

Board members present:

Christine Chute, Victor Dodier, John Prohodsky, Ron Rubel, Jim Scheppke, Jeff Schumacher, Roz Shirack, Brian Sund, Carol Snyder, Lorrie Walker, Evan West, Mark Wigg

Jon Christenson's absence was excused.

Guests were present as well. **See Exhibit A - Attendance Roster**

President Victor Dodier called the meeting to order about 6:30 pm with a quorum present.

1. A motion to approve the July 2022 meeting minutes was made by Jim Scheppke and seconded by Christine Chute. The July meeting minutes were approved with one abstention.

2. City and County Reports:

a. Councilor Nordyke

Councilor Nordyke said she appreciates that SCAN is on top of things and provides information to City Councilors. She noted that recent changes to Salem's ward's boundaries resulted in neighborhood associations spanning several wards. She said the September 29<sup>th</sup> neighborhood association meeting would be a good forum for discussing how to align neighborhood associations and wards.

**Mobile crisis units**

It is likely that a motion will be made at the September 26<sup>th</sup> Council meeting to fund mobile crisis units. Council will receive staff report on mobile crisis units. She encouraged sending email in support of mobile crisis units to City Councilors. Olympia and Portland have implemented civilian staffed mobile crisis units to respond to non-public safety (police, fire) calls, i.e. homeless, substance abuse, minor medical issues, mental health crisis.

Lorrie Walker asked what happens to money saved by not having police respond? Councilor Nordyke said that in addition to saving police money, mobile crisis unit will respond to incidents that had no response from police. She noted that it is highly likely that mobile crisis units will decrease usage of Salem Health's Emergency Department. She hopes that Salem Health will contribute some of that saving to the mobile crisis unit program.

**Keith Stahley, new City Manager**

Councilor Nordyke's first meeting with Mr. Stahley was very positive. He has experience implementing equity diversity and inclusion programs and mobile crisis units in Olympia, WA.

**Affordable housing**

The housing administrator approved a 96 unit multifamily housing project whose units will rent at 80% of market rates.

### 3. Announcements

There was a notice posted of a parking change on block between Saginaw and Commercial Street on Lincoln Street. Hunsaker Dental is on the corner of Lincoln and Commercial and his patients park on Lincoln Street. Cars have been parking illegally in the no parking zone at corner of Lincoln and Commercial. Someone said they believed that a request for resident-only parking was approved 5 years ago.

Brian Sund asked what happened to logo change? Jim Schepcke said it was put on hold.

Jim Schepcke moved to nominate Evan West to the SCAN Board and Mark Wigg seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to add Evan to the SCAN Board.

### 4. Neighborhood Concerns

#### **Leaf blowers**

Mr. John Bergman is bothered by leaf blowers. His suggestions to reduce noise:

Limit gas powered leaf blowers to one day a week

Limit hours of operation

Have a decibel limit

Mark Wigg said leaf blowers are the loudest thing heard. He has thought about limiting their noise. He suggested requiring landscapers to have electric leaf blowers.

Jim Schepcke asked if other cities dealt with issue. He suggested that the Oregon League of Cities might be a good starting point.

#### **Gas powered scooters**

Mark Wigg said he noticed increasing numbers of loud gas-powered scooters on streets which aren't street legal. He is concerned about the lack of police enforcement.

### 5. Street painting project

Brian Hart asked for and received a \$1000 grant (first come, first served) from Travel Salem. Isis Thornton-Saunders, a community relations specialist from Travel Salem, explained how the street painting program works. The neighborhood association approves the design. Colin Armstrong from Public Works approves the proposed location. The permitting process for the street mural includes contacting neighbors. When the mural is finished Travel Salem will throw a party.

SCAN will coordinate painting and the party. Travel Salem has a mural artist who can design mural

Ros Shirack asked if \$1000 will cover all costs? Yes, \$1000 is adequate for a 1100 ft. sq. mural. Travel Salem can get paint suitable for mural at a discount. Paint is good for 3 years. Grant and Highland NAs have street murals. Northgate NA will be doing one.

Brian said grants went in two days. He is willing to be liaison and manage project.

Jim Schepcke moved to let Brian lead; Lorrie seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Chris Davey, chair of Salem's Public Art Commission, said she had this idea for years.

Informal subcommittee members are Brian Hart, Ron Rubel, Brian Sund, and Jim Schepcke.

6. Mission Street Parks Conservatory project in Bush Park  
Christine Chute presented the project. It will be a woodland garden between Bush Barn parking lot and the greenhouse. Information on the project is at <https://www.missionstreetparks.org/a-new-garden-for-bushs-pasture-park/>. The garden will build upon the existing hedge and trees by adding flowering trees. Compacted gravel will make it accessible for people using walkers and wheelchairs. Seating will encourage people to enjoy the garden.

Fund raising starts this fall. The goal is to have the garden done by fall of 2023. The budget is being developed and the cost is estimated to be about \$100,000 with the major cost being irrigation.

Roz mentioned applying for a SPIF grant. The deadline is 29<sup>th</sup> of October. SCAN will need to raise matching funds for grant. She asked if the plants will be native to Oregon. Christine said they will be. The plants selected will adapt to climate change.

7. Eco-Earth Globe Restoration Project  
Carol Snyder of Salem Parks Foundation presented the project to restore the Eco-Earth Globe. Eco-Earth, a major community art project, was conceived and finished between 2000 and 2003.

It's a major feature of Riverfront Park whose location between the Rotary Amphitheater and Peter Courtney bridge is heavily trafficked. The estimated cost is \$400,000 with City contributing \$100,000. Salem Parks Foundation is responsible for the remaining \$300,000 of which \$45,000 has been raised to date. Video of community building Eco-Earth is on City website; type Eco-Earth in search bar to find video.

Lorrie Walker mentioned that the restoration is controversial. It is not sure that tiles on the restored Eco-Earth will not fall off. Some people feel that the \$100,000 takes away from existing parks.

A trust fund will be established to fund maintenance after Eco-Earth is restored. The Architectural Resources Group, a restoration firm, did a thorough job of evaluating condition of Eco-Earth.

8. Recognition of Tom Anderson's service

Jim Schepcke moved to approve a resolution (**Exhibit B**) to recognize Tom's service to Salem. Lorrie Walker seconded the motion. It was approved with one abstention.

9. Committee Reports and Chair Report

- a. **Historic Preservation, Parks, and Gardens Committee**

The Historic Preservation, Parks and Gardens Committee did not meet in July or August.

- b. **Land Use Committee**

The Land Use Committee did not meet in July. The Committee's report (**Exhibit C**) is attached.

Council initiated the process to change the proposed MU-III zone to MU-II for certain properties on Commercial St between Superior St and McGilchrist St SE. Neighbors affected by the zoning change will be contacted by City and a public hearing will be held. The zoning change should be finalized by end of year.

**c. Transportation Committee**

The Transportation Committee met in July. The Committee's report (**Exhibit D**) is attached.

Revising the Salem Transportation System Plan is next big project. The City is waiting on the State to finalize new rules. The project will most likely start in late spring.

SCAN has urged Salem to do a traffic study on Liberty Street. The traffic counters and speed sensing equipment that Salem has works on two lane roads, not 3 lane roads. Jim Schepke mentioned that Virginia Stapleton said a traffic study was done on Capitol Street, a three-lane road.

Victor Dodier moved that:

***The South Central Association of Neighbors requests that the City of Salem study traffic speeds on Liberty St. SE between Oxford St. SE and Mission St. SE.***

Roz proposed a friendly amendment to clarify which segment of Liberty St. SE should be studied. The amendment was accepted. The motion was seconded by John Prohodsky. The motion passed unanimously.

**d. President's report**

New city manager started work on Monday (September 12). His attendance at NA meetings has not been scheduled; SCAN is in queue.

**SCAN 2022-2023 Goals**

- a) Advocate with the City to improve the transportation system for walkers, cyclists, and public transportation users.
- b) Advocate for parks improvements
- c) Support and encourage more medium density housing developments across the City and prohibit unoccupied short term rentals as they remove housing stock for Salem residents.

Jeff Schumacher moved that SCAN adopt the 2023-23 goals above. Christine Chute seconded. The vote was 12 Yes votes and 1 No vote. Motion passed.

Jim Schepke moved to adopt a climate action goal:

Encourage the City to take bold actions to achieve the goals of the Salem Climate Action Plan

Evan West seconded the motion. The motion passed with 11 Yes votes and 2 abstentions.

Victor said SCAN members who volunteer need to record time spent volunteering to qualify for \$250 from City for SCAN's Communications Fund. Victor wants to show diversity of contributions. Victor will provide clarification on what counts as volunteer

There were 6 fires from fireworks over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, one more than 2021.

In July, Victor attended a special meeting with Chief Womack to dispel rumors about how Salem Police Department responds to calls.

Marion County Mental Health is moving its dispatch center to 1234 Commercial Street SE. Some counseling will be done there.

A letter was sent to School District about renegotiating mutual use agreement between the City and School District. A new agreement could reduce/eliminate the requirement that NAs pay rent and the requirement that NAs hold the school district harmless from COVID claims.

A radar reader board on Liberty Street at Lincoln Street was requested. It may take about a year for SCAN's request to be fulfilled. The City is working on requests from October 2021.

On August 21<sup>st</sup> Victor made the motion:

**Be it resolved that the SCAN Board:**

**Approve \$450 expenditure from SCAN's Communication Fund for payment of facility rental and permit application fees during the 2022 - 2023 year.**

in an email which discussed possible SCAN meeting locations. An online vote to approve the motion was taken. There were 8 yes votes, 0 no votes and 5 abstentions. The motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:33.

## Exhibit A

### Attendees for September 14, 2022 SCAN Meeting

Board Member	Email Address	Present	Board Member	Email Address	Present
Christenson, Jon	<a href="mailto:edscannewsletter@gmail.com">edscannewsletter@gmail.com</a>	Excused	Schumacher, Jeff	<a href="mailto:jeff.schumacher@gmail.com">jeff.schumacher@gmail.com</a>	X
Chute, Christine	<a href="mailto:cachute@gmail.com">cachute@gmail.com</a>	X	Shirack, Roz	<a href="mailto:rozshirack7@gmail.com">rozshirack7@gmail.com</a>	X
Dodier, Victor	<a href="mailto:vi@dodier.com">vi@dodier.com</a>	X	Sund, Brian	<a href="mailto:sund60@icloud.com">sund60@icloud.com</a>	X
Holmstrom, Bill	<a href="mailto:williamh@gmail.com">williamh@gmail.com</a>		Snyder, Carol	<a href="mailto:snyder2858@comcast.net">snyder2858@comcast.net</a>	X
Prohodsky, John	<a href="mailto:johnpro@gmail.com">johnpro@gmail.com</a>	X	Walker, Lorrie	<a href="mailto:dakotalor@msn.com">dakotalor@msn.com</a>	X
Rubel, Ron	<a href="mailto:ronrubel@comcast.net">ronrubel@comcast.net</a>	X	West, Evan	<a href="mailto:evanwest714@gmail.com">evanwest714@gmail.com</a>	X
Schepke, Jim	<a href="mailto:jschepke@comcast.net">jschepke@comcast.net</a>	X	Wigg, Mark	<a href="mailto:mark_wigg@hotmail.com">mark_wigg@hotmail.com</a>	X

### Other Attendees

Vanessa Nordyke, City Councilor Ward 7
Brian Hart
Ali Turiel
Christine D'Arcy
Isis Thornton-Saunders
John Bergman

## **Exhibit B**

### **Motion to recognize Tom Anderson's Service**

#### RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR THE SERVICE OF TOM ANDERSEN

WHEREAS, Tom Andersen and his wife Jessica have been residents of South Central Salem since 2006, and;

WHEREAS, Tom Andersen served with distinction as Land Use Chair, Vice-President and President of the South Central Association of Neighbors, and;

WHEREAS, Tom Andersen has served on the Salem City Council representing Ward 2 that includes South Central Salem since 2015, and;

WHEREAS, in his first four-year term on the Council Tom Andersen worked in the interest of South Central Salem by supporting a less costly police station proposal, working against the expensive and ineffective Salem River Crossing proposal, supporting the seismic upgrade and renovation of our main library, and passing a resolution to make Salem an "Inclusive City," among other important accomplishments, and;

WHEREAS, in his second term Tom Andersen led the final defeat of the Salem River Crossing, led efforts to reform Salem's System Development Charges on new development, led a ban on single-use plastic bags, worked to stabilize city finances with a City Operations Fee, led efforts to create a Salem Climate Action Plan, and initiated planning for much-needed infrastructure bond measure proposal that could be accomplished without a tax increase, among other important accomplishments, and;

WHEREAS, on August 8<sup>th</sup> Tom Andersen resigned his seat on the Salem City Council in order to devote the time necessary to campaign for a seat in the Oregon House of Representatives, District 19, with the goal of continuing to serve his neighbors and all of South Salem in the Oregon Legislative Assembly beginning in 2023;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SOUTH CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORS, that we express our fondest appreciation for the service of Tom Andersen as our Salem City Councilor and wish him all the best as he seeks to continue his career of service to SCAN and to the state.

## **Exhibit C**

### **Land Use Committee Report**

#### **Mixed-Use Zone on Commercial St. SE.**

At its 9/12/2022 meeting Council approved resolution 2022-48 to initiate a zone change for specific properties on Commercial Street SE between Superior Street S and McGilchrist Street SE. The zone change is to Mixed-Use II instead of the originally proposed Mixed-Use III.

This action is in response to SCAN's earlier testimony requesting a larger section of Commercial St. SE be rezoned to Mixed Use-II, but Council did not support that larger request.

This resolution implements Council action taken July 11, 2022, when it adopted the Our Salem package of Comprehensive Plan map and zone changes, with the direction to staff to initiate the above noted change in proposed zoning for that section of Commercial St. SE.

#### **Development Applications**

There are two development applications that the Committee will be reviewing after city staff has deemed them to be complete and has concluded any pre-application meetings. Preliminary designs do not require any variances to existing development standards.

1) Hunsacker Dental Clinic plans to redevelop the prior Kwan's Restaurant site at 835 Commercial St. SE. It will be a large dental clinic with 25 chairs. I'm not sure if the current Hunsacker Dental Clinic further south on Commercial St. (also within SCAN) is relocating or expanding.

2) St. Francis Church Family Housing at Howard and Berry Streets is adding a new 5-unit apartment building behind its existing apartment building. The current building on the lot will be demolished to make room for the new apartment building.

Submitted by Roz Shirack, Chair



## Exhibit D

### Transportation Committee Report

The Transportation Committee met on Wednesday, July 20, at the Fairmount Cottages Community Room.

Attending: Mark Wigg, Lorrie Walker, John Prohodsky, Jim Scheppke, Brian Sund and Victor Dodier

Our agenda for the meeting was to discuss the future Salem Transportation System Plan (STSP) update and a speed study of Liberty Street S, north of the “S” curve.

We had a general discussion of Julie Warncke’s presentation to the City’s Climate Action Plan Committee in July. From Warncke’s presentation, it appears that update of the STSP will not begin until next year. The City is waiting for the State’s climate rule to be finalized. In the meantime, the City is collecting basic information about the Salem’s transportation infrastructure.

We moved on to a discussion of Liberty Street. We all observed that traffic on Liberty is too fast. The three lanes after the “S” curve give drivers the impression of open space and safety and they drive faster. There is speed racing on Liberty at night. Jim and Victor both reported hearing car engines winding loudly. There was a serious three car crash the intersection at Myers and Liberty in June that was not reported anywhere.

For information, Commercial St. is posted for 30 mph; the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile traffic speed on Commercial St. is about 35 mph, according to traffic data from October 2020. Liberty St. is also posted for 30 mph; traffic speeds are generally thought to be much higher.

The City Traffic Engineer does not have speed data for Liberty St., unlike Commercial St., because the traffic counters that the City uses can cover two, but not three, travel lanes. Alternatives, like the mobile radar signs (e.g., Hawthorne Ave. NE) or radar speed signs (Glen Creek Rd. NW) do not collect data.

There should be data for Liberty St. The City should do a speed study of traffic on Liberty.

The Transportation Committee recommends the following motion to the SCAN Board:

***The South Central Association of Neighbors requests that the City of Salem study traffic speeds on Liberty St. SE.***

Submitted by

Victor Dodier

Chair, SCAN Transportation Committee