seconded the motion. Vote was 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

Corrections:

**#2 Great Story from Grant**

**CORRECT:** Laura Herrmann, one of the coordinators of the Cottage-Belmont Street Painting, **brough** a time lapse video, which her husband took, that showed a good deal of the street painting endeavor.

**TO READ:** 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.

**#3 Neighbor Concerns**

**CORRECT:** Additionally, the portion between D and Union streets, in the **Can-Do** Neighborhood, is also in bad condition.

and

*“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.”*

**TO READ:** Additionally, the portion between D and Union streets, in the **CANDO** Neighborhood, is also in bad condition.

and

*“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 **CANDO** Neighborhood.”*

**#2 Great Story from Grant**

- Laura Herrmann reported that Travel Salem has pledged a \$1000 grant to the Grant Neighborhood Association in support of our street painting project. The money can be used to reimburse doners, or used by the NA for other projects. At least one doner has already waived seeking reimbursement. The money can be put into a Trust & Agency account with the City of Salem that will keep it separate from our communication funds account. Several neighbors suggested that we fund another street painting in

our neighborhood with it. Lola moved that ***“The Grant NA move the \$1000 into the Trust & Agency account with the City of Salem.”*** Christopher seconded the motion. Vote was 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

- Neighbors brought copies of The Old House Journal magazines, telling all that they are free for the taking. Since we have mostly old houses in our neighborhood, folks might find them useful, interesting, or inspiring.
- The Highland Neighborhood has a street painting completed at Columbia and Hazel.
- Ian Davidson, Cherriot’s Board President, reported that, beginning Sept 5<sup>th</sup>, all youth aged 18 or under, will be able to ride the Cherriot buses for free.

### **#3 Neighbor Concerns**

- A neighbor, with a home on the east side of the neighborhood, asked for help removing wood from tree debris from his yard. He is unable to do it and has been told by Compliance Services that it needs to be cleaned up. Several neighbors had references of ways to get ahold of someone to haul it away for him for free. Paul said he would email some of the contact information to the neighbor.
- Teresa provided an update on the Summer Street group home. It has 3 individuals residing there.
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### **#4 Officer’s Report**

No Salem Police Officer was present.

### **#5 Councilor Report**

Virginia was out-of-town so could not be present.

### **#6 Salem Bike Vision**

Ian Davidson, was present via Zoom and brought a PowerPoint presentation on this organization. The forces behind the program are Ian, who is the Cherriot’s Board President, Councilor Virginia Stapleton, and Salem Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Chair, Dylan McDowell. The goal is to create a comprehensive network for alternate modes of transportation for anything besides a vehicle. The network would provide safety and protection on accessible and direct routes across the city that are designed to provide comfort for all skill levels. Salem’s current go-to “protection” is a painted stripe on the edge of traffic. The proposals include physical structures, such as: paths that are separate from the auto travel portion of the street; bollards; curbs; and planters. Ian had a map that showed: existing bike lanes in Salem; those proposed under bond projects; and, existing lanes, or multi-use paths, identified in the Salem Transportation Plan. There are many blank spots on the map that have no connection to a bike lane. There are also no clear north-south or east-west transportation/commuting corridors.

Factors that are driving this push to provide safe corridors are:

*safety* - our streets are too often designed for “comfortable” speeding, where cars drive faster than the limit because the streets are wide and the increased speed doesn’t feel dangerous;

*climate action* - carbon emissions would be reduced, with fewer drivers;

*equity and access* – there is no safe way to traverse the city without using sidewalks, which is not allowed in the downtown area;

*health and well-being* – there are mental and physical benefits to getting out of the car and people would have a choice of how they wish to move about, and;

*economic activity* – there are positive economic impacts and increased retail activity and support when alternate modes of travel are present.

Who would these improvements be for? Right now, 56% of potential bike riders are interested, but are concerned about comfort and safety using the present system. The other 44% are made up of folks that either say there’s “no-way” they would ride or who are “confident and fearless” and would ride no

matter what. With the current lack of safety and comfort there is no choice for the majority of the population.

A neighbor asked if there is money in the upcoming bond measure and, if so, how would it be spent. Ian said that if the November bond measure passes, the Union Street - bridge to 12<sup>th</sup> Street – promenade will be funded. Other than that, there are no other projects that would receive money. Other ways to fund the needed construction could be through Urban Renewal funding and parks connectivity planning and construction. Instead of buying more land from adjacent owners, who are usually not interested in selling, wide street rights-of-way could be made safe and comfortable by narrowing the automobile use area and creating a wide protected bike lane(s) along the edges. One neighbor commented that the existing bike lanes in Salem are also dangerous because they have too much debris in them and should be on a clean-up program.

Citizen involvement opportunities can be found at [salembikevision.org](http://salembikevision.org) where you can sign up to help and get more information.

## **#7 Neighborhood Garden Guilds**

Thomas Ellis, Ph.D., is a Salem 350 member and has joined the Master Gardeners program. He is a retired English professor and his wife is a retired French professor. He found his south Salem neighborhood had too many fence “walls” that keep neighbors apart, separated, and with a dearth of walkers. Covid brought stress we can’t control. He wanted to start at a ground level and work to create a wider positive effect and came up with the idea for Garden Guilds. A “guild” is a mutually supportive association that works to develop people’s skills that are associated with the guild’s identity, i.e., woodworking, glass making, etc. The Garden Guild could consist of a group of neighbors who are interested in gardening and live within walking distance of each other. They would meet regularly, perhaps once a month, or more often, and encourage and help each other to learn more about plants and foods. They can share knowledge, tools, seeds, starts, recipes, labor, and more. Presentations from members, or enlisted outside speakers and presenters, can add information. His idea for sponsoring organizations considered neighborhood associations and the Marion County Master Gardeners. The neighborhood associations maintain a network and contact information. The Guilds can provide local food sourcing, reduce or eliminate transportation needs, and dodge shortages, crop failures and floods. Any surplus food produced can be shared with each other or donated to the Marion Polk Food Share. It would place participants, and their neighbors, in better shape to withstand a crisis situation if the sharing habit is practiced in the absence of a crisis and knowing, and sharing with, your neighbors is a familiarity.

## **#8 Eco-Earth Globe Restoration**

Mary Heintzman began the presentation with some history. She is currently an art teacher at Blanchet High School but, in 2000-2003, she was a local art teacher and artist and became the Art Director for the original project. She enlisted the local artist community to get involved and worked with the Salem high schools’ pottery teachers, and their students, to create and paint the tiles. They were provided the clay and some information about what artwork was needed. They did research and returned with ideas for tiles. The North Salem group worked on fish and also made a Viking ship. The work was collected and cut so that it could be placed on the sphere. Then, they were returned to the students for painting. Local wood workers and carvers also helped with the program’s research and production. Eager volunteers were asked if they had travelled, or had personal connections, to any areas around the world that they would like to work on.

Now, with the passage of time and the exposure to the elements, some of the tiles have fallen off and a restoration project has been undertaken. Once school is underway, she will be reaching back to the high schools to ask them to repair the pieces that their schools originally created.

Carol Snyder is a member of both the Salem Public Arts Commission and the Salem Parks Foundation. The fundraising effort is working towards the \$400,000 cost to make the repairs and seal the work more

effectively. The city has allocated \$110,000 and, by next summer, the Salem Parks Foundation hopes to have raised the balance. If anyone wishes to donate, please specify that it is for the “Eco Earth Project”. The City of Salem website has a You-Tube video of the 2003 work. You can find it at: <https://www.cityofsalem.net/government/shaping-salem-s-future/plans-projects/eco-earth-globe#ad-image-3>

Tina commented that it would be nice if the restoration could include making the site more inclusive; suggesting that speakers, or phone apps, to explain what is there or what you are seeing. Mary and Carol thought that was a wonderful idea.

### #9 **Boys & Girls Club Holiday Sponsorship**

Brandon was not able to attend and Susan was sick at home. The discussion will be carried over to our October meeting.

### #10 **Board Member Reports**

- CERT - Lola reported:
  - The in-person CERT class begins September 6<sup>th</sup> and will run for three weeks on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6:00 pm at the Airport Fire Station #6 on 25<sup>th</sup> Street. The final drill will be September 24<sup>th</sup> and volunteers are welcome to assist or to play the “victim” roles.
  - On Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 10:00 am the Grant CERT team will be meeting at the Grant Cache at the southeast corner of Shipping and Broadway. The fire department crew from our Station 2, are scheduled to be there to work with us on “packaging” victims and transporting them. Anyone interested is welcome to attend.
- Communications/Outreach – Susan was at home sick.:
- Land Use Updates - Paul had nothing new to report. Dan & Laura Dorn will be at our October meeting to discuss their project at 4<sup>th</sup> and Gaines streets.
- North Neighborhoods CPT – Sam was absent this evening.

### #11 **Other Business**

- Lola asked about support for the WHC drive-thru Trick-of-Treat event on Sunday October 30<sup>th</sup> and got a unanimous “yes”.
- Lynn Takata, from the NEN board, provided information on the proposal to charge fees for Neighborhood Associations to meet at school facilities. The fees are said to be between \$50 and \$200 per meeting, depending on what facilities are used. The Neighborhood Associations are sending letters to the Salem-Keizer School District asking for them to reconsider the fee requirement. Some of the Associations are struggling to find alternate meeting space. Tina moved that **“Grant NA provide a letter of support for those Neighborhood Associations that want to use Salem-Keizer School District facilities for their meetings with no charge.”** (The board member second was, erroneously, not captured in the minutes.) Vote was 8 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

Meeting adjourned at 7:44 pm

Respectfully submitted by: Jeanne Boatwright