



**NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**  
555 LIBERTY ST. SE RM. 305 SALEM OR 97301 • 503-588-6207 • WWW.CITYOFSALEM.NET/NEIGHBOR

Meeting Minutes October 12, 2023  
**SOUTH GATEWAY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

*SGNA met via Zoom due to Covid-19 pandemic.*

**Board Members**

Present

Jackie Leung    Chair  
Dave McKenna    Vice chair  
Jerry Sachtjen    Secretary  
Mike Hughes    Treasurer  
John Ledger  
Kathleen Lempka  
Glenn Baly

Absent

Dyneer Medlock

**Community members:**

Jan Seely  
Greg MacDonald  
Maria Mokrai  
Jill Neely

**Guests**

Vanessa Nordyke, City Councilor, Ward 7  
Andrew Cohn, City of Salem for Budget and Payroll Tax

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Jackie Leung. There were technical difficulties due to the link from the agenda not working. Members of the Board introduced themselves and a quorum was declared. Approved minutes from September meeting.

**2. Vanessa Nordyke - City Councilor Report**

Councilor Nordyke gave a report.

CASA of Marion County will be having their Annual Luncheon on Thursday December 7th from noon to 1 pm at the Reed Ballroom. It will be a free lunch. Please reserve your seat by November 20th at [casaluncheon@casamarionor.org](mailto:casaluncheon@casamarionor.org).

- Commercial air service started October 5 to Las Vegas and Burbank, California
- Council approves changes to overlay zones in Ward 2
- City of Salem withdraws appeal in death benefits case for wife of Maurice Stadel
- September 25: Viva Salem at Riverfront Park: Celebrating Latino Culture
- Salem Receives \$1 Million Grant to Plant New Trees
- October 10: Walk to Park Day
- October 14: Community Action Agency Gala that will include volunteer recognition for Lisa at Loucks Auditorium
- October 16: City of Salem Volunteer Recognition Event - Loucks Auditorium
- October 25: Work Session to consider revisions to the FY 2024 Budget to determine possible budget cuts payroll tax is not approved on November 7th ballot. Police recruiting is a national problem and will be eliminate vacancies instead of laying off police.

There will be a South Salem Town Hall Featuring Councilors Vanessa Nordyke, Linda Nishioka and Deanna Gwyn. It will be held on November 7th from 5:30 to 6:45 pm at the Westminster First Presbyterian Church at 3737 Liberty Rd. South. Doors will open at 5:15 pm.

Vanessa is proposing to amend city code SRC 90.020 to prohibit consumption of booze and drugs to improve public health outcomes for residents, visitors, and first responders. It will expand the ability for public safety officials to respond to open use. This is to address the open use of drugs including fentanyl, meth, and other controlled substances as defined under ORS 475.005.

The Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency is assisting numerous homeless service organizations.

### **3. Andrew Cohn - City of Salem for Budget and Payroll Tax**

City hired Moss Adams to do budget forecast for the years 2024 - 2028. They determined that expenditures exceed revenues and that the deficit will grow yearly. They resolved that the City will need to either reduce expenditures or increase revenues. The city is trying to increase revenues through the payroll tax on the November 7th ballot. If the payroll tax does not pass they will need to eliminate Ops fee positions, eliminate other new positions and make additional reductions in services and expenditures.

People can review this information by accessing the website:

<https://www.cityofsalem.net/government/shaping-salem-s-future/safe-and-secure-community-1671>

To discuss this issue they can contact him at: [andrewcohn22@gmail.com](mailto:andrewcohn22@gmail.com)

### **4. New Business**

There was a question from the neighborhood on getting a city planner to address land use updates on some of the proposed developments for the SGNA area.

There was also a question on getting someone from Cherriots to discuss the South Salem location for a proposed terminal.

Treasurer gave report that there is \$1,156 in our account.

Discussed the possibility of meeting in-person. Meeting in-person will require getting liability insurance. Are looking at other locations besides the Battle Creek Elementary School including the Lutheran Church on Baxter and the South Salem Senior Center. The South Salem Senior Center said that they charge a \$50 fee for set-up and knock-down.

## **5. Adjournment.**

*The next meeting is scheduled for November 9th at 6:45 PM and will be with Zoom.*