

NESCA meeting minutes:

Tuesday, November 15, 2022 at 7:00

1. Welcome, Introductions, Announcements, Approval of Minutes:

NESCA Chair Mike Beringer opened the meeting at 7 PM and welcomed all in attendance. The Minutes were approved as written.

2. Salem Police Officer Report: Sgt. Davis spoke about pedestrian safety with the winter months coming on. When driving, be mindful of speed limits, ice, snow. Pay attention for pedestrians and bikers. Don't text, eat, apply makeup while driving. Check your lights while getting your oil changed. Wear reflective helmets and clothing while biking. More likely to be seen if you cross in a crosswalk and be sure to make eye contact with drivers before crossing the road.

Theft is a problem with holiday shopping. Put purchases in trunk and lock car doors. Amazon-always have a plan to have boxes picked up

Every year cars are stolen because people turn cars on, go back into the house to drink coffee, go back out and the car is gone. If car is broken into, call the non-emergency line to report it, not 911. Same goes for seeing suspicious behavior in parking lots. Sgt. Davis suggested checking out the city website for a map of crime locations.

Virginia Stapleton recommended signing up for alerts and twitters since Facebook stories tend to grow.

3. City Councilors Report: Virginia Stapleton Virginia welcomed new Counselor Julie Hoy to our meeting. They had a special meeting Nov. 2nd to appoint Chris Hoy as Mayor. Virginia is now council president. They celebrated the passage of the bond. Chris Hoy is now out filming small videos of different areas. Virginia encouraged us to view them and share them with friends.

There will be a downtown parade on Nov.26 and a Tree lighting on Dec. 2nd. All are encouraged to attend.

A Virtual customer service app has opened up now. Find info on it at cityof salem. Net. Also the demolition of the old UGM building and other buildings on that block has started.

The City of Salem has received a one million dollar grant for a community micro grid over by the old public works building. It will power 34 homes and more. She also briefly mentioned upcoming Turkey Trot, Fall leaf hauls and that council will be back in chambers starting in January.

Councilor Julie Hoy was welcomed. She mentioned that November is National Runaway Prevention month and a month that highlights small businesses.

Marilyn requested hard copies of flyers to put in kiosks since all of them were removed. Very frustrating! She needs five of them. She has collected 138 pairs of socks. It is not too late to donate more.

There will be a tree planting on Dec. 2nd at Lansing Park. This is in honor of Patty Tipton.

Eli thanked Marilyn for the kiosk in the D St. Park. More discussion about the removal of the flyers since they were about suicide prevention, etc. They were removed at 3 different parks for unknown reasons.

4. Land Use Report: Ian Johnson. New contact for State Hospital is Robert Underwood. No bids were received since there is a crashing demand for commercial properties. Expects it to be vacant for quite some time. Will see what happens when the new government administrations comes on. Discussion about other uses for that property- homeless shelters? Affordable housing?

5. Parks Report: Eli Brody. He went to a training on land use. A good way to deal with disagreements is to compromise. Even if all are not in favor of a project, sometimes it can be modified to work things out.

Marilyn talked about the need for new crosswalks for the new subdivision.

Milan Davis was unable to attend this meeting because he is in Seattle.

The AFL-CIO is hosting a free child holiday party on Dec. 3rd from 9-noon.

Meeting was adjourned at 8 pm.

The next NESCA meeting will be in January and will continue to be on Zoom with link provided by email sent prior to meeting date.

Submitted by Lucy Beringer
Substituting for Teri Lupoli in her absence.

Attending:

Mike Beringer, Stacey V.B., Marilyn Moritz, Ian Johnson, Lynn Cardiff, Ken Gettys, Virginia Stapleton, Julie Hoy, Lucy Beringer, Officer Sgt. Davis, Gary Pullman,