

## **Sunnyslope Neighborhood Association**

### **Minutes**

**February 16, 2023**

**Meeting held via zoom**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 by co-chair Sally Cook.

Everyone had the opportunity to introduce themselves.

Officer Edmiston

He reported that Breakfast with the Chief, which is a fundraiser for the police department, went well.

Body cameras went live on Monday, February 13th.

They are working at hiring and retaining officers. It takes 11 months to train a new officer. Police cadets are a huge help at various events. They hope cadets when they age out of the program at age 21 will join the police force.

The traffic enforcement team has done enforcement around schools.

He mentioned that they have a special victims unit. a felony crimes unit a violent crimes unit. There are agencies and resources that the police can refer victims to.

He was thanked for attending our meeting on his day off.

Councilor Deanna Gwyn reported that she has been involved in lots of trainings as the newest member of the city council

Councilor Vanessa Nordke

She does not have a powerpoint to share, with all the orientation she is undergoing with her new job.

She highlighted the bipartisan appointment by the US Congress of Adrienne Nelson, an African American jurist who was serving on the Oregon Supreme Court to the US District Court. Neighbors were encouraged to learn more about her.

In January, the city council approved 4.5 million dollars allocated to the Mill Creek Urban Renewal District for a pedestrian bridge over Hwy 22 and the Pringle Creek Pathway. They are applying for additional funding from grants (more information about these projects are available on the city website)

Unused Community Development Block Grant money to help with the impacts of Covid was allocated to Marion/Polk Food Share for their Meals on Wheels program. The numbers of seniors requesting meals skyrocketed during the pandemic.

On February 13, the council approved their legislative priorities agenda. It includes House Bill 2757 which provides state funding for mobile crisis units state wide and well as for 988 suicide hotline centers. State Senator Deb Patterson and State Representative Paul Evans co-sponsored the bill.

Council voted to raise the pay for police officers

The Council is having a work session on Tuesday February 21st to discuss options of sustaining city services including police, fire, code compliance and services to the unsheltered. They will consider all options including levy and a payroll tax. Neighbors can watch the work session and submit written testimony.

At the state level, parking requirements have been dropped for developments. It was mentioned that this issue was brought up at the

recent neighborhood association chairs meeting with concerns for parking in neighborhoods.

Councilor Nordyke mentioned that the city has dropped the parking requirements for certain developments.

She mentioned Salem in Motion the development of Walkable mixed use neighborhoods.

The Council will study short term rentals, how many Airbnbs and how many landlords are following the rules. Councilor Nordyke is asking neighbors to share what they have observed with her. She wants evidence. Link to information on short term rentals

<https://www.cityofsalem.net/business/business-resources/licenses/short-term-rental-license> Currently, there are only 13 properties with city licenses.

Quarterly Chairs meeting: Alan Alexander & Henry Neugass

This is the first in-person meeting in awhile. There was discussion about the state dropping the requirement for off street parking. They learned that the new city manager has hired 2 new deputy city managers with each having oversight over certain departments.

The strategic communications plan was discussed and they learned that the police department was down 20 positions.

March 22 will be the State of the City Address by Mayor Hoy.

Budget meetings start in April

The city is close to an agreement with the schools to allow neighborhood associations to use school buildings again.

They toured the new service center that is under construction in City Hall where the old restaurant was located which will allow citizens to conduct a number of items of business in one place.

Sally Cook mentioned that the city has launched a "We Belong" Campaign. Her daughter is featured in one of the pictures.

Land Use Henry Neugass & Alan Alexander

They reported that they received notice that the developer of the property at 5524 Skyline Road, that has been annexed into the city, will build 16 units on the property. This is a linear lot. The information was received from the developer and notice was sent to everyone who has property within 250 feet of the property. There was discussion that there is no basis for the neighborhood association to object to the development except for concerns about the walkability from the development to Crossler Middle School, Sprague High School, Schirle Elementary and Secor Park which is a neighborhood park with no parking. Discussion will continue via email.

Old Business:

Alan Alexander reported that the shade structure for the playground equipment at Secor Park is one of 7 projects that will be considered for Salem Parks Improvement Fund grants. The decision will be made soon if the project will be funded and at what level.

Alan also reported that the spring on one of the riding toys in the toddler area at Sunnyslope Park was broken. If possible the toy will be repaired, if not a new riding toy will be installed.

Alan reported that the parks department is working on purchasing property adjacent to the right of way the city owns on Joplin Court to finish the Skyline trail

The volleyball net will be reinstalled at Sunnyslope Park once the weather improves.

Sally Cook will reach out to the appropriate organizations about the neighborhood association organizing tree planting projects at Sunnyslope and Secor Parks

Bill Holstrom - Cherriots Board Member who represents our area

He reported that money has been received for land acquisition for a transit center along Commercial Street. They are looking at the property on the NE corner of Commercial and Wiltsey. They are looking for funds to complete the infrastructure for the center. It is further out South than they wanted

They will acquire about 10 electric buses which will run on route 11 along Lancaster. They need to install infrastructure to support all electric buses which they will be moving to at some point.

Henry Neugass talked about the policy for businesses advertising on our Facebook page and group. We currently have 2 business requests on our Facebook page which is our old page. There was support for the policy since businesses have supported neighborhood association projects in the past.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 with a motion by Henry Neugass and seconded by Bruce Miller that all supported.

Next meeting will be March 16th  
Bruce and Linda Miller will miss the meeting since they will be attending their grandson's band concert.

Respectfully submitted

Linda Miller

Sunnyslope Neighborhood Association Secretary

Those attending:\

Sally Cook

Alan & Judith Alexander

Bruce & Linda Miller

Deanna Gwyn - City Councilor Ward 4

Vanessa Nordyke - City Councilor Ward 7

Henry Neugass

Gary Knighten

Bill Holstrom - Cherriots Board Member

Officer Edmiston

Kathy NB

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