

North Lancaster Neighborhood Association

Monthly Meeting

October 4, 2023, at 6:30 PM

Salem, Oregon & via Zoom

1. Call to Order / Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 PM, followed by introductions of all present in person and anyone present on the Zoom call.

Board Member	Position	Attendance
Deanna Garcia	Chair	Present
Doug Rodgers	Vice-Chair	Absent
Christine Potter	Secretary/Treasurer	Present
Shirlene Gonzalez	Parks Chair	Present
Dennis Will	Land Use Chair	Absent
Carl Engstrom	Member at large	Present
Denise Currey	Member at large	Absent
Kim Currey	Member at large	Absent
Pamela Blake	Member at large	Present
Bobby Ottis	Member at large	Present
Patty Tipton	Member at large	Present
Claudine Shaw	Member at large	Present

Attendees: Councilor Julie Hoy, Sergeant Mike Baskett, Gretchen Bennett

Neighbors: Roger Haase, Betheny Crespin, Gretchen S., Kim Haeg, Roger Hoy, Liz Veysey, Don & Rhonda Judson, Linda Stout

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from September 2023 were submitted for Board review on 9/27/2023.

Pamela motioned to approve. Carl seconded the motion. The minutes from September 2023 were unanimously approved.

3. Police Report – Sergeant Baskett from Salem Police Department

- a. Brief update regarding the prior weekend's shots fired on Hollywood. The incident was handled by the county, there were no injuries reported. Casings were located, likely that the shooter was firing into the air.
- b. SIU team is still actively targeting violent offenders. There is unprecedented youth violence going on with the percentage of youth offenders skyrocketing. Resources and procedures are being reviewed and they are working through targeting those involved in the violence. A small number of people are contributing to a larger amount of violence. Due to limited resources, the unit that was focused on petty theft and ID theft has shifted to prioritizing the focus on crimes against people's physical well-being.

Q – *Are there more gang-related than personal shootings?* The majority of the youth gun violence is gang related with a retaliatory cycle of violence.

Q – *Are they going to reestablish a gang enforcement unit?* The intelligence aspect of it has been integrated into the criminal investigations unit to build solid cases against these offenders.

Q – *What is SIU?* Special Investigations Unit

Q – *Are Hillcrest and MacLeran still facilities being used?* Hillcrest closed in 2017. The state government has become very lenient on violent youth offenders and the national trend is no bail, etc. Yes, facilities are still in play for incarceration, however if treated as a juvenile instead of as an adult, sentences are limited based on age.

Q – *Isn't there something we can do as a community with young kids to get ahead of this problem?* If kids attend school, there may be a positive influence and family would have to encourage participation. Some of these kids aren't being parented for various reasons. Looking at crime trends, there is a repeated theme that goes to the heart of community and nation. It is difficult when parents are indifferent. SPD talks to kids at length to try to get through to them, but shot callers often become their surrogate parents and have a stronger influence.

Q – *McKay Park is a big nuisance. People break into yards backing up to park by cutting fences, high school kids cut through yards. There is drug activity and loitering. Is it possible to add one of those security cameras with the blue light to monitor activity?* There is no time limit for how long someone can be in the park during park hours. Transitory foot traffic in the city is substantial and the park often comes up in discussion because of the activity, but resources are limited. Chain link fences aren't great because they can easily be cut and rolled back. Neighbors are encouraged to report encampments using the portal.

Q – *Is youth violence worse after removal of SRO's from schools?* Yes, but can't say there is a direct correlation. It's possible that students being exposed to officers they can relate to in school can combat the stigma from media and other influencers.

Homeless encampment reporting portal [HERE](#)

Sergeant Baskett can be reached for questions by email: [mbaskett@cityofsalem.net](mailto:mbaskett@cityofsalem.net)

4. Councilor Report: Councilor Julie Hoy – Ward 6
  - a. Julie was pleased that NOLA would hear from Gretchen Bennett, who she relies on heavily regarding the matters that she finds to be important. Julie thanked Gretchen for her team's work to clean up the camp at the park & ride and for her passion for the work she does for the unhoused and public safety.
  - b. The first commercial flight out of Salem will take place October 5<sup>th</sup>.
  - c. Julie was thankful to see Lansing Park sidewalk improvements. During a recent meeting there was a discussion about prioritization of sidewalk improvements. She advised that when more people write in about a specific need, that makes a difference, reporting influences decisions. However, the process is slow and there is a small crew.

Q – *What active topics are next on the agenda for the city?* The payroll tax and related ballot measure. Get out and vote. The firefighters' issue was settled at the last meeting (city dropped appeal). [The city council meeting agenda is available online here.](#)

5. Gretchen Bennett, City of Salem Mayor's/City Manager's Office
  - a. Gretchen is working on prevention, managing and ending homelessness. In NOLA, areas that are impacting daily sense of security are Lancaster, Devonshire, Park & Ride & McKay Park.

- b. The homeless services team first contact and talk with people to encourage them to choose another location to stay, and that can escalate to a more formal notice. There are times when enforcement action is necessary including code compliance, vehicle towing, etc. A mitigation team arranges to remove trash and waste which the county will take for no charge.
- c. The park & ride closure and cleanup is ongoing. The objective is that the lot will be fully empty and then shut down for an indefinite period.
- d. Built for Zero national strategy has a goal of functionally zero homelessness. Marion and Polk county teams are reviewing strategies.
- e. The homeless population has significant needs, including medication. Can't compel someone to treatment. Community crisis workers are out trying to address situations. On the horizon, there will be a secure residential treatment facility built which is a step down from the state hospital with a high bar to compel admission.

Q – *Where is the facility planned?* It is planned for a property north of the cinema at South Lancaster. Funding has come in and planning is underway.

Q – *Is there something on the city or county website about the facility?* Gretchen will look into it. Salem Hospital was a part of this, but another organization was formed to develop the project.

Q – *Can we contact you if we run into someone who needs help?* You can call me, but often we have to tap into other resources, such as NW Human Services. They are a wonderful resource with an online [outreach request form](#). The community action unit is a component of Salem PD. The Mobile Crisis Resource Team can be contacted when public safety is a concern. For general distress that appears to be a mental health issue rather than a public safety issue, contact NW Human Services.

Q – *I live with a house that backs up against a park and people go to camp there. Are the well-dressed people who go out to talk to the campers advocates? Evangelists?* There are many entities that approach homeless people including Gospel Mission, Arches, Church in the Park, Salem Housing Authority housing teams, NW Human Services as well as individual community members for outreach in various degrees. When a report comes in via Salem's encampment reporting portal, the team looks at them and triages who to involve and how.

Q – *If someone starts a fire in the park, what should I do?* That depends. Is the fire out of control? Is it burning something down or is it about to? Or is it an in control warming fire. A small, controlled fire will be a very low priority for the fire department.

Q – *Do you hear many complaints regarding people on the medians?* There is a concern about camping on the medians.

Q – *Now that the navigation center is open, is it working?* 17 people have already transitioned into more permanent housing since the June 1<sup>st</sup> opening.

#### 6. Annual Meeting Board Designations

- a. 12 people are currently on the roster. Doug will be removed until his schedule permits.
- b. Bethany Crespin to be added to the board.

## 7. Committee Reports & Board Business

- a. Transit – Roger Haase ---- visit [Cherriots web page](#) for details. The following talking points were provided by Cherriots.

### **CHERRIOTS LAUNCHES NEW ELECTRONIC FARE**

Cherriots has launched its new electronic fare option. **Cherriots contracted with Cubic Transportation Systems. Umo (you-mo) is the name of their contactless fare payment system.** It is a reloadable system that provides Cherriots riders an easy way to pay for their fare. Riders can either purchase a Cherriots Tap Card or download the Umo mobility app to their phone. Electronic fare readers have been installed at the entrance of each bus. To date, more than 1,600 riders have either received a Cherriots Tap Card or downloaded the Umo app.

### **PARDON OUR MESS . . .KTC UNDER CONSTRUCTION**

The Cherriots electric fleet is coming. Ten electric buses will be going into service in spring 2024. To prepare for them, KTC is being outfitted with underground charging stations at select bays. Buses have been assigned to different bays and the park and ride area has limited spaces available. Construction is scheduled through the end of 2023. For details, go to [Cherriots.org/KTC-charged](#).

### **GILBERT HOUSE CHILDREN’S MUSEUM**

Salem Station is an exhibit that features hands on transportation activities, including a Cherriots “bus” and an Amtrak “train.” the exhibit, which has been in place since 2017, received a much-needed makeover from the Cherriots team. They incorporated new features into the exhibit, including a reupholstered Cherriots driver seat, a steering column from an old bus, a pull cord, header cards, a fare box, and a monitor that displays video footage of our actual bus routes so that the child feels like they are driving a bus.

### **STATE AWARDS FUNDING FOR ELECTRIC CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE**

Cherriots recently was awarded the Oregon DEQ congestion mitigation and air quality (CMAQ) funding for the purchase of three charging power blocks (two dispensers each), as well as the engineering, design and construction required to install the three chargers at our Del Webb operations headquarters facility. The total project costs are \$952,534, which includes \$762,027 CMAQ grant funds, and \$190,507 of local match general funds.

### **CHERRIOTS MOVES PEOPLE FROM KEIZER TO WOODBURN WITH ROUTE 80X**

Cherriots introduced a new connection between the communities of Keizer, Woodburn, and Wilsonville. A new regional express bus route, Route 80X - Wilsonville/Keizer Express, is a weekday route that originates at the Keizer Transit Center, makes a stop at the Woodburn Memorial Transit Center, and then continues on to the Wilsonville Transit Center. The same stops are made on the return trip. This new service was created in response to the Woodburn community members who needed a more express connection to Wilsonville and Keizer. Route 80X service provides four round-trips daily.

- b. Traffic – Deanna Garcia: The lights are up at Hollywood/Silverton – no update yet as to when they will be active. The crossing at Glendale/Watson is still under construction. The new street management plan was published and there is a request form for traffic calming measures.
- c. Land Use – Dennis Will: Received a notice of filing for the partition of property on Vaughn. OLCC license app for Bag o’ Crab (Newport Seafood Grill property on Market)
- d. Parks – Shirlene Gonzalez: Friends of Trees events October 7<sup>th</sup> and November 7<sup>th</sup>, National Walk to a Park Day October 10<sup>th</sup>, World Singing Day October 21<sup>st</sup>
- e. Quarterly Association Chairs meeting was attended by Shirlene. October 16<sup>th</sup>, volunteer recognition at the library. The discovery room will be closed for a week and will reopen with a dinosaur theme. A representative from the Human Trafficking Unit is willing to talk to neighborhoods and NOLA may want to consider inviting to a future meeting.
- f. 2024 Goal Setting – Did we meet 2022 goals?
  - i. Social Media Presence – partially completed
  - ii. NOLA newsletter – we need content and are waiting for a NOLA specific email address. The newsletter has been tabled to 2024.
  - iii. Enhance community parks – ongoing
  - iv. Homelessness – ongoing
  - v. Safer Roads – ongoing
  - vi. Other goals we would like to achieve in coming year? Improvement of lending library and possibly add more.
- g. Deanna will prepare the annual report
- h. Deanna shared QR code for [End Overdose](#) which issues 2 free Naloxone kits (small shipping fee). The average price per kit regularly is \$45. They also include a rescue breather in case you have to give CPR. To get the free kits you are required to complete a brief training.

Q – *Are there expiration dates on the kits?* Yes. The kits Deanna received are good for about 2 years.

- i. MOTION: Pamela motioned that Deanna should be reimbursed for the cost of the treats and beverages she supplied for the meeting. Carl seconded the motion and the board unanimously approved the motion. Deanna will submit the reimbursement request.
- j. NOLA had 8 unclaimed and extra prizes from the NNO event in August. A raffle was run at the meeting and the remaining prizes were distributed.

#### 8. Open Forum for any discussion

Q – *Were those staying at the park and ride relocated?* The large, dangerous camp was disbanded. Some people didn’t want help, and they self-relocated. Some moved to under the I-5 underpass which is now on ODOT’s schedule.

#### 9. Close of Meeting / Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:19PM



Mid-Willamette Valley  
**COMMUNITY ACTION**  
The **ARCHES Project**

# VOLUNTEER INFORMATION SESSION



## What you'll learn



### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We will cover Warming Shelter, Day Center, and Mobile Shower Trailer opportunities and take you through a day in the life of each of these opportunities.



### IMPACT OF VOLUNTEERISM

Might not sound like much, but we'll help you discover how donating 4 hours of your time can have a positive impact on the community.



### VOLUNTEER WEBSITE

Members of our team will show you our volunteer website, setting up your account, finding available opportunities, and registering for the one's that interest you the most.

[www.mwvcaa.galaxydigital.com](http://www.mwvcaa.galaxydigital.com)



## Save the Date

TUESDAY

17  
OCT

6:00PM -  
7:30PM

### LOCATION

#### SALEM YMCA

685 Court Street NE.  
Salem, OR 97301

### SCHEDULE

#### 6:00PM-7:00PM

Presentation

#### 7:00PM-7:30PM

Question and Answer  
Session

### CONNECT WITH US



[mwvcaa.org](http://mwvcaa.org)



[crp.volunteer@mwvcaa.org](mailto:crp.volunteer@mwvcaa.org)



[facebook.com/salemARCHES](https://facebook.com/salemARCHES)



# VOLUNTEER TODAY AND HELP US PUT COMPASSION IN MOTION

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



### **DROP IN DAY CENTER**

Provides supportive services and resource navigation for unsheltered adults including meals, showers, laundry, mail service, hygiene items, pet food, medical and mental health services. Volunteers are invited to help prepare and serve meals during our meal periods.



### **MOBILE SHOWER TRAILER**

This unit provides shower and hygiene services to homeless individuals throughout the community. Volunteers are invited to help us check in guests, and clean shower stalls between users to ensure a safe, sanitary shower environment.



### **EMERGENCY SHELTERS**

These life saving low barrier shelters are routinely opened between November-March when temperatures drop below 32 degrees. Volunteers are encouraged to sign up for these opportunities on freezing cold nights to get people in out of the cold, orientate guests to the shelter, serve snacks, and conduct regular cleaning throughout the facility.

## GET IN TOUCH



[www.mwvcaa.org](http://www.mwvcaa.org)



[www.mwvcaa.galaxydigital.com](http://www.mwvcaa.galaxydigital.com)



[crp.volunteer@mwvcaa.org](mailto:crp.volunteer@mwvcaa.org)



[facebook.com/salemARCHES](https://facebook.com/salemARCHES)

## ABOUT THE ARCHES PROJECT

A program within the Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, we offer a diverse suite of services which utilize research based practices such as housing first, trauma informed care, and harm reduction. We're working to reduce homelessness in our community through the provision of housing, shelter, and basic need services for people experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity.

## WHY VOLUNTEER WITH US?

To put **COMPASSION IN MOTION**, we need to assemble a team of the brightest, most passionate individuals in our community. Your service to our vulnerable neighbors will impact the lives of hundreds each month.

## HOW TO GET INVOLVED

- 1 Visit our volunteer website at [MWVCAA.GALAXYDIGITAL.COM](http://MWVCAA.GALAXYDIGITAL.COM)
- 2 Click **VOLUNTEER NOW** under Get Involved, Make a Difference to view current volunteer opportunities.
- 3 Get more information about each opportunity by clicking **VIEW DETAILS**.
- 4 When you find an opportunity you are interested in, click **RESPOND**. You'll be prompted to **SIGN UP** or **LOG IN**. If you do not have an account, click **SIGN UP**. After you create your account, you can use your log in details for all future responses.



Mid-Willamette Valley

**COMMUNITY ACTION**

**The ARCHES Project**



Join us on Tuesday, October 10 for

# NATIONAL WALK TO A PARK DAY



Parks make communities:

- Healthier
- Protect the Environment
- Increase Property Values
- Build Community
- Cool Neighborhoods



## Did you Know?

51% of Salem Residents live farther than a 10-minute walk to a park.

Salem is committed to closing the Park Equity Gap.

Everyone deserves access to a park within 10-minute walking distance of their home.




Go to  
[10minutewalk.org](https://10minutewalk.org)  
to learn more

CITY OF *Salem*  
AT YOUR SERVICE  
Parks and Recreation



10-Minute Walk





**PEACE PROBE, PEACE PLAZA**

O P E N H O U S E

# SUSTAINABLE CITY YEAR PROGRAM

Solving problems of today.  
Laying groundwork for  
a sustainable , livable future.

Meet the University of  
Oregon professors  
who will partner with  
the City of Salem on  
high-priority projects  
for our community.



**WEDNESDAY  
OCTOBER 11  
5-7 P.M.  
SALEM PUBLIC LIBRARY  
PEACE PLAZA LOBBY**



# World Singing Day Salem

*A family friendly event to unite our community in song*

**Saturday, October 21, 2023**

**2:00–3:00pm**

**Gerry Frank Amphitheater**

*Salem's Riverfront Park*

*200 Water St NE, Salem, OR*

*Endorsed by Neighborhood Services*



[oregonspirit.org](http://oregonspirit.org)