



NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
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Meeting Minutes March 9, 2023
SOUTH GATEWAY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

SGNA met via Zoom due to Covid-19 pandemic.

Board Members

Present

Absent

Dynee Medlock Chair

Vice chair

Jackie Leung

Dave McKenna Secretary

Jerry Sachtjen Treasurer

Mike Hughes

John Ledger

Kathleen Lempka

Glenn Baly

Community members:

Deb Cozzie

John Miller

JanS

Harper

David Parry

Jon Sheppard

Douglas Carney

Becky

Donald Whitehurst

Charey Cook

15035806505

Guests

Officer Burke, Salem Police

Officer Bennett, Salem Police

Robert Chandler, Assistant Public Works Director

Robin Dakle, Salem Public Works

Deanna Gwyn, City Councilor, Ward 4

Vanessa Nordyke, City Councilor, Ward 7

1. Call to Order

There were some problems with connecting that Dynee said she would work to correct. The meeting was called to order by Chair Dynee Medlock. Attendance taken, quorum declared present. Approved minutes for February meeting.

2. City Councilor Report

Vanessa gave report with Deanna chiming in on some details. Policy priorities for the City Council include addressing homelessness; planning for our future; engaging our community; and, infrastructure and services.

There will be a Light of Hope benefit concert at the Elsinore theater on April 20, 2023 starring country music artist Jimmy Wayne.

There will be an Orchard Heights tree planting event on April 8th.

The council is evaluating Air BnB within the city to determine safety, security and licensing issues. There was an Air BnB being used as a drug house that got busted.

The council has approved \$630K grant for homeless rental assistance.

The mayor brought up a motion to draft a plan for paid parking in the downtown. It passed, however, Vanessa and Deanna both voted against it.

3. Police Officer Report

Officer Burke and Bennett gave report.

Salem has a Homeless Services Team that has been in effect since June 6, 2022. They are identifying hot zones for homeless camps through their iCAT program. Officer Bennett introduced himself. He is part of the Homelessness Services Team. They are addressing addition problems with Fentanyl, alcohol, and mental health issues by referring people to addiction services within the community. They work on finding out the needs of homeless people and attempting to address these issues.

They are working on the encampment south of Terrace Lake Park. Owners are represented by Property Manager Brian Hoag, Commonwealth Services. There are 30+ people camping at the site. Planning on coming Monday to address the issues there.

4. Outreach Committee Update

Dynee put a map together of neighborhoods within SGNA to try to reach out to get people from each of to get involved with SGNA.

5. Just Walk Is Coming to SGNA

Just Walk will be occurring every Sunday beginning in April at 3PM meeting at the Sunnyside Community Garden and walking a loop in the area.

6. New Business

Sumpter Garage Sale being organized for the SGNA area.

Dynee looking for list of HOAs in the SGNA area. Asked for help with this from Deanna.

John Miller said there will be a meet the community event at the affordable housing project at 5205 Battle Creek Rd. SE on March 23 at 2 PM.

Jon Sheppard talked about flooding in the south Salem Battle Creek area. He said that flooding occurs from the Pineapple Express events coming off of the Pacific Ocean. Battle Creek typically flows at about 4 feet deep. For every inch of rain the creek rises 2.43 feet once the ground is saturated. It floods when the creek gets above 13 feet deep. The culvert at I-5 is a choke point because it is only 12 feet high. Need to address development upstream of Battle Creek Park.

Question about Terrace Lake being filled with sediment from the flooding that reduces its storage capacity. Is there a way to address this issue?

Robert Chandler will come back to a future meeting to further discuss Battle Creek flooding. There was a large flood in 2012 that effected areas by KooKooSKe, 13th Street and Fairway.

Cherriots will talk in future about the planned bus hub in south Salem.

7. Adjournment.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 13th at 6:45 PM.