

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>P</i>
TIM FRANCE	<i>P</i>	NICK MASELLI	<i>P</i>	PAUL TIGAN	<i>P</i>
CHRISTOPHER HACKETT	<i>P</i>	SUSAN NAPACK	<i>P</i>		
LOLA HACKETT	<i>P</i>	SAM SKILLERN	<i>P</i>		

Others present: Debbie Miller, Ashley Dahlen, Officer Mark Jantz, Virginia Stapleton, Carol DeCoursey, Carolin VanOrdin, and Alice Violette.

Christopher moved that ***“We approve the December minutes as submitted.”*** Lola seconded the motion. Vote was 13 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

#2 Great Story from Grant

- Sam brought, and shared, a thank you letter from Robbin Kerner, Chief Development Officer for the Boys and Girls Club of Salem, for the Grant Neighborhood Association’s donation of \$300 towards the Club’s 2022 Holiday Gift Drive for families in need whose children are served by the Club.
- Virginia said that Opal, a student at Parrish Middle School, noticed that the pedestrian control buttons at the intersection of D and Capitol streets were damaged. She contacted the city with the information and it has now been repaired and is functional again. This is a wonderful example of our neighborhood youth participating in making our community livable.
- Neighbors commented on the Mexican Restaurant at Broadway and Hood streets - saying it was very good and should be supported. The parents of children at Grant Community School are the owners. About 15-18 years ago, the then owners, were also a family with children attending Grant School.
- Sam said that the Chess Club is starting up again at Grant School. Teresa asked if adults could participate. Sam said they are welcome to volunteer and can learn along with the kids.

#3 Neighbor Concerns

- Paul said that he noticed that there are a lot of school buses on Cottage Street and asked Sam how the neighbors were dealing with that new practice this school year. Sam said that, fortunately, there are mostly buses using that street and parents are using Winter Street for drop-offs and pick-ups. Neighbors have not expressed concern – they just want the kids to be safe. Sam will talk with Principal Morris about it and get his take. Nick asked if there was a reason why, after dropping off the students, the buses pull west onto Gaines Street, and then sit there and idle.
- Teresa expressed opposition to the expanded air service being planned for McNary Field, based on the three past failed attempts. Expenses will include salaries for the equivalent of 8.5 city employees (for 4 flights per week), plus the cost of terminal improvements.
- Susan said that there is talk around the neighborhood that the 7-11 store/gas station at Capitol and Shipping streets will close within 30 days. Neighbors are concerned about both the loss of the business and the potential for people illegally occupying the vacant property.
- Marissa said she has met with a group called “Quiet, Clean, Salem” who are working on the disturbance aspects of leaf blowers, lawnmowers, etc. They are putting a draft document together for Salem Neighborhood Associations. There are active groups addressing the subject in both Portland and Eugene.

#4 Officer's Report

Officer Mark Jantz was present. He is a Community Relations Representative for Salem Police. He reported:

- Several officers are moving up to sergeant positions.
- SPD's Toy Drive started slowly, but ended with all the toys necessary to provide for 190 families who were nominated by School District employees or non-profits.
- On December 22nd, SPD hosted "Cookies with a Cop" which is geared towards kids. The first such event was held at Englewood Park and attracted 200 kids. The one in December drew 150 kids and was held at the Community Room at the Police Station. The officers and kids played board games, put puzzles together and made ornaments – and ate cookies.
- Chief Womack is working on a Street Development Plan that includes the Homeless Services Team. It consists of 2 police positions and is connected with other City of Salem departments, like public works. It is not an enforcement team, but seeks to help, instead. They visit unmanaged camps and respond to complaints submitted online to the city. They coordinate with outreach services, identify barriers to those services, and work to get folks into managed camps or micro-shelters, build a rapport, and refer those who need it, into drug and/or alcohol treatment. They also provide food, gas, and clean clothes. Their contact numbers for last summer are:

2022	Contacted Camps	Contacted People	People who took referrals*
June	181	258	68
July	160	238	69
August	193	326	49
September	182	285	38
October	317	300	42
<i>* Services offered are not always accepted</i>			

A neighbor asked if there were mental health personnel on the team. Officer Jantz said that the Mobile Mental Health Crisis Response Team consists of a police officer and a mental health specialist. They are called to specific situations and are not at every visit.

#5 Councilor Report

- Virginia reported on a litany of accomplishments that Salem made in the past year, including:
 - Controlling the Vitae Springs Road fire with no structural damage or loss of life. This prompted preparation for future similar events;
 - Hired a new City Manager;
 - Updated the City's website;
 - Finished 3-years of work and adopted the revised Comprehensive Plan;
 - Passed a wide-reaching bond levy;
 - Renamed the Salem Parkway "Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Parkway";
 - Approved revisions to the Salem Revised Code (SRC) to allow street painting;
 - Developed a Climate Action Plan;
 - Completed the ozone facilities at Gerren Island Water Treatment Plant near Stayton;
 - Celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Salem Civic Center;
 - Demolished the old Union Gospel Mission block and the Nordstrom store site; both of which will see new multi-use business and residential housing development;
 - Expanded outdoor dining;
 - Approved a navigation center for the unhoused and others in need;
 - The windows have arrived from New York for Yaquina Hall. This was all that was holding up the completion of the old State Hospital building's transition to a housing facility;

- Received a federal transportation grant for work on McGilchrist Street;
 - Restarted the concert series at Riverfront Park;
 - Hosted an Ironman contest;
 - Provided support to families who needed help with sewer and water bills;
 - Ward 1 sidewalk improvements.
- City Council is attending a retreat on Saturday;
 - The City Manager is projecting a budget shortage. He is hiring a second Deputy City Manager.
 - The city will be searching for a replacement Public Works Director.
 - The Transportation System Plan will be reviewed and updated this year.
 - The City Charter will be reviewed, which has not happened since the 1970s.
 - A review of the various city boards and commissions will be done to determine which are helpful and how better communication can be made between them and City Council.
 - The Point in Time Survey of Salem’s unhoused population will take place on January 23rd, 24th and 28th. It includes a long questionnaire that collects data used to support funding.
 - Salem Housing will report to council in February. They will provide a definition of “affordable housing” and what their current activities are.
 - Regarding what the \$6.5 million is being spent on at McNary Field, it will include: TSA required improvements; a baggage claim; and, security for those coming and going. The decision to move forward must be made by the end of January.

#6 Master Recycling Presentation

Debbie Miller is a Marion County Master Recycler. The most important goals are to reduce and reuse. After that, recycle. The Salem area has four bins for trash disposal. The blue bin is for mixed recyclable materials, that include: only plastic small necked bottles and jugs; metal; and, paper and cardboard. It is not for plastic bags - return those to grocery stores. It is not for boxes with a wax coating that come with refrigerated or frozen foods. Egg cartons are also not allowed because they are made from recycled paper and will only turn into mush if processed again. Metal cans are fine but no loose detached lids can be included. These can be placed inside a crimped can that will contain them. Aluminum foil can also go inside a crimped can. The clean top of a pizza delivery box can go in the blue bin, while the food contaminated bottom section can go in the green compostable materials bin. Small amounts of shredded paper can also go in the green bin, but mix with the green yard material to prevent it from becoming a “ball”. When recycling 9V or lithium batteries, place tape over them, put in a sealed bag, and put in the red recycling box along with your glass bottles and jars, and cooking oil, household paint, antifreeze, and used motor oil – all placed in sealed containers.

The *Plastic Pollution and Recycling Modernization Act* was passed by the Oregon Legislature in 2021. It is a state-wide program that will make recycling easier and allows more items to be included. It will collect a larger volume of recyclable materials from all over the state. That allows the expanded list of materials that can be recycled – similar to what we used to be able to place in our recycle bins. Full implementation will be in July 2025. Master Recycler classes are available through Marion County.

#7 Board Member Reports

- CERT - Lola reported:
 - There’s still room in the CERT classes that will begin on January 10th and last through January 28th.
- Communications/Outreach - Susan said she is interested in profiling a board member each month for the NA newsletter. She also wants to figure out where we might want to place Historic Neighborhood sign-toppers this year.
- Land Use Updates – Paul said that, after a long closing, the sidewalks have been reopened around the triangle apartments being built on Fairgrounds Road between Shipping and Madison streets.
- North Neighborhoods CPT – Sam explained a little bit about what this group is involved with. They work to bring the community together to provide support for activities and programs. For instance, it has worked

with and/or sponsored Just Walk Salem walking tours and Northgate Walk, which supports businesses along Portland Road. It works on the Grant Jog-a-thon and after school Chess Club for 1st and 2nd-graders. At Highland School they support and participate in the Reading Buddies program. They work with Hallman School and the Northgate NA to bridge partnerships. They also support a grassroots afterschool soccer program. They also help coordinate and fund the NEN-Grant NAs Neighborhood Clean-up, that is coming up on May 6th.

#8 Other Business

None was brought forth.

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 pm

Respectfully submitted by: Jeanne Boatwright