

AGENDA ITEM

#1 Pumpkin Pie Social

#2 Introductions

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

Others present, or on Zoom: Jeff Williams, Charlotte Scott, Debbie Miller, Helen Vandeberg, Cynthia Kavanagh, Norma Grimes, Carolin VanOrdin, Anne Colao, Ashley Dalen, Rubi Martinez-Sanchez, and Carol DeCoursey.

Christopher moved that *“We approve the September minutes with the correction listed below.”* Susan seconded the motion. Vote was 9 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

Corrections:

#3 Neighbor Concerns

- CORRECT: Elisa reported **bags of pop cans** stolen from her property.
- TO READ: Elisa reported **garbage bags** stolen from her property.

#3 Great Story from Grant Neighborhood

- Susan reported on the City’s recent Volunteer Recognition Awards. The Hub, in our neighborhood, and the Highland Neighborhood Association (our neighbor) were both recognized with awards.
- Susan also told us about a neighbor in the Jefferson & McCoy area who let neighbors know that there is a large camper temporarily parked on the street, and not to worry as it is hers. It was good of her to keep her neighbors informed.
- Jeff reported a record number of trick-or-treaters at his door this year.
- Mark & Carol updated us on the six large chestnut trees in their block with the vast quantity of nuts they have dropped in the street. About ten days after our meeting, a city street sweeper came by and, after six passes, were able to get the street cleaned.
- Marissa spoke about the red maples in her block that went down in the 2021 Valentine’s weekend ice storm and buckled the sidewalk. The city finally came out and repaired the sidewalk last month. They did not replace it, but they did grind it down to smooth it out.

#4 Neighbor Concerns

- Charlotte reported that a house in her area is vacant, she has never seen anyone living there, windows are broken, there’s trash, garbage, and graffiti. She’s heard voices and seen smoke that come from beneath the house. She was referred to the city’s Code Compliance section to file a complaint.
- Carolin wanted to let us know that, even with the Salem Child Development Center’s parking lot gated and locked, they had gas stolen from five of their buses. They reported it to the Police Department, but it took 1½ days to hear back from them.
- A neighbor complained about the bus stop at D & Summer streets that always has trash left around it. Another neighbor recommended that she call the Cherriots’ office and request the installation of a trash can on the post. She had good luck with doing that in her area.

#5 Officer Report

Police Officer, Matthew Groat was unable to attend, but Susan brought his response to a question from last month’s meeting. Regarding the Neighborhood Watch program - that was a part of the Public Relations Unit which has been terminated due to a lack of staffing availability. Part of the current SPD Strategic Plan is to revive this program. However, that will depend on available funding.

#6 Councilor Report

Virginia was absent, but Marissa brought a couple of items on her behalf:

- The Salem Housing Authority is in need of items to distribute as cold weather approaches. These include: warm clothing, hygiene kits, hand warmers, sleeping bags, etc.
- There will be a Veterans’ Day luncheon served at 11:30 am on Friday, November 10th, at the 50+ Center.
- Regarding the past questions about 1065 Winter Street - fines that are not paid turn into liens. If the property is sold, the new owners have to meet zoning requirements and pay the liens. No other information is available regarding ongoing cases without the owner’s permission to disclose.

#7 Salem Parks & Recreation Board

Debbie Miller brought a PowerPoint presentation that is being shared with the city’s neighborhood associations. The Board can help the neighborhoods with resources to fund tree planting and park improvements. While the grant program for this round closed in October, she wanted to make sure we were up to date on the program and windows of opportunity to participate.

The Board is made up of nine members, including an expert in urban forestry and horticulture. Park policies address: development and planning; maintenance and operations; and, recreation programs. The Board also has a say in city-wide tree removal permits and historical tree designations. They meet, in person and via Zoom, on the second Thursday of each month at 5:30 pm where they discuss both agenda items and new topics.

The Salem Park System has over 2,000 acres of land in 91 parks. These include: 49 Neighborhood Parks; 11 Community Parks; 11 Natural Areas; 7 Urban Parks; 6 Linear Parks and Connecting Trails; 4 Special Use Properties (including Gilbert House and Center 50+); and, 4 Historic Areas – such as Bush House and Deepwood.

The Board’s process calendar is as follows:

Sep 1-Oct 31	Nov	Nov-Jan	Jan 31	Feb
Letters of Intent to Apply	Review Letters	Prepare Project Budgets	Formal Application Due	Funds Awarded

The Board also oversees recreation, sports and the activities within the Salem Parks system. These include: a fishing derby; movies at Riverfront Park; Owl Prowl with a Park Ranger, etc.

Debbie also mentioned the Salem Park Improvement Foundation (SPIF), which also offers grant funds, only to neighborhood associations, at up to \$60,000 per year. They identify projects and assess their feasibility.

Amanda Sitter is the Volunteer Coordinator for the Salem parks. She can be reached at 503.589.2197 or asitter@cityofsalem.net.

#8 Boys & Girls Club

Rubi Martinez-Sanchez, Senior Branch Director at the Knudsen Branch on Summer Street, was present to discuss with us their holiday fundraiser. She has been with the club for 10-years and was a member there as a child. The Club sponsors kids and supports them from 1st through 12th grade. They provide after-school programs that include: athletics; health and wellness; leadership; the arts, etc. They have 121 registered members and have 100 kids per day attending. Kids attend this branch from Grant Elementary, Highland Elementary, Parrish Middle, and North Salem High schools. They provide a “walking school

bus” for kids at Grant. Currently, their after-school program is full. The registration opened on August 1st and was full in 24-hours. Through the year they also provide spring break and summer vacation programs. There are 8 clubs within the Salem-Keizer-Woodburn area. The main office is at the Knudsen Branch. Donations to their Holiday Gift program can be either a monetary donation and they will shop for the children, or a “sponsor” program where gifts are donated for a specific child or family using gift lists suggested by the parents and provided by the club. These lists can include things like blankets and sox, in addition to gifts. The Club has connected with houseless kids this summer through the Church in the Park. They also connect directly to these families when they gain housing. Monetary donations are collected in November with gift deliveries done the first week of December. Family sponsorship items are collected by December 14th. Susan moved that **“Grant Neighborhood Association donate \$300 towards the Holiday Gift Program at the Knudsen Branch of the Boys & Girls Club.”** Teresa seconded the motion. Vote was 8 in favor, 0 Opposed, 0 abstained.

#9 GNA Bylaws Review – Article IV Membership

Melissa reviewed with us the existing language in this section and the proposed edits.

The conversation first turned to a portion of the proposed language in the revised version that states general membership will be open to “. . . business and organization representatives . . .”. The original language limited this participation to “. . . the owner or one appointed representative of a business within the boundaries . . .”. Concern was expressed that the new language could allow every employee of a business, organization, church, etc., that is located within the neighborhood, to be allowed a vote at our General Meeting. That seems to be an excessive grant of influence, given that most of those employees or representatives will not live in the neighborhood, and those that do would be allowed to vote under the “resident” designation already included. The general consensus was to modify language back to a single representative per business or organization.

The second conversation moved on to the proxy language that is proposed to be added. Neighbors asked for a better explanation of how that would work, whether any other neighborhood associations have that allowance, how has that worked for them, and what are the pitfalls of allowing such an action. Melissa agreed to research these questions.

#10 Board Member Reports

- **CERT** – Lola via Christopher reported that the current CERT training session is in session right now. He invited anyone who wants to come, to be a victim at the last session as the “trainees” practice their newly acquired skills in a faux disaster scenario. That final exercise will be held at St. Mark’s Lutheran Church on November 18th.
- **Communications/Outreach** - Susan
The Willamette Heritage Center Trick-or-Treat event on October 29th was a great success. Salem Leadership Foundation donated about \$90 worth of candy for our booth. Sam, Nick, Lola, Jeanne, and Susan had lots of fun helping at the giveaway.
Susan attended a Highland NA board meeting where they brainstormed ideas and discussed the possibility of coordinating an activity between the two neighborhoods. Their next meeting is Sunday, November 12th at 1:00 pm.
Are we interested in printing and mailing out a postcard with information about, and contacts for, GNA, and a calendar of our meetings? The newsletter seems to be the busiest of our social media accounts. Teresa moved that **“We spend up to \$800 for the information and calendar postcards this year and that we provide a box on our meeting sign-in sheets in order to track the effectiveness and value of the mailing.”** Nick seconded the motion. Vote was 6 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstention.
- **Land Use Updates** – Melissa reported that there are changes to the city’s Lighting Code, most of which are language changes. Billboards are allowed if they are pre-existing.
Art is separate from the sign code and is under the auspices of the Salem Public Arts Commission. Changes to the Transportation Plan were specific to two West Salem streets and did not affect Grant.

- **North Neighborhoods CPT** – Sam was not in attendance.

#11 Other Business

None was brought forth.

Meeting adjourned at 7:54 pm

Respectfully submitted by: Jeanne Boatwright