

HIGHLAND NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

MEETING MINUTES 07/14/2022

Present:

Board Members:

Christian Kelly President

Leigh Gaynair

Salem City Councilor Ward 1 Virginia Stapleton (via Zoom)

Tony Martin, Assistant City Traffic Engineer (via Zoom)

Guests/Association Members:

Heather Ames

New board members were elected:

Leigh Gaynair at the request of Christian Kelly (no position designated)

Heather Ames volunteered to fill the secretary's position on a temporary basis to enable the last board position to be filled.

Motion: Christian

Seconded: by all attending.

Per Christian, the board is now full, but one member (? Name) did request to be replaced ASAP. Board members will participate in Zoom calls. Christian reported there can be up to 15 board members.

New Business:

Graffiti has been noted on Union Pacific property. The graffiti team will coordinate to have it removed.

8/2/2020 is National Night Out. Christian Kelly volunteered to have the event at his house from 3:00 PM onward. He will have bratwurst on the grill.

Police are only responding to high priority calls. They are low-staffed with lots of openings. The Community Safety Officer retired, but others have joined and are in training.

There is a care program to help with repairs for those who can't or don't have the means.

Tony Martin, Assistant City Traffic Engineer reported on the train horn complaints from residents. Noises are between 96-100 decibels with 2 short and 1 long blasts.

Request for a turn lane on Broadway to Pine was declined.

It was noted that the intersection of Laurel and Columbia has neither a stop nor a yield sign at the church, but there is a plan for area stop signs to be erected.

A report from Virginia Stapleton:

Keith Stanley has been hired as City Manager, coming from Olympia.

Bringing issues to the council has been an automatic "no" but she is hoping for a better future with Keith versus with Steve Powers, the previous manager. Keith is an "extroverted introvert" and starts Sept 1. He currently has a house in Bend. He is buying here in Salem and will stay until his retirement in 5 – 7 years.

Our Salem Parks...Keith is big into parks and hopefully will pull from Public Works.

Highland is working on a street mural. Grant Neighborhood already has one. Michele Reed is the artist and plans are to be finalized perhaps as early as next week. Installation is planned for the end of August, in coordination with Travel Salem. There will be a block party. There were questions regarding placing the mural at the intersection with the community garden.

Leigh Gaynair is the Heritage chair for the Highland neighborhood. She reported she was able to get 10 Heritage Neighborhood sign-toppers this year and plans to order 10 more in 2023. She reported 90% of the homes in the Highland neighborhood are over 50 years old. Mapping for architecture required 15 deep dives.