



NEN meeting
December 13, 2022

Meeting called to order: 7:03 PM

Attendance:

Board members: Nick Cantonwine, Jeremy Mills, Ken Houghton, Lynn Takata, Leslie Polson. Cindy Kimball and Delana Beaton (via Zoom).

City Councilor Linda Nishioka, Sargent Dawson (Salem PD)

Due to technical difficulties, some people were unable to join the meeting via zoom.

Total attendance: 19 (including Zoom attendees)

Presentations:

Sargent Dawson, Salem PD presentation:

1. The sale of the home located at 1575 Nebraska Street NE fell through. The city will be classifying it as nuisance property and the Salem PD will continue to monitor it. Sgt. Dawson recommended neighbors continue to report any fires to the fire department and crime to the police department. If there is any problem or concern please alert the NEN chair in advance and they can be addressed at the next meeting.
2. Be on alert: front porch package thefts have increased.

Tony Martin, Asst. City Traffic Engineer spoke about the traffic in our area and the NTM.

1. Currently the Neighborhood Traffic Management (NTM) Plan is being updated. They are re-evaluating traffic calming measures and prioritizing projects.
2. The “20 is Plenty” plan will be difficult to implement. The costs to post the necessary signs in neighbors around the city would total near \$2 million
3. Speed bumps are expensive to install: Rubber ones cost \$6,000 each
4. Flashing Pedestrian signs indicating the drivers speed: They don’t yet know their effectiveness.
5. The Neighborhood Stop Sign Plan will evaluate the need to install more stop signs at intersections or every few block to slow traffic
6. Flashing Beacon-pedestrian activated signs are suggested for medium at 17th and Nebraska St NE.
7. Two sets of speed bumps are being installed in NE Salem.

Linda Nishioka, Salem city councilor Ward 2 gave an update on city council meetings:

1. The new city manager Keith Stahley, has “reshuffled” the management positions to make the Salem city government more efficient. There will be two Deputy City managers, each with different roles.

2. The city received a grant to install 36 electric vehicle charging units for city use
3. Council awarded a \$500,000 grant (from Urban Renewal funds) to the new owners of the historic Whitlocks building on Court Street. The remodel will include commercial space downstairs and housing upstairs.
4. An emergency declaration was passed to extend funding for shelters. There are approximately 3,500 low income housing units in Salem right now.
5. Brian Martin has been appointed to be the interim Public Works Director to replace Peter Fernandez who announced his retirement in November 2022.
6. The Salem Outreach and Livability Services, also known as the SOS team, (which pairs police officers with Public Works employees to quickly respond to illegal encampments in parks and public rights-of-way.) has been picking up trash and helping the homeless and has reached out to 281 contacts. They have also gotten housing referrals for 53 of those contacts.
7. 6 more officers will be hired by the Salem PD. And body cameras will arrive for officers in January.

Jeremy Mills is moving and has resigned his position of treasurer. He is willing to train his replacement if a board member would like to volunteer.

Due to the late start of the meeting, Lynn quickly reported on the great work of the neighborhood around our community.

ACTION: On December 12, the NEN board voted via email to approve the August minutes. 11 voted yes, 2 abstained that were unable to attend the August meeting.

Meeting adjourned at: 8:40PM

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Kimball
Delana Beaton