



Minutes of the Meeting

Of

Thursday, September 21, 2023

In Person at North Annex, Northgate Wesleyan Church

Executive Board Members Present: Bayard Mentrum, Chair; Phyllis Abbott-Cavota, Vice Chair; Don Jensen Land Use Chair Jess Cruz, Community Liaison Chair; Shirley Robertson, Treasurer; Kaethe Mentrum, Secretary/Park Chair. General Board Members present: Becca Strieper; Randy Ray, Michael Hoselton; Bill Berry, Joanne Barnhart. Absent with excuse: Pedro Mayoral (emergency). Members: Jetta (Ray); Leatha Krehoff, Sallye Mills.

The meeting began about 6:05 p.m. in person.

Bayard asked each to introduce themselves.

After the members finished eating, they started the vote. The same executive team members were voted back in.

Kaethe brought up the issue of graffiti at Northgate Park which could be covered with art mural like at Hood View Park. She showed pictures of the fence there with graffiti covered by primer and pictures of art mural on fences at Hood View Park to show the differences. Because of the frame of posts that show on the park side, she said it might be necessary to get exterior grade plywood and apply it with screws. Thirty plywood pieces may be necessary to cover about 170-200 feet of fencing. This and the anti-graffiti sealant plus paint and brushes/rollers would drive the cost up.

Some voting was necessary from the board. Bayard called for votes with Kaethe making a motion and seconded by Michael for the following:

- a. To get the Salem Parks Improvement Fund (SPIF). She also said there could be a grant with a deadline of October 31st from City Parks.
- b. For this, we need signed petitions from the surrounding residents or from residents who utilize the park. Kaethe handed out a form asking members to help get the form filled. All in all, a total amount of \$2500 to \$3000 would be necessary to cover costs. Everything else will be done by volunteers.
- c. To get a plaque made for contributing companies making donations of paint, etc. for the cause. She said she talked to Home Depot to see if they would donate pieces. In addition, she said she needed primer, paint, brushes/rollers, anti-graffiti sealant. She said she contacted several paint stores and found some to be willing to help. Some were going to give 50% discount while the others were not sure but thought this was a good cause.

There was talk about Measure 110 where the homeless do drugs in public and it should be revised. Then another chimed in saying it may seem humane to allow drug use but some overdose and kill themselves.

There was talk about the issue of the new rule for the homeless to be able to use sidewalks but to leave 3 ft. for people on wheelchairs and pedestrians to be able to access the sidewalk without having to walk on car roads. But it was said some of the homeless have used up all the sidewalk with their possessions, leaving no room for pedestrians or wheelchairs.

On another issue, there was mention from one of the board members that she has seen parking on both sides of the streets she has never seen before. More cars are parked. She suggested a warning be placed by a utility company to have these drivers remove their parked cars.

Lastly, a raffle event took place where six people won cotton or cotton mix 50-year anniversary of Salem association t-shirts which came from the City of Salem.

Around 7:15 p.m., Bayard called for the meeting to adjourn, Kaethe made the motion for a vote. It was seconded by Randy. All said aye and the meeting adjourned.

Note, on-line voting which always starts with Bayard calling for a vote and Kaethe makes a motion to start the vote:

- On September 8, 2023, the following two items were voted. Both Shirley and Becca seconded and said yes. The others were Don, Jess, Bill, Joanne, Randy and Kaethe.
 1. The first item is for \$100 on food for annual meeting on September 21 at North Annex of Northgate Wesleyan Church.
 2. The other is \$300 for UV Blocker spray cans that Brigitte Miller, Lead Artist, who purchased to block the ultraviolet rays from the west harsh sun that hits the art mural at Hood View Park we are working very hard on. The last 200 or so feet of fence is not covered by any trees to filter the rays of each summer, so without the UV Blocker, the art mural will fade away in about a year or so. She had to purchase first because she was told to spray the art three times, with a 24-hour interval time before she can apply the second spray, and the third. Then 24 hours later, the anti-graffiti sealant must be coated. So, it's a long process and that is why she paid out of her own pocket to get it done correctly because the art work is still ongoing.
- On September 10, 2023, NGNA voted to send a letter to Department of State Land regarding "hundreds of needles" found on the Willamette River banks so that we may bring this matter to their attention and hope to have them clean up the river from syringes and needles.
- On September 14, 2023, NGNA voted to donate a check for \$300 to Northgate Wesleyan Church as the minister generously and continuously allowed us to use the premises for our monthly meetings. Those who voted affirmatively were Shirley who also seconded it, Bill, Becca, Randy, Phyllis, Don and Kaethe.
- City Volunteer Coordinator collaborated with NGNA Park Chair who requested for Navy personnel to help clean up Northgate Park. Pollinator garden to be weeded out; bark chips to be laid out around trees; tables and benches repainted; the Fairhaven side entry to be given a makeover. All this to happen on Monday, September 25th from 8 a.m. to 12 noon.

The next meeting will be Thursday, October 19th, 6 p.m., Thursday, at Northgate Wesleyan Church, North Annex. This will be the last in-person meeting until Spring, 2024, as many drivers cannot drive at night.