

Minutes of **GRANT NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

Board Meeting March 2, 2023 6:15 pm Broadway Commons and online via: Zoom video conference

AGENDA ITEM

#1 Introductions

BOARD MEMBERS:	PRESENT – <i>P</i>	ABSENT – <i>A</i>	EXCUSED – <i>E</i>		
JEANNE BOATWRIGHT	<i>P</i>	TINA HANSEN	<i>P</i>	AARON TERPENING	<i>P</i>
MARK DECOURSEY	<i>P</i>	TERESA JOSLIN	<i>P</i>	MARISSA THEVE	<i>E</i>
TIM FRANCE	<i>P</i>	NICK MASELLI	<i>P</i>	PAUL TIGAN	<i>P</i>
CHRISTOPHER HACKETT	<i>P</i>	SUSAN NAPACK	<i>E</i>		
LOLA HACKETT	<i>P</i>	SAM SKILLERN	<i>E</i>		

Others present: Jeff Williams, Connie Williams, Ashley Daven, Charlotte Scott, Carol DeCoursey, Mark Jantz, Irma Coleman, Annie Barnard, John Barnard, Eunice Kim, Scott Munford, Shelly Ehenger, and Virginia Slaughter.

Christopher moved that ***“We approve the February minutes as submitted.”*** Paul seconded the motion. Vote was 10 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

#2 Great Story from Grant

- Irma said that she has yard signs available that support the City of Salem Neighborhood Associations. There are 5 versions and anyone who would like them, please let her know. One of them includes members of our board and neighbors.

#3 Neighbor Concerns

- Charlotte reported that she was told by neighbors that, yesterday, in the 7-11 on Capitol Street, a “sidewalk resident” dropped his pants in the store and then walked out into the street while doing the same. He appeared to be emotionally disturbed. What can be done? Officer Jantz asked what time this occurred and was told that it was before 8:30 am. He said he had not heard about it but will check on what the call was and how it was handled. The incident has raised more questions about what will happen when the 7-11 closes when this kind of activity is already present.
- Jeff spoke about a homeless person at Cottage & D streets that they were concerned about because of the low temperatures. Officer Jantz said that if there is no trespass charge and the individual doesn’t want help, there is not much that can be done. Organizations that can offer help include: Church in the Park, Arches, City of Salem, Union Gospel Mission.

#4 Officer’s Report

Officer Mark Jantz was present. He is filling in tonight, but the SPD is working to offer stability by having the same officer attend NA meetings over a prolonged period of time.

He reported that:

- Body cameras are now being worn by all Salem Police officers. Citizens can go to the Salem Police Transparency Portal at yoursalempd.com to find answers to FAQs, learn when the cameras are used and how to view footage. It cost \$800,000 to start the program and \$400,000 per year to maintain it. The city has a 5-year contract with Motorola to maintain the equipment and system. It takes additional employees to oversee the program, file the video, etc.
- With Daylight Savings Time starting on March 12th, be sure to check your outdoor lights and the batteries in your smoke, carbon monoxide, and radon detectors.
- Policy Information from Chief Womack:
 - Focus on smart, intelligence-led, policies;

- Use data to focus resources on areas of need: crime, speeding, and pedestrian safety;
 - Guidelines utilize - Intelligence, Communication, Planning – ICAP;
 - Continue community engagement with Coffee, or Cookie, With-a-Cop and get officers out of their cars;
 - Make the best use of resources.
- A neighbor asked if there are cartels in Salem. Yes. We are along I-5 which is the major throughfare. SPD special investigation units work with their counterparts at the FBI, DEA, and ATF. They deal with drugs, including fentanyl, and human trafficking. While there may be an increasing amount of graffiti, a lot of it is not gang related.
 - Our traffic reader board letter to Chief Womack and Sgt. Kofoid was received. The four portable readers on wheeled carts that the city has are wearing out. They have acquired four new ones that can be fastened to existing poles in the streetscape, which makes them easier to move around and allows for locating them in more appropriate spots.
 - A neighbor asked if additional signs need to be installed where streets intersect Capitol Street. They are seeing more drivers going the wrong way on this one-way street.

#5 Councilor Report

Virginia was not in attendance.

#6 Evergreen Church Property - Update

Sam was absent so Paul reported on the groundbreaking on February 21st, which was well attended with quite a number of board members and neighbors present. (No actual ground was broken.) They are going to start construction in the next couple of weeks. The site will probably be fenced for about a year as they complete their work. They want to keep school kids out and safe. Opening is planned for the summer of 2024. They will be allowing safe salvage of doors and other items that do not have lead paint on them. The contractor will be on site this week in the parsonage, which will become their work office. The contractor will work hard at avoiding blocking or parking in the streets or alleys so as not to inconvenience the neighbors. However, there will be short periods of time when they will have to load or off-load items that will require occupying those areas. They will work with the neighbors to keep them informed about these occurrences and durations. The contractor will also be careful about noise.

#7 Parking Reform

Paul commented that, over the years, Grant Neighborhood has had a number of philosophical discussions regarding parking. There have been a number of changes at the State level that are aimed at encouraging climate-friendly, equitable communities, and, to lower gas emissions. In Salem there are two paths being pursued. The first is to eliminate the requirement to have a minimum number of parking spaces in certain areas; those being within ¼-mile of a Core Network Transit Route. All of the Grant Neighborhood falls within this metric, except for property on the west side of Front Street. There is a map online at the city website that shows the core routes. An owner can provide parking if they wish to. The second is to move the entire city to this standard. In Oregon, three cities – Tigard, Corvallis and Bend – have already adopted this standard. There is no data yet on its affect. In New York city, single use developments usually provide parking, while multi-use projects tend to reduce, or eliminate, parking. The changes will occur over time. In Grant, the new triangle apartments on Fairgrounds Road have no on-site parking. The Evergreen Church redevelopment will have a minimum number. Conversations have been undertaken regarding raising the cost for parking permits, but then keeping the money in the permit area to improve streetscapes. Regarding equity, a neighbor asked if the aging population, that are not ADA eligible, been included in the considerations. The idea boils down to letting the market determine how many parking spaces need to be provided. This should provide what is needed, while eliminating the vast seas of unused asphalt parking lots.

#8 Board Member Reports

- **CERT** - Lola reported:
CERT classes are on hold, awaiting the city's acquisition of a new Emergency Management director. There is a list of anxious attendees for whenever the next class can be scheduled. It might be as soon as April.
- **Communications/Outreach** - Susan was excused, but had provided Jeanne with her report, as follows:
Neighborhood Services purchased a Zoom account for the Grant NA for \$149.90 per year. This has been charged to our communication funds account. This meeting was scheduled with the new account. City Services sent Susan the city's list of emails of subscribers to the city's Grant Neighborhood information. She imported them into Mail Chimp and we now have 196 subscribers, which almost doubles our list. She didn't get it in time for the March newsletter, but will use it beginning in April. Susan has begun work on the postcard to be mailed to Grant residents before our May general meeting. She will present the design and layout at the April meeting.
As usual, submissions and feedback on the newsletter and social media posts are greatly appreciated.
- **Land Use Updates** – Paul has been following the progress on the Front Street Truitt Bros. property that is for sale and which has a motivated developer interested. The Vancouver, Washington Columbia Riverfront Development is an inspiration for what they would like to attain. The proposal would open the property back up into its original four blocks that will allow clear sight lines from the east, to the river. A riverwalk would be along the Willamette River that would intertie with an eventual path to Keizer Rapids Park. The development would be a mix of commercial and residential uses. They want to keep some of the historic buildings, including one that extends over the river. The project is in pre-application mode with the city.
- **North Neighborhoods CPT** – Sam was excused and unavailable for a report.

#8 Other Business

None was brought forth.

Meeting adjourned at 7:24 pm

Respectfully submitted by: Jeanne Boatwright