



Minutes of the Meeting  
Of  
Thursday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022 in person only

Executive Board Members Present: Bayard Mentrum, Chair; Phyllis Abbott-Cavota, Vice Chair; Jess Cruz, Community Liaison Chair; Shirley Robertson, Treasurer; Kaethe Mentrum, Secretary/Park Chair).

Councilor Jose Gonzalez present.

Absent with excuse: Don Jensen Land Use Chair; Pedro Mayoral, Randy Ray

General Board Members present: Rebecca Strieper; Joanne Barnhart; Michael Hoselton, Bill Berry.

Guest Speaker: Lt. Debra Aguilar

Special Performers: Amador Aguilar, Michel Granillo, Elizabeth Robles. Jesus Zacarias, Ivan Aguilar, Alejandro Ramirez;

Volunteer Band supporters: Veronica Aguilar; Rosa Arellanes

Name of the Band: Los Colores de America Latino Orchestra

Other Members: Ludy Smith; leslye Garcia quevedo

Other guests: Patty Tipton (chair of Lansing); Lynn Takata (chair of NEN)

After people had some pizza at the North Annex, Amador's music started promptly at 6:15 p.m. Ballots were passed around at that time. The music ended about 6:40 p.m.

Bayard, Chair, started the meeting by asking everyone to introduce themselves. After the introductions were made the first speaker was police Lt. Debra Aguilar who replaced Sgt. Pratt. She started by talking about the shooting at Greenbriar (near Northgate Bowling Alley), a fly by someone shooting at a house and the FBI is involved in the investigation and no suspect is identified yet. It does not appear to be a random shooting. She talked about the police cameras, and they will be placed on the chest instead of the head. How they are going to handle the recharging of the batteries to allow 12-hour shifts. Bayard asked why not use the vehicles to recharge. She said they might have certain cars to go around to charge them. Bill asked will the public know when the police are filming them? To that, she said depends on the case on how serious it is. Shirley asked how can police see all over when the camera is only focused on one direction? Lt. Aguilar answered that is an issue. She said the police will have to shift their bodies around so the police observers can later see more.

Our City Councilor, Jose Gonzalez started off talking about the hiring of new City Manager, Keith Stahley. There is a meet and greet on Monday, October 3 at 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Community Center, 333 Division Street NE. He strongly recommended we go to this event as it is a way of getting to know our new city manager who could help us in the future.

When Bayard asked about the money re mobile crisis unit, Jose responded saying that Eugene got the money along with others like Portland who are already set up and using. We still need to build one up and it could take a lot longer.

Kaethe, Park Chair, reported about Northgate Park getting beige metal picnic tables, lavatory eventually, asked for volunteers to help with the planting of pollinator plants for Monarch Butterflies. On Fisher Road Park, she mentioned a survey is taking place now for a possible soccer field. This park will start a Master Plan process Spring, 2023.

Stephens Yoshikai School Park is planned for a Master Plan process this Fall. This plan is contingent on new staff hire and two positions are open presently. This park is proposed to have a tree planting event.

Hazelgreen property is large and acquired to reserve the land from development for future use as a park. Presently, the City is leasing the land to a farmer as the City does not have the means to develop or maintain this property for public use and access. The City is scheduled to begin a master plan in three years, if all goes well.

Chair Report: Bayard talked about a lot of accomplishments for which you can find at the end of this minutes. \*

Phyllis announced the **result of the elections, and the following were voted back in: Chair -Bayard Mentrum; Vice Chair-Phyllis Abbott-Cavota; Land use Chair – Don Jensen; Secretary – Kaethe Mentrum; Community Liaison – Jess Cruz; Treasurer- Shirley Robertson; Park Chair – Kaethe Mentrum.**

She reported a few adjustments were made to the By-Laws while working with the City of Salem. One of them was Executive Board members and General Board Members do not have to be voted in annually. She said we have further revised the By-Laws to make the Executive Board consisting of Chair, Vice Chair, Land Use Chair, Secretary, Community Liaison Chair, Treasurer and Park Chair, permanent unless they retire or are voted out by others on the Executive Board. Also said keeping with the principle of teamwork, NGNA board is currently moving with positive momentum and look forward to continuing to make improvements in our neighborhood. She added we have a good team in the lead today and received words of encouragement from Jose Gonzalez. She said let us keep in mind that by respecting others you show respect for yourself.

Bayard asked Patty, Chair of **Lansing Neighborhood Association** if she wanted to talk during the Neighborhood Concerns. She said yes and stood up to talk. Patty mentioned things they have done and gave some examples as supporting Boys and Girls Club by bringing books to schools (at which point, Jess showed some interest), planting trees working with Friends of the Trees. She was working at the association for 30 years and chaired for 20. She must make a choice between three different neighborhood associations for Lansing N/A to merge with. She has been to two meetings and one more to go. She will make a report at end of October about which one to choose and Lansing's last meeting will be in November.

**Just before we closed the meeting, Michael reminded us to vote to approve the July minutes. (However, we found out this was already voted online as below). Bayard called for a vote and Michael seconded it. Everyone approved and the July minutes were approved. Bayard called to adjourn the meeting, Kaethe made a motion to vote, and Becca seconded it. Everybody said aye and the meeting was adjourned around 7:20 p.m.**

Note, on-line voting:

- On August 18, 2022, the July minutes was voted through. Voted by Shirley, Randy, Phyllis, Michael, Jess, Kaethe.
- On August 25, 2022, the following was voted into the By-Laws by Don, Shirley, Jess, Phyllis, Randy and Kaethe: **You have to be voted on as a general board member first and stay on for a minimum of three months in a row and be a current board member attending and participating at monthly meetings to be eligible to be on the executive position and voted in.**
- On August 27, 2022, the following was voted into the By-Laws by Don, Shirley, Jess, Bill, Michael, Randy: **With the exception of Chair and Secretary of which positions face yearly expiration dates, once a position is filled in any of the positions in the executive board, there will be no expiration date unless the person retires or is voted out by the executive board.**
- On August 27, 2022, the following was voted into the By-Laws by: Phyllis who also seconded it, Don, Jess, Bill, Randy and Kaethe. **Section 7 will read: Only the Executive and General Board Members attending the Annual Meeting will be given nomination slips.**

- On August 30, 2022, the following was revised verbiage from the one that has a 3 month wait period to none, voted into the By-Laws by: Shirley who seconded it and voted, Randy who also seconded and voted, Bill Berry, Jess, Don, Phyllis and Kaethe. Section 4: **Candidates for an executive position must be voted in as a current board member participating at monthly meetings, but excused with an emailed note to the secretary if unable to attend, to be eligible for the executive position and voted in.**  
We got the votes in from Becca who seconded it and voted, then Randy who also voted yes to both, Michael who also seconded and voted yes on both, Jess voted yes for both, Phyllis who voted yes for both and Kaethe voted yes for both.
- On September 5, 2022, Becca seconded voted yes, Randy did the same, Michael seconded and voted yes, Jess voted yes, Phyllis voted yes, Don voted yes, Kaethe voted yes for **A) Budget of \$80 can be spent on pizza, soft drinks, bottles of water, paper towels, plates. B) Survey from surrounding residents of Fisher Road Park to be made for soccer goals.**
- On September 6, 2022, we received Yes votes from Shirley who also seconded it, Randy who did the same, Phyllis who also did the same, Don, Jess Bill and Kaethe. This was for the revised By-Laws that Courtney Busch, City of Salem, sent to us on this date. It reads on Section 7: “Elections are held at the annual meeting. **Executive Board members and General Board members do not have to be voted in annually.**” Conditions set forth by Jess Cruz included: “**we still have an option of recalling any executive position or general member at any time we feel he or she is not up to it. Or just elect or vote someone else come election time.**”
- On September 10, 2022, Shirley voted yes and seconded, then voted yes by: Phyllis, Jess, Randy, Becca, Don and Kaethe. **NGNA was asked to support the Salem Neighborhood Associations who use Salem School District’s rooms so that they do not have to pay extra fees and high insurances.**
- On September 23, 2022, Phyllis voted yes and seconded, then voted yes by: Shirley, Michael, Bill, Jess, and Kaethe. **NGNA to make a survey on how important it is for the community to see if the unmanaged homeless have their own place of permanency where it would be travelable by bus with free passes, with a nonprofit agency nearby.**
- **On September 27 and 28, 2022,** Joanne Barnhart seconded and voted yes, followed by yes votes from Phyllis, Shirley, Bill, Becca, Michael, Jess and Kaethe. **This is for Fisher Road Park to get soccer field with two goals and basketball full court improvements using the Salem Park Improvement Fund. We received 66 signatures from the surrounding residents.**

\*ACCOMPLISHMENTS by NORTHGATE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (NGNA)

September, 2019 to 2022

1. Improvements at Northgate Park:
  - a. Two toddler bouncy riders at playground -this was completed due to Park Chair’s persistence.
  - b. New playground equipment to replace another major part that broke down.
  - c. Posted NGNA sign at the park.
  - d. New asphalt paving at basketball, new basketball nets and asphalt paving at tennis court area
  - e. Getting new light pole added at south end of the park
  - f. Soccer field with two goals
  - g. New benches and picnic table
2. Improvements at Fisher Road Park:
  - a. Getting 98 contact information and signatures from surrounding residents to improve Fisher Road Park.
  - b. Had grass mowed down in preparation for wider soft trail.
- 2-B Future Improvements:
  - aa. 4 ft. or wider soft trail all along the park

- bb Dog bag dispenser at east entrance.
- cc 4 picnic tables
- 3. Assisting and following up with getting speed humps on Stortz Ave., and more to come. Getting five members to testify at both the Budget meeting and City Council meeting re bumps which helped a lot.
- 4. Chair and Land use Chair approved affordable housings in the area and reviewed other land use cases.
- 5. Supported residents surrounding Yoshikai Elementary School re better solar panel solution with Salem/Keizer School District. Sent letter by Chair & Land Use Chair to come up with a better solution than laying 100 solar panels 9 ft. high on grass ground of school as this is stressing the surrounding residents who must see them from home. Residents expressed appreciation to us for our support.
- 6. Keeping account healthy by adding to it with land use matters and others by using it for something that really counts.
- 7. Got rid of the potholes at Fisher Road Park parking area at the west side by Fisher Road.
- 8. a) Awarding exceptional towing company owner with Certificate. b) Awarding Creator and Co-Ordinator of Fun Friday with Special Certificate in front of a large crowd.
- 9. Re Homeless:
  - a. Made flyers and passed them around residents close to the pavilion when the unmanaged homeless were coming around to the pavilion.
  - b. Sent NGNA letter to the owner Larry Larson to get rid of the unmanaged homeless who occupied his woody area in north Portland Road. These homeless people were causing a lot of havoc with the surrounding residents at that time. Plus, they were doing many illegal things according to Salem Police.
  - c. Sent NGNA letter to City Council informing them that NGNA has enough homeless shelters, so the other wards had to take them in as promised by the City.
  - d. Sent NGNA letter to City Council with solutions on how to deal with the homeless.
  - e. Sent NGNA letter to City Council as advised by City Councilor for City not to rid of funding for trash removal.
  - f. Reporting unauthorized parking and homeless campers and continually supporting residents when complaints are made.
- g. Writing to City Council re giving the homeless permanent and livable location instead of pushing them around.
- 11. Finding a new location to have our monthly meetings.
- 12. Proposing and starting Neighborhood Watch. Waiting for Sgt. Jantz to get back to us.
- 13. Setting up tables on Fun Friday Event to promote NGNA.
- 14. Finding new board members with methods including Nextdoor Neighbors.
- 15. Helping a member use the podium at Northgate Park so that she and her group of church singers can practice and perform. We followed up on it and surprised this member of its possibility when she was almost ready to give up.
- 16. Future Improvements:
  - aa. Building Monarch butterfly sanctuary by planting pollinator plants in the late Fall at Northgate Park.
  - bb Requested Hot ash container by BBQ equipment and they have it in stock now. It needs to be installed, if not already. When requested, City Parks decided to install hot ash container in all the parks in Salem.
    - cc. Asked to suggest, so we suggested & selected lavatory design for the processing stage to get lavatories. This could not be processed without the design.
    - dd. Street Art at Donald and Carleton Way scheduled for September 24<sup>th</sup>.
    - ee. Approached Boys and Girls Club for a possible donation. They have not gotten back to us with a full answer. They know we are willing to help them.
- 16. On September 15 and 16<sup>th</sup>, voted for NGNA letter to be sent to Encompass Management, 132 Glynbrook St. N, #100, Keizer, OR 97303 on Noise Ordinance regarding 3604 31st Ave NE to correct tenant noise issues. Seconded and voted by Shirley, Phyllis, Bill, Randy, Jess, Becca, Don, Kaethe.