



NEN General Meeting Minutes
1/10/23

Call to order: 6:31 (via zoom)

Board attendance: Jeremy Mills, Lynn Takata, Delana Beaton, Jacqueline Schindele, Nick Cantonwine, Ken Houghton, Ken Simila, Cindy Kimball, Jenna Otto, Joan Lloyd, LaLainya Kruger, Erin Grimm,

Absent: Leslie Polson

City councilors: Virginia Stapleton and Linda Nishioka

Salem Police Dept. guest speakers: Sergeant Dawson and Angie Hedrick

Total in attendance: 23

Announcements: Recently, a pair of bald eagles have been spotted numerous times in Englewood park and in the nearby Lee Mission Cemetery. Possibly looking for a nesting spot.

Sergeant Dawson's report:

1. SPD Homeless Service Team has two full time officers who are identifying the unmanaged homeless camps in Salem. The officers connect with the homeless population in these camps and work to set up treatment programs and help to find affordable housing or spaces in micro shelters. This program has helped to reduce the crime in Salem.
2. There was a question regarding the increase or decrease in crime since the Micro Shelters have been occupied on Center street in October 2022. Sargent Dawson will look into the crime reports in the area surrounding the shelters and report back next month.
3. If anyone has a question for Sargent Dawson, please submit to Chair Lynn Takata and she can get it to the sargent for our next meeting.

Councilor reports:

1. Councilor Stapleton announced there will be a "5 Year Budget Forecast" meeting on Wednesday, January 18, 2023 at 6 PM. If anyone is interested in attending.
2. The error in the ballot title for Salem's \$300 million Infrastructure Bond has been corrected and the bond is now moving forward.
3. The Salem City council voted to approve a \$2.4 million transfer from the city's general fund to pay for operational and capital costs, including renovation and airport staffing to the Salem Municipal Airport at its Monday meeting, in an attempt to bring commercial air service to Salem.
4. Salem City Manager Keith Stahley reported there will be a deficit in the city's budget for 2023.
5. Councilor Stapleton expects to bring "Vision Zero", (a strategy to eliminate traffic fatalities in the city) to the next city council meeting.
6. 20 is Plenty is coming back to council in early 2023".
7. January 25, 2023, the League of Oregon Cities is coming to Salem to visit Salem's micro shelters.

Discussions: There was much discussion about the Council's decision to transfer \$2.4 million from the general fund (tax payer dollars) to renovate and staff the Salem Municipal Airport.

Angie Hedrick, SPD report: How to get the correct help from the Salem PD and other city departments.

1. **Call or Text 911** if you need immediate response from police, fire or ambulance. If you see a crime in progress or see suspicious activity. Or a downed power line.
2. Call **Non-emergency number (503) 588-6123** if a crime has already occurred and it is not an emergency. Try to communicate effectively. Keep calm. Be a good witness. Get license plate number. Describe situation or person from "Top Down". (Hat, hair, hoodie, shoe color, beard) Anything that stands out. Mode and direction of travel.

Always ask the officer for a call back if you are interested in what happened with the incident.

3. **Call Public works Dispatch (503) 588-6311.** If there is a downed tree or a road blocked.
4. **Parking Enforcement (503) 588-6133.** For any parking issues

Mural at McRae Park: Lynn reported that she and Lani are working on a SPFF grant for the community art project they are proposing at McRae Park. The grant would fund paints and supplies for a mural (yet to be designed) that would showcase Northwest flora and fauna. They will be offering art workshops to residents so anyone interested can participate in the project.

Parking on 13th Street: Jeremy Mills made a motion to ask city staff to provide parking on the west side of 13th street between Court and Chemeketa Streets NE. Ken Houghton seconded. Vote passed unanimously.

MLK Day January 16th 9AM-noon: Volunteer in Englewood park, planting, cleaning up winter debris, ETC.

Ken Simila made a motion to move the February NEN meeting from February 14, 2023 (Valentine's Day) to February 21, 2023. Ken Houghton seconded the motion. Motion passes, one abstention.

Lynn reported that the house located at 1575 Nebraska Ave NE is now classified as a derelict house, it has been vacated, is boarded up and the house is up for auction.

If you have any suggestions for topics for future NEN meetings please submit to Lynn Takata.

Meeting adjourned: 8:15 PM

Decisions made via email:

1. Jeremy Mills resigned as treasurer and board member via email.
2. Delana Beaton resigned as secretary via email.

Thank you to both Delana and to Jeremy for their service to our board and our community.

3. NEN 2023 Officer Election took place via email.
The following board members were unanimously elected:
Chair: Lynn Takata
Vice Chair: Ken Simila
Secretary: Cindy Kimball
Treasurer: Erin Grimm