



Northeast Neighbors (NEN)

Minutes of board meeting, May 10, 2022

Board members present in alphabetical order: Delana Beaton, Laura Buhl, Nick Cantonwine, Erin Grimm, Ken Houghton, Lainy Kruger, Joan Lloyd, Jeremy Mills, Jenna Otto, Leslie Polson, Ken Simila, Lynn Takata

There were also seven guests in attendance.

The meeting was called to order on Zoom by **Chair Lynn Takata** at 6:30 PM.

Salem Police Sgt. Vince Dawson make opening remarks. There was general discussion of gang graffiti in Englewood Park and in the local area. Local gunshots were also discussed.

It was agreed that minutes of the April meeting would be sent and responded to by email.

Salem City Councilor Virginia Stapleton gave update from City Council. She led a general discussion about the benefits of the pending municipal bond which will be voted on in the fall election. The Bond will be considered by city council on May 23. August 8 will be final date for changes. In connection with the bond there was general discussion of using bond funds to purchase smaller differently engineered fire engines which would have smaller turn radius needs.

City Councilor Tom Andersen commented that if passed the new municipal bond would raise no taxes. It will simply replace payments on an earlier bond that is now being retired. He also mentioned that any monies left over from the earlier bond would be credited to the city.

There was also general discussion of park and recreational space for NEN, and it was agreed that the area particularly needs this space developed north of Market Street. Some board members pledged to make contributions to help fund the purchase of a new white oak tree to replace the recently planted one removed and destroyed by vandals.

It was announced that Neighborhood Cleanup day is scheduled for Saturday, May 14. It will again occur on the east parking lot of the First Nazarene Church. Several NEN board members have volunteered to work at the cleanup.

Action Item: **Leslie Polson** moved, and **Jeremy Mills** seconded, that NEN would request that the area on southeast corner of Sunnyview and 17th be used by the state fairgrounds during the two weeks of the fair, but that the remainder of the year it would be park space again available within NEN as it was years ago. It was also agreed that the large field of camas plants would be

protected, as they are important to the Kalapuya tribe. **Ken Simila** offered to be the NEN point person for this project. This motion passed unanimously.

It was agreed that our next meeting on Tuesday, June 7 would be in McRae Park.