

Board members present:

Christine Chute, Victor Dodier, John Prohodsky, Ron Rubel, Jim Schepke, Jeff Schumacher, Brian Sund, Carol Snyder, Lorrie Walker, Evan West, Mark Wigg

Roz Shirack and Jon Christenson were excused.

Guests were present as well. **See Exhibit A - Attendance Roster**

President Victor Dodier called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm with a quorum present.

1. The April 2023 meeting minutes were accepted as submitted.

2. City and County Reports:

a. Deb Romano, Code Compliance

The number of occupied RVs parking on Salem's streets has increased over the past 6 months. Salem has found it is difficult to find places for those RVs to park.

With the warmer weather the number of un-mowed yards and lots increases. A typical year sees 600 to 700 complaints. A letter for the City usually solves the problem.

Deb was asked if a homeowner has an obligation to keep the sidewalk clear. She said it is the homeowner's responsibility.

When asked about the state of NW Cart removal (a service that retrieves shopping carts) she said that they are in Salem 1 day a week and cart pickup is hit or miss. A shopping cart costs \$350.

She was asked if there were complaints about marijuana odor. She said there have been complaints about it. Someone mentioned they have noticed the smell of marijuana around a business at 13<sup>th</sup> and Oxford that sells marijuana.

When asked how long a vehicle could be parked on the street before needed to be moved Deb said a vehicle could be parked for no more than 5 days.

3. Announcements

There will be a dance at Riverfront Park from 7 to 9 pm on the second Sunday in June through September. The dances are a fundraiser for the YMCA and Center for Hope and Safety.

South Salem High School is surveying neighbors if they approve of SSHS having an open campus. Survey forms were available and people were asked to fill out the survey.

#### 4. Neighborhood Concerns

Gunshots in Fairmont Park. Someone said they heard sounds they thought were gunshots.

Reckless driving. Twice, an attendee's son and friend were almost hit by a car near Bush's Pasture Park.

The long street crossing traffic light on Meyers Street at Commercial Street. The 2-minute duration between the green traffic lights on Meyers St. encourages pedestrians, bicyclists, and cars to run the red light at that intersection. Victor said the long duration was to discourage traffic from cutting through neighborhoods. If a driver stops to let a pedestrian cross the street, she should stop farther back from where the pedestrian is crossing to allow other drivers to see the pedestrian.

There are no signs or painted curb indicating that parking is not allowed within 50 feet of an intersection on Lincoln St. where it intersects with Commercial St. Patients of the dental clinic park in that area. There is resident only parking on Lincoln St. west of Commercial St.

#### 5. Street painting – Brian Hart

The \$1000 grant for the street painting will purchase enough paint for about 350-400 sq. ft. To approve the location a design is needed. Chris D'Arcy said she knows many artists and will have an open call for designs for the street painting. The committee identified three locations:

1. Leffelle and Church streets
2. Leffelle and Cottage streets
3. Electric and Church Streets

The street painting is expected to last 2 to 5 years. It was suggested that the Street Painting Committee ask neighborhood associations who have done street paintings how much it costs. Suggestions on how to select a design included displaying them at the Art Barn, putting them on the SCAN website, and on social media. As part of the approval process the City will contact neighbors. Other considerations that may influence location approval are the Bush's Pasture Park Cultural Landscape Management Plan and historic district constraints.

The committee's preferred location for the street painting is Leffelle and Church streets and the back up location is Leffelle and Cottage streets. SCAN voted to accept the street painting locations identified by the Committee. The vote was 9 yes and 2 no. The motion passed.

#### 6. New SCAN logo update

Three logos designed by Evan West's wife were shown. Whether or not to pursue a new logo was discussed. Two years ago, a committee was formed to consider the need for a

new logo. Its recommendations concerned usability, i.e., how it would look when used in print or online and if it could scale. The consensus was to return to the topic at the July meeting.

## 7. June 24<sup>th</sup> annual meeting

Jimmy Jones, Executive Director of the Mid -Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, agreed to be the featured speaker for the Annual Meeting.

Victor presented a proposed agenda for the annual meeting. Election of Board members was after the Jimmy Jones's presentation. It was mentioned that people will leave after his presentation. Board elections will be before his presentation.

Often attendees aren't aware of what SCAN has accomplished. A one-page handout of SCAN accomplishments at the annual meeting will help neighbors understand how SCAN benefits them. A decision to publish a newsletter has not been made. Other ideas to publicize the Annual Meeting include posters and postcards. A QR code should be included. There is about \$1200 in SCAN's communications fund.

Victor asked Board members to send him ideas to improve the annual meeting.

## 8. Committee Reports and Chair Report

### a. Land Use Committee

The Land Use Committee did not meet in April. The Committee Chair's report (**Exhibit B**) is attached.

Removing overlay zones in SCAN will be before June 26<sup>th</sup>.

### b. Historic Preservation, Parks, and Gardens Committee

The Historic Preservation, Parks, and Gardens Committee met May 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Committee Chair's report (**Exhibit C**) is attached.

### c. Transportation Committee

The Transportation Committee met in April. The Committee Chair's report (**Exhibit D**) is attached.

#### Fairmont Street no-passing between 12<sup>th</sup> Street and Commercial Street

The Committee's report included a motion:

The South Central Association of Neighbors requests that the City of Salem designate and mark Fairview Avenue SE from 12<sup>th</sup> Street to Commercial Street for "no passing."

The vote was 11 yes and 0 no. The motion passed unanimously.

## McGilchrist Street

McGilchrist Street, designated as a minor arterial in the Salem Transportation System Plan, will be repaved between 25<sup>th</sup> Street and 12<sup>th</sup> Street at a cost of \$52 million. A traffic count in 2021 showed 9700 vehicles used McGilChrist Street daily. That traffic count shows the traffic volume is that of a collector street. It was felt that there are other street improvements that are a higher priority.

Cheryl Hummon is interested in serving on the Citizens Traffic Advisory Committee (CATC). She wants more information on qualifications for members and what the committee does. Jim Scheppke said he will connect Cheryl with a CATC member.

### d. Chair's report

Salem and the Salem Keizer School District renewed the cooperative agreement which allows the City to use school district facilities at no cost. SCAN doesn't need to pay to use the SSHS Library for its monthly meetings.

As of July 2022 SCAN's communications fund balance was \$905. The current communications fund balance is \$1213.

Board members were encouraged to recruit new Board members. The nominating committee members for 2023-24 officers are Evan West, Christine Chute, and John Prohodsky.

The proposed changes to the Willamette baseball field to support college summer league baseball extend into Bush's Pasture Park. Approvals will be required from the administrator of the deed governing the park (Pioneer Trust Bank), Salem Parks Department, and City Council.

Meeting adjourned at 8:23.



**Exhibit B**  
**Land Use Committee Report**

The Land Use Committee did not meet in April.

**SCAN Overlay Zones**

The City Council public hearing has been re-scheduled again to June 26. We are still talking with neighbors who live near the overlay zones and creating a petition to oppose removing the overlays. All but one or two oppose removing the overlays. We are encouraging neighbors to attend the public hearing.

**Willamette University Baseball Field**

After the April SCAN meeting Luke Emanuel (who addressed SCAN re artificial turf at the baseball field to attract a summer collegiate league to Salem) contacted Victor and I to ask for a letter of support from SCAN. However, it turns out Willamette U is planning to do more than just install artificial turf. It wants to expand the footprint of the stadium/field on the south into the public use area of Bush Park and fence it off, plus add a south gate for people with tickets to enter. Part of the soft path between the back of the stadium and the “wildflower hillside would be impacted. They also want to install two field lights outside the ball field fence on the eastside.

Jon Christenson and I met with Luke and Rob Passage (Willamette U staff) on May 3 to hear their proposal and ask questions, share our concerns. They had not considered whether there are any constraints in the conveyance deed from the Bush estate, so that is what they are doing now. Once they determine what is legally possible to do under the deed and Historic Landmark codes, then there may be further discussions and a possible return to SCAN.

**Driveway widening at 1841 Capitol St SE.**

The owner of a multi-family building at 1841 Capitol St requested approval to widen a driveway into its parking lot. The widening would improve vehicle circulation in and out of the lot, but would remove two curbside parking spaces. Neighbors did not want to lose those two parking spaces, but that is not a criteria for staff approval. The Committee was split and there was no majority position so I did not send any Committee comments to staff.

**New Hunsaker Dental office at the corner of Commercial St SE and Kearney St (zoned MU-I)**

The site plan is still not complete.

**Cozy Residential at 1035 Commercial St SE (Commercial St SE and Bush streets) (zoned MU-I)**

The site plan is still not complete.

The next Land Use Committee meeting will be Thursday, May 18 at 4:00 pm.

Submitted by Roz Shirack, Chair

### **Attachment: Comments to Staff on 1065 Rural Ave Lot Size Adjustment**

The SCAN Land Use Committee has no objection to the lot size adjustment for the purpose of building a tri-plex on the lot at 1065 Rural Ave. SE, **on the condition that it is only for a tri-plex with the proposed 51-foot by 45-foot footprint (or smaller) that otherwise meets all development standards.** It is our understanding that an approval of this lot size adjustment gives no guarantee of approval of a subsequent site plan.

The piecemeal consideration of this adjustment request without a site plan has caused confusion by us and neighbors near the site. It has led to anger and "what-if" fears that might have been avoided. The City has a process for determining when a development application is complete. We request the City stick to that process and in future not consider any adjustment in the absence of a site plan.

The SCAN Land Use Committee has a number of vehicle and pedestrian safety concerns about Yew St. adjacent to the 1065 Rural Ave lot. This location is a good example of the City zoning for denser development, but not providing the infrastructure to support that development. Below are our concerns and suggestions. We ask that these be resolved concurrent with approval of further residential development in the area of Yew St and Rural Ave.

- Yew St between Oxford and Rural is a substandard local street only 20 feet wide with no curbs, gutters, or sidewalks. Please make this block a priority for streetscape improvements, including curbs, gutters, and sidewalks, so it can safely support RM-II uses. Currently parking is allowed on both sides of Yew St. It is doubtful that an ambulance or fire truck could drive through when vehicles are parked on both sides of the street, as is common on weekdays (possibly due to South High student parking). Also the narrow street may not allow the required turning radius of a fire truck.
- This block of Yew St is one block from South Salem High School and is a route to school, which should have priority for pedestrian safety. Streetscape improvements are also needed so on-street parking can be better managed. Some vehicles appear to park in peoples' yards because there is no visible boundary of where the public right-of-way ends.
- We request the City post No Parking signs on the northside of Rural Ave near the Yew St intersection (and possibly on Yew St) to keep the vision clearance open, and paint the relevant curbs yellow.
- Require off-street parking for the tri-plex the same as existing dwellings have, so the tri-plex residents do not have greater incentive than others to use on-street parking.
- Ensure any tree removal meets the tree removal code. Mature tree canopy is lacking in this neighborhood, so any mature tree is a valuable asset.

## **Exhibit C**

### **Historic Preservation, Parks, and Gardens Committee Report**

#### **I. In Memoriam: Dana Lynne Roy - "Dana's White Oak."**

On Tuesday morning, April 18, 2023, to honor Dana, a much loved and respected lead staff of the Friends of the Salem Library, an Oregon White Oak (*Quercus garryana*) was planted up near the start of the Soap Box Derby track: "Dana's White Oak."

Dana passed away on November 30, 2022. Dana was a fixture at the Friends Library store, selfless, and for many years organized the successful *Friends of Salem Library* Book Sales, and served as manager of the Friends bookstore. Dana loved Bush's Pasture Park and was a SCAN resident. Lived on the east side of South Salem High School near Rural Avenue. Thank you to the Friends of Salem Public Library, to the Park staff and Milan Davis, Salem Urban Forester.

On a gentle day, friends gathered. All spoke about the extraordinary contribution Dana made, her years of selfless service to our community and learning. Among individuals who spoke was former City Councilor and SCAN Board member Jane Cummins.

*Friends of Salem Library Book Sale this spring is scheduled for May 19 to May 21, 2023 (Friday to Sunday).*

## **II. Historic Design Review Case No. HIS23-06 - 1015 High Street SE**

On April 26, Request for Comments was received and distributed to HPPG Committee members on a proposal to replace the front walkway, porch steps and handrail on the Cashatt House (circa 1925), consistent with Salem Revised (SRC) 230.025 (d) Porches and (l) Site Features.

Proposed by owners Ed and Karen Arabas, the project will return the front exterior of the house to a more authentic look, using concrete, found in early photographs of the house. Photographs provided by Committee member, Evan West, M. A., showed the original exterior appearance and pioneering use of concrete. The Committee has recommended approval.

## **III. Proposed Adjustments at Willamette University Stadium to Accommodate College Summer Baseball League to Begin in 2024**

At 9 AM, Wednesday, May 3, SCAN HPPG chair and the SCAN Land Use chair walked the edge of Willamette University baseball stadium with Rob Passage, Willamette University athletic facilities and Luke Emanuel, contact person for proposed College Summer Baseball League.

Being explored is or are entrance(s) on the south side of the baseball stadium that edges Bush's Pasture. Extension of the perimeter fence by 10-15 ft south: it would be near the park path and a trail that bordered by Camas (*Camassia quamash*). Camas is a bulb-forming geophyte, a culturally and ecologically important species (Kephart, Oregon Encyclopedia). The distance from the Camas would be a factor. The surface or resurfacing of the path would be another factor as well as drainage to avoid accumulation of water near tree root systems (e.g. Oregon White Oaks which can accelerate decline or fungi or disease. On upper Leffelle, e.g., a pathway may have restricted drainage which pooled water near trees and the CTZs). Unresolved is the turf and what options are being considered for the playing field.

Also, another site visit has been requested by the HPPG Chair for the full HPPG Committee to walk the area this Spring or summer. All uses will need to be compatible with the Bush's Pasture Park CLMP (Cultural Landscape Management Plan)(adopted 2021).



#### **IV. MEETING OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION, PARKS & GARDENS COMMITTEE, MAY 3, 2023**

**REPORT:** At 11 AM, Wednesday, May 3, 2023, the HPPG Committee met. Excellent meeting. Robust. Six members participated. Among the topics discussed: (1) an application to the Salem Parks Foundation: to submit a conceptual "**Parks Triangle Project**", consisting of three modest elements:

- (a) two new bike racks for Bush's Pasture Park, one near the Bush Barn and a second on low park section between the playground and the playing field;
- (b) suggested interpretative signage near the Church Street Bridge (GH/BPP NHD), south entrance from SCAN) into Pringle Park near the parking lot; and
- (c) funding for a lightweight elastic hose for volunteers watering for 3 years of seven newly planted trees on the south edge of Fairmount Park.

Committee approved the 3 elements for an application submission. Substantial in-kind effort is available.

**REQUEST:** The SCAN Board support the application for Salem Parks Foundation for funding consideration of "Parks Triangle Project." There is need. And good support from Church Street members of the HPPG Committee.

Other topics discussed at the meeting:

- (2) Class 3 Major Historic Design Review 3 for 1015 High Street SE; and
- (3) proposed adjustments under consideration for summer college baseball league games at Willamette University.

#### **V. Mission Street Parks Conservancy Spring 2023 Plant Sale & Awesome 3000**

Amidst the **Awesome 3000**, on Saturday April 29, the **Mission Street Parks Conservancy** (MSPC) completed a very successful sale, with offerings of Old Roses, varieties some over 100 years old in the record books and vendors from Portland and throughout the Willamette Valley. Vendors and variety of plants were exceptional. Very comfortable circumstance. Lots of smiles. A meandering mix of generations, children, friends, families, dog walkers, baby carriages, curiosity and exploration of plants.

The Willamette University stadium radiated with kids, and their energetic families. The Crooked House Playground was filled with younger kids and young parents. There was not a parking space for blocks. A community celebration for the schools. No admission. Beautiful day.

A magical moment, chemistry discovered in having two events occurring on the same day and area. It was joyous. A lot of fun.

*Next MSPC plant sale will be at the Salem Art Fair & Festival , Bush's Pasture Park, July 21-23, 2023*

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Jon Christenson, chr. HPPG

## Exhibit D

### Transportation Committee Report

The SCAN Transportation Committee met by Zoom at 6:00pm on Wednesday, April 19 23.

Attendees: Victor Dodier, Jim Schepke, Cheryl Hummon, Lorrie Walker, Evan West, John Prohodsky and Brian Sund

The agenda was:

- Discussion / possible motion concerning Fairview Ave SE.
- Discussion of safe bicycle routes thru SCAN
- Other topics suggested by committee members

**Fairview Ave SE:** We briefly discussed Cheryl Hummon's request to double stripe Fairview Ave SE. Victor had provided background information with the meeting announcement (attached). Committee members did not have additional information. The Committee recommends the following motion to the SCAN Board:

**The South Central Association of Neighbors requests that the City of Salem designate and mark Fairview Avenue SE from 12<sup>th</sup> Street to Commercial Street for "no passing."**

**Safe Bicycle Routes through SCAN:** Jim recounted his concern that there are no safe bicycle routes into SCAN (see attached). Victor pointed out that there are few routes into SCAN from the downtown area. Further, the crash history shows few bicycle-related crashes. Evan countered that the crash history may only reflect that there are few cyclists since many regard bicycling in Salem as unsafe.

Where would a bicycle route be located? We do not have a ready answer, although it may be the City's task to develop a solution. Jim suggested engaging bicycle advocates from Portland or Eugene who have worked these issues. Cheryl commented that Portland has done a lot to encourage cycling. That said, a lot of cycling in Portland is done on surface streets marked with sharrows.

John suggested making common cause with the NAs to the south of SCAN. Lorrie suggested asking NA chairs at the next meeting about their thoughts. Victor said that he thought NA chairs agree with us. He pointed out that the City has prepared the Neighborhood Traffic Calming Plan and the Safer Pedestrian Crossings Program in response to NA concerns.

We discussed writing to the City, but shifted to a letter Bike Vision since Bike Vision's goals align with the need get safely into and out of downtown from SCAN. Bike Vision's concept makes use of arterials with some sort of protection for the bike lane. We have a few short examples buffered bike lanes (High Street between Union and Trade and Church Street between Trade and Union). The project to build on Commercial Street S. south of Oxford has been delayed until next year.

Jim agreed to draft a letter to Bike Vision to get their thoughts on safe bike routes into SCAN.

Victor Dodier  
Chair, SCAN Transportation Committee

### **Background for discussion of Fairview Ave. SE**

Fairview Ave SE is part of a couplet with Vista Ave. SE. The couplet was designed so that the flow of traffic on Fairview is primarily westbound with the flow of traffic on Vista Ave primarily east bound. However, both Fairview and Vista are two-way streets. The flow of traffic is controlled at the intersections of 12<sup>th</sup> / Fairview (westbound traffic) and Commercial / Vista (eastbound traffic); eastbound traffic cannot turn onto Fairview at its intersection with Commercial. The unusual design is the result of a compromise with the neighborhood in the 1980 to limit cut-thru traffic from Commercial to 12<sup>th</sup> and vice-versa when the intersections of the two streets with Commercial were improved. Further, the block between Fairview and Vista is unusually long, about 1,000 feet, arguing against the usual one-way couplet design.

Fairview is classified as a collector street in the Salem Transportation System Plan. The posted speed limit on Fairview is 25mph. There is a traffic signal and a 20mph “when lights are flashing” school zone at the intersection of Fairview and High. A block and a half segment between High to just past Church is marked for “no passing” in the eastbound direction. Note that Vista also has a posted speed limit of 25mph and is marked throughout its length for “no passing” (i.e., double yellow line).

Six traffic crashes are record on the SKATS crash data web page in the 19 year period 2007-2020. Five were property-damage only vehicle crashes. One additional vehicle crash was reported with non-serious injuries. There were no pedestrian or bicycle involved crashes reported.

### **Email from Jim Schepke re: Death at Leslie and High**

I have been reflecting on the recent death at High and Leslie and what Cheryl Hummon shared about it at our meeting.

What that incident proved to me once again is that **there are simply no safe routes for bicyclists from South Salem to downtown**. None.

I have lived here since 1986 and have been a bike rider all that time. I have put up with unsafe routes and am sick of it.

Here are the routes I have used and why they are unsafe ...

- 1) South Liberty: The painted line that is frequently covered with various kinds of debris is a death trap with cars going 40 mph at your elbow.
- 2) High Street: No bike lane and too much car traffic weaving in and out of narrow lanes to avoid people getting out of parked cars, etc. The hill north of Mission is too steep and dangerous as we found out with the recent death.
- 3) Upper Bush Park: The paths are for pedestrians, not bikes, and there are a lot of pedestrians. Going down the Soap Box Derby is dangerous and there are often pedestrians you have to dodge. There is often debris that could cause a bad spill.

4) Alleyway between Liberty and Commercial: This, for me, is the best of bad alternatives, but it is not safe when you have to stop at every intersection and hope you spot all oncoming cars.

What is needed is a **bikeway** that connects South Salem and downtown — built for bikes and built to be safe. If this was Portland or Eugene or Corvallis our city would have built one a long time ago.

I am reminded of Churchill's famous quote: "Never let a good crisis go to waste." With the recent death, now is the time for SCAN to vigorously push for a north/south bikeway in our neighborhood. Might there be bond money that could fund this?

Jim