

Minutes of GRANT NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Board Meeting June 1, 2023 6:15 pm Broadway Commons and online via: Zoom video conference

AGENDA ITEM

#1 Introductions

BOARD MEMBERS:	PRESENT - P	ABSENT - A	EXCUSED - E		
ELISA ANGUIANO	P	LOLA HACKETT	P	SUSAN NAPACK	P
JEANNE BOATWRIGHT	P	TINA HANSEN	P	SAM SKILLERN	P
MARK DECOURSEY	P	LAURA HERRMANN	P	AARON TERPENING	E
TIM FRANCE	P	TERESA JOSLIN	P	MARISSA THEVE	P
CHRISTOPHER HACKETT	P	NICK MASELLI	E	PAUL TIGAN	E

Others present, or on Zoom: Cynthia Kavenagh, Charlotte Scott, JoAnn Kobel, John Murphy, Connie Williams, Matt Groat, Jeff Williams, Carolin VanOrdin.

Marissa moved that ***“We approve the May minutes as submitted.”*** Laura seconded the motion. Vote was 10 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

#2 Great Story from Grant Neighborhood

- Several neighbors noted that the 7-11 site on Capitol Street has reopened as a Super-Stop. There is a new owner. Gas will continue to be sold.
- Two rental homes on Shipping Street have been purchased by the same person. They are undergoing quite a bit of renovation. The owner is considering living in one and selling the other to a homeowner.
- Jeff is keeping the lawn at the Evergreen Church mowed.
- Blown glass birds are being hidden in four Salem parks this summer. Each month they will be put in a different park and the placing will be stretched out over the course of the month in order to keep folks returning.
- North Salem High School runner, Demari Thompson, took first place in the OSAA 6A track and field championship. He was also part of the NSHS 4x100 relay team that placed second in that event.
- North Salem High School competed in the Oregon Envirothon; placing second in the Soil category and 3rd overall.
- The 4-plex at 4th and Gaines is under construction.

#3 Neighbor Concerns

Some neighbors raised concerns about some of the items for sale at the Super-Store.

#4 Officer Report

Officer Matt Groat was present and spoke about the upcoming National Night Out event on Tuesday, August 1st this year. Registration is now open, through the end of July, for folks who would like a free permit to close a street or alley for the event. Additionally, if you would like an officer or an officer with a police dog to attend your event, now is the time to contact the Police Department and get that arranged.

#5 Councilor Report

Virginia was out of town and not in attendance.

#6 GNA Bylaws - Revisions

Marissa, Susan, and Laura reported that the goal of the subcommittee is to review the bylaws and propose edits and updates. They will be reviewing, and presenting as a standing agenda item at our monthly meetings between tonight and next spring. The goal is to have the updates ready for a vote to adopt at the May 2024 General Meeting. The presentations will cover one or two of the Articles so as not to

overwhelm everyone, and to allot enough time to thoroughly evaluate each proposal. There are parts of the bylaws that we are not currently doing and other things we are doing that are not in the document. The review will work to correct those misalignments.

“**Article I Name**” was reviewed tonight with no need to correct the name of the organization.

“**Article II Area**” was also reviewed with the only proposal being the addition of a reference to a map of the neighborhood and said map added to the document.

#7 **NEN-Grant Spring Cleanup Report**

Sam stated that there were not as many neighbors showing up in comparison to the pre-pandemic events. They did get a decent turnout, though, and filled the two trash dumpsters and most of the metal bins. He said it was a fun time. Next year he suggested that we discuss in April if we want to deliver fliers about the event door-to-door in the Grant neighborhood to provide more information to our neighbors.

#8 **Board Member Reports**

- **CERT** - Lola was late arriving:
Jeanne responded to neighbors’ questions about what CERT was; explaining the training and preparedness aspects of the program for responding to emergency situations in Salem or in our neighborhood. Lola arrived and reported that a new Emergency Manager for Salem has been selected. Once they are in town, the first priority will be to get the free training sessions back on the schedule.
- **Communications/Outreach** - Susan informed us of our current balance in our Flexible Communication Funds account, which is \$303.59. There is an additional sum of up to, possibly, \$500 available to us from City Council. The city’s fiscal year ends June 30th, so any additional expenditures need to be requested by about June 23rd. We discussed getting additional historic sign-toppers put up, which was one of our goals for 2022-2023. Last time we got them, they were \$85.85 apiece to purchase and install. If that cost remains, \$400 would cover five signs. Susan moved that ***“We purchase, and have installed, up to five additional Historic Neighborhood sign-toppers, with the number limited to not exceed the dollar amount that the City Council extends to us.”*** Tim seconded the motion. The vote was: 12 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.
- **Land Use Updates** – Paul was absent. Aaron updated us on The Cannery project on the west side of Front Street. Requests for Proposals (RFP) for professional services necessary to design the project were sent out last week. Lots of grants are being pursued by the developer. Those will require follow-through with many of the sustainable aspects that have been proposed. The target date is to start by mid-to-late summer on the design documents. The city of Salem has hired an engineering firm to study the situation with the railroad tracks in the middle of Front Street and to produce a safety plan.
- **North Neighborhoods CPT** – Sam described a bit about what this group is involved with in the North Salem High School feeder area, and also who participates in supporting those efforts.

#7 **Other Business**

- Marissa said that she is involved with Salem Bike Vision. They are sponsoring a Family Bike Ride on July 29th that will originate at Grant School and ride to the Saturday Market. The event is scheduled from 10:00 to 3:00, but she thinks 10:00 to Noon is more likely the duration. She wanted to know if Grant would like to set up an information booth and, maybe, hand out swag. There will be a bike helmet give-away at the event. Marissa moved that ***“Grant Neighborhood submit its logo to Bike Vision for inclusion on its website as a supporter.”*** Tina seconded the motion. A neighbor asked what is Bike Vision’s policy or purpose. Marissa said that its policy is to support safety for those who ride bikes. The vote was: 10 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.
- Sam told us about the three paint color schemes that have been proposed for the Evergreen Church building and the Parsonage to the north. Large renderings and paint chips were available for all to review. The discussion started with much support for the muted red doors on Option 2. The Option 1 colors for trims on both buildings and the siding on the parsonage were preferred. A proposal was made that we

recommend Option 1 with the door color used from Option 2. Sam called for a Townhall Motion, wherein everyone present from the neighborhood is allowed to vote, not just the Board. Those present voted unanimously (20-in favor, 0-opposed) for a hybrid Option 4 that combined options 1 and 2, as was discussed. One absent Board member had expressed a preference for Option 3 by email, prior to the meeting.

- Jeanne asked for a discussion and decision for our 2023-2024 Neighborhood Goals. The Board has found that making a few concise goals are much more likely to be accomplished in the course of a year than making ones that are too many, too broad, or difficult to measure their success. Neighbors brought up the following suggestions:
 - o Another street mural;
 - o Alley art beautification;
 - o A program to reach out to new residents, especially in those areas where we have less attendance or less representation;
 - o Create a walking tour map;
 - o Update and edit our Grant Neighborhood Association Bylaws;
 - o Work to get a community pool.

Discussion provided the following assessments and suggestions:

- Alley art beautification is currently prohibited under city code. What we could do, is work with the city, as we did with the street mural concept, to get the city code modified to allow alley fence murals, with the same types of restrictions on content that the street murals have;
- The outreach program might take a year to develop and organize if we want to provide detailed informational documents and “goodie” handouts or coupons;
- There have been walking maps of parts of our neighborhood. We could build on, and expand those. Or, prepare multiple maps for sectors of the neighborhood.
- A community pool, while desirable, is out of our capability given the support and finances it would take to make it happen. In the past, Salem has been unable to find money for upkeep, repair, or replacement, of the three public pools we once had (Olinger, Leslie, & Walker pools).

Christopher moved that ***“Grant Neighborhood Association adopt four goals for the 2023-24 year spanning June 1 to May 31. Those goals will be:***

1) Update and edit our Grant Neighborhood Association Bylaws;

2) Work with the City of Salem to get the city code modified to allow alley fence murals;

3) Organize and paint another street mural; and,

4) Develop a program to reach out to new residents, especially in those areas where we have less attendance or less representation.”

Tina seconded the motion. The vote was: 11 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 pm

Respectfully submitted by: Jeanne Boatwright