

NESCA MEETING MINUTES

May 17, 2022

ZOOM Meeting

1. Welcome, Introductions, Announcements, Approval of Minutes: Mike Beringer, Chair

Mike opened the meeting, welcoming all and making introductions of all in attendance. A motion was made and seconded to approve the April 19th meeting minutes as provided by email. The motion carried.

2. Salem Police Officer Report: Sgt. Grant Davis

- Homeless Cleanup Team
 - Public Works, City Manager's Office, and the Police Department are working together to manage the camps. This group will work together for the next year.
 - The focus of the team is the unlawful camping, RVs on streets, and tent camping.
 - Oregon law requires a 72-hour notice for those camping on public property and 5 days for RVs. Laws need to be followed when cleaning up areas, so it is not just a simple "one-day and done" situation.
 - Reporting portal is available for reporting unlawful camping.
- Community Engagement is beginning again now that Covid restrictions are being lifted.
 - Recently had Coffee with a Cop
 - Many things are planned for the summer, including Fun Fridays
 - National Night Out (sign-ups for this began on May 16th)
 - Applications are being taken for ride-alongs with Salem Police Department
 - Sign up on-line
 - Citizens' Police Academy, date TBA (likely in the Fall)
- Body cams are still in the testing process. With the cost of the cameras, it is important to get the best option.
- Crime maps are updated daily (city wide).
 - The link for the crime statistics is published at the bottom of each month's meeting Agenda.
www.cityofsalem.net/crime-stats

3. City Councilor's Report: Chris Hoy

Today being primary Election day, Chris was unable to attend this evening's meeting.

3. City Councilor's Report: Virginia Stapleton

Virginia was unable to attend this evening. She did send a report which was read by NESCA Secretary Teri Lupoli. Following is the report provided by Virginia:

"A few big things that are in process right now are the budget for this coming year, the project for the bond, and Our Salem. Each of these are coming before Council in the coming meetings this month and next, so a very busy time indeed.

The bond continues to make progress, we had a great meeting yesterday where we talked about the project list. I am advocating for money to be set aside for protected bike lanes with the projects being focused on missing links in our bike network (the last two blocks to the 12th Street Promenade from Union Street is one example). Next Monday the Council will vote to move the project list forward and to put forth another poll to Salem residents. Over the summer there will still be time to make adjustments after gathering more community feedback.

Another project of mine is called the Salem Bike Vision. I am working with Ian Davidson (Chair of the Cherrits Board) and Dylan McDowell (Chair of the Parks Board), and we have put forth a plan for a fully connected, protected, and direct bike network which was well received by the public. Council has received so many emails in support, we have had a couple great write ups in the news and we will be on the radio later this month or next. [more information is at: salem-bike-vision.mailchimpsites.com]

The budget has been moved from the Budget Committee onto a full Council vote. No changes were made by the committee.

Interviews for the City Manager position will be on June 2nd. They will still be confidential until we get down to the finalist. At that time, the city will do more outreach to local groups, including neighborhood associations.

My Street Art project has made it to second reading. Starting soon you will be able to paint your street or intersection. The Grant neighborhood will be painting theirs the first weekend in July.

First Fridays are back in action for the summer months, as well as Movies in the Park (Riverfront). You can see a whole list of movies on the City's website. We also have lots of summer camps for the kiddos that are inexpensive and great fun."

4. Guest Speaker: Justin Walker, Deputy Fire Marshall City of Salem

Main emphasis is fire prevention in the home. The Fire Prevention Bureau verifies that fire code requirements are in all new buildings. A lot of time is spent on fire investigations for illegal fires, nuisance fires, arson, etc. in concert with Salem PD. Inspections for all commercial buildings is required, some annually, some are every other year, and others every three to five years. As there is currently a lot of new construction happening in Salem, they have been kept very busy.

The three major causes of house fires:

1. Unattended cooking, grease fires, or the lack of maintenance of kitchen equipment. Filters over stoves should be cleaned every three to six months to help prevent grease fires.
2. Overloaded electrical or insufficient/poor condition/wrong type of extension cords
 - a. Cords should be checked regularly for any fraying or "soot" residue, signs of arcing damage and, if found, replaced.
 - b. Cords should never be placed under rugs
3. Dryer vents
 - a. Vents should be cleaned at least monthly
 - b. Conversion kits for vacuums to reach further down into the vent are recommended.

All homes should have fire extinguishers of the right size and type on every floor of the house, as well as one in the garage. Deputy Fire Marshall recommends a 2A 10 BC 5-pound extinguisher. If needing to use a fire extinguisher, Deputy Marshall Walker offered the following acronym as a way to remember how to properly use it: PAS

P-pull (the lever)

A-aim (the nozzle)

S-sweep (the nozzle in a back-and-forth motion)

Servicing of fire extinguishers is based on the manufacturer's date and should be serviced within five years IF it is a serviceable unit. Those units with a plastic neck and plastic top are generally a one-time use, so if expired it will need to be taken to the household hazardous waste disposal for recycling. Those with aluminum necks and aluminum triggers can be serviced, usually every three to five years. While he cannot recommend specific companies, he suggested doing a simple Google search for "fire extinguisher service" for Salem. He said the list of those that will be shown are all reputable.

When doing inspections (commercial and multi-residential dwellings), they are not checking for radon. Most of what they do is 90% education and 10% enforcement of city fire codes.

Backyard Burning: **NO trash, refuse, tree trimmings** – nothing without approval and inspection – which is seldom done. If backyard burning is observed, it is best to call 911 and report it so the fire department can respond. They can then provide the homeowner information on what is/is not allowed. Backyard firepits are allowed,+ but there are requirements for them as well. Units that are purchased will have rules of use provided by the manufacturers, most often simply stating they are not to be used within 10' of a structure. The Fire Bureau's parameters go further by stating they should never be used under a deck overhang, under an umbrella, in a tent, or under foliage. Also, a water source must be nearby. Pits that are built by being dug into the ground and lined with bricks, rocks, etc. are legal. The main issue with all fire pits (purchased or built) is what is being burned in the pit. Absolutely no tree trimmings or yard debris are to be burned.

If there are other question for Deputy Fire Marshall Walker, please email to: jdwalker@cityofsalem.net

4. Guest Speaker: Christi Wolfe, Code Enforcement City of Salem

- Grass and Weeds
 - Most complaints currently are regarding grass and weeds. For tall bushes that create “line of sight” issues, Officer Wolfe instructed neighbors to contact Public Works.
- Homeless RVs
 - At the present time, the city is unable to tow problem RVs because there is no place to take them. Officer Wolfe stated that this problem is frustrating for everyone involved.
- Park Issues
 - Thursday through Sunday, City Park Ranger Mike Zeicker works with Code Enforcement for all code issues in the city parks. Report park problems through the Code Enforcement portal or by calling.
- Derelict Houses
 - 2735 Ladd is still vacant, but the owner has been doing things to get it cleaned up and ready to sell, hopefully in June or July. It has been removed from the derelict list.
 - The house on the corner of Knox and Edina is in process of being cleaned up.
 - Market Street house is still a problem. The owners are uncooperative and Officer Wolfe said it may require a warrant to go onto the property and get it cleaned up.
- Parking Issues
 - Report parking issues (vehicles parked the wrong way, on sideways, expired tags, etc.) to:
 - <https://egov.cityofsalem.net/parkingservicespublic>

5. Committee Reports:

- a. Land Use (no report) *Ian Johnson*
- b. Transportation: (no report) *Julie Redden*
- c. Parks *Eli Brody*
 - Marilyn Moritz reported she is in the process of preparing the Salem Parks Foundation Grant request for an information kiosk for the D Street Park. She hopes to have it completed this week. The cost of the kiosks has gone from \$1800 to \$3400 due to the cost of materials.
- d. Hoover School (no report) *Teri Lupoli*
- e. Watershed (no report) *Gary Pullman*
- f. North Campus Report provided by Evan Sekulick, Neighborly Way/The Jory
 - Evan reported there is now more visibility of the center garden in the roundabout since the red fire lane paint has been added to the curbs.
 - The public pedestrian path is now one section away from completion. It will be well lit at night.
 - He is hoping there can be some tours of the facilities soon.
 - Pet waste stations have been set up around the campus (4) with mutt mitts and bags. Waste cans will be added soon.
 - Occupancy: 46 units, with nine buildings completed.
 - A community garden was originally discussed as an amenity. Property managers at other Neighborly Venture properties have let The Jory know their gardens are not being used and the land set aside for that purpose has become mostly just weeds. Because of that, it has been decided to not put in a community garden area at The Jory. The space will remain as open green space next to the playground, giving tenants even more room for play and relaxation.
 - Street side planter boxes: Installed as required, but now the ownership and maintenance are in question. The concern is that after all the work and planting, the boxes are filling up with weeds (and a lot of trash). Parking strip property is usually owned by the city but must be maintained by the property owner, in this case Comfort Homes. Evan will verify all of this and then discuss it with Comfort Homes.

6. Other Business:

- Finalizing 2022 NESCA Bylaw changes/vote:
 - Review of changes:
 - Grammar corrections
 - Gender neutral (chairman to chair, for example)
 - Number of board members (allowing fluctuation from 3-7, set annually)
 - Allowing persons who do not live in NESCA to serve on boards (non-voting)
 - Language to allow for the removal of a board member for cause for a minimum of one year
 - New procedures for excluding individuals from regular meetings
 - A motion was made and seconded to pass the Bylaws as revised. The vote was unanimous for approval.

Website Information:

- To report homeless camping: <https://form.cityofsalem.net/s3/homeless-camping-complaint>
- To report homeless concerns: <https://www.cityofsalem.net/pages/report-concerns-about-homeslessness.aspx>
- To sign up for weekly updates regarding homeless: <https://www.cityofsalem.net/pages/tracking-progress-on-homelessness-efforts.aspx>
- To report graffiti: <https://www.cityofsalem.net/pages/report-graffiti.aspx>
 - [503-371-4262 Graffiti Response team](https://www.cityofsalem.net/pages/report-graffiti.aspx)

There being no further business, Chair Mike Beringer thanked everyone for their attendance. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM. **The next scheduled NESCA meeting will be held via ZOOM on June 21st beginning at 7:00 PM. The ZOOM meeting link will be provided to those on the NESCA email distribution list prior to the meeting.** The link is also available on the city website.

Submitted by: Teri Lupoli
NESCA Secretary/Treasurer

Attending:

Mike Beringer*, Marilyn Moritz*, Teri Lupoli*, Lynn Cardiff*, Ken Gettys*, Lucy Beringer, Jim Lupoli, Jennie Balderas, Sgt. Grant Davis Salem PD, Irma Dowd City of Salem, Justin Walker Fire Marshall City of Salem, Christi Wolfe Code Enforcement City of Salem, Evan Sekulick Neighborly Ventures

*NESCA Board Members