



Meetings are open to all  
Neighbors & Businesses  
[www.salemswan.org](http://www.salemswan.org)

**Meeting Notes**  
December 5th, 2023, 6:30pm

Location: Westminster  
Presbyterian Church.  
Hybrid Zoom

## **SWAN December 5th. Meeting Notes.**

**Welcome –Ted Burney, SWAN Chair** Introduction of Board members.

*Ted Burney –Chair P*

*Allison Houck -Co-Chair P*

*John Lattimer- Land Use Chair P*

*Pat Norman, Parks Co-Chair P*

*Carol Grimwood -Board Member, Watershed & Land Use Team P*

*Becky Miner-Board Member, Past Chair P*

*Ken Freeman-Secretary/Treasurer P*

*William Dixon-Board member P*

*Debbie Miller- Board member P*

*Karen Freeman, Parks Co-Chair P*

### **Announcements: Ted Burney, SWAN Chair**

*Welcome to Westminster Presbyterian Church on Liberty Street South.*

*Make our neighborhood better and nicer.*

*Last month. Thank you to our City Councilors Vanessa Nordyke and Linda Nishioka,  
We are working on the squatter issue on Croisan. Code enforcement is on it.*

*Salem City Club.*

*Ruben Garibay has sponsored us. City Club meetings are every other Friday at the  
Willamette Heritage Center's Dye House. Venue opens 11:30 Program Noon to 1:00*

*Ron set this up for us as a Neighborhood Association membership.  
Please talk to Ruben or John if you are interested in attending.*

**Minutes:** *November minutes approval.*

*SWAN Board Quorum*

*Motion Made to approve November minutes*

*Motion seconded.*

*All in Favor*

*Motion Carried.*

*SWAN November minutes approved.*

**Police Report, Salem Police Department.**

**Sgt. McFerron, SPD**

*Sgt. Andrew McFerron. Felony crimes unit.*

*Update on Croisan problem house: Code Enforcement is working with us.*

*Toy drive. New, unwrapped gifts, deliver before December 13th to remote sites, up until 25th at the SPD.*

*Q: Gunfire in tavern south salem. A: Active investigation. No comment.*

*Q: New noisy mufflers? Anything we can do? A: it's a challenge. A: traffic camera?*

*Q: it's disturbing. A: yes*

*Q: We can look into criminal actions*

*Q: How about insurance? A: No. We have to have a reason to stop*

*Q: incident on Hansen at 11. A: I have not heard.*

*A: Social media: SPD site, highlight reels.*

*Q: Uptick in gun violence?. A: collaboration with a holistic approach. We are trying to address it at the root cause.*

*Q: Who do you attribute this to?*

*A: We are seeing a concentration in the northeastern part of town*

*Q: Are we still driving data driven policing? A: yes,*

*A: If your neighbor reports it, that helps, you should too.*

**City Council Update - Vanessa Nordyke, City Councilor, Ward Seven, Linda Nishioka, Ward Two.**

*Welcome,*

*Salem holiday parade? We had goodies*

*Salem town hall? Who attended? Over 80 were here.*

*We recently had a work session with Marion County Commissioners on gun violence.*

*Trying to address gun violence with multiple inputs.*

*We are also putting together a revenue taskforce. This is a public facing task force.*

*More downtown development.*

*Parking lot at High and Chemeketa, 105 new units coming*

*We are looking at options going forward using tax leverage.*

*Q: Parking? A: yes, 30 spaces.*

*Potential housing project. Former Green Thumb Florist as housing options. Still developing.*

*Major project. Old Salem General hospital. Oregon state hospital.*

*Green Light LLC. 16-17 million dollars to develop affordable housing. It's an 11 acre site. 120 or more units. We are hoping to work with them to help build more affordable housing.*

*Pop quiz: What wage does it take to live in Salem. Hourly rate required to support a household in Salem, assuming full time work.*

*1 adult - no children 17.39 1 adult 1 child 35.17 1 adult 2 children 44.46*

*Ref: MIT report. Things cost a lot more than they used to.*

*Salem gun violence: I am the messenger.*

*We have 179,605 people in Salem. We estimate about 1,800 homeless.*

*Homicides: 5. Homicide is defined as an intentional killing.*

*Most are by gun.*

*Gangs are now committing most of the gun violence. 70% of both victims and perpetrators are known gang members. Most is in Northeast.*

*Q: Do we have a gang task force?*

*Nordyke: A: We used too: Budget cuts.*

*Nishioka: We are trying to scale this up.*

*Questions?*

*Revenue task force?*

*Q: Are green space requirements different for affordable housing?*

*A: Requirements are fixed.*

*Q: Tax incentives? A: Property owners are taking reduced rental rates, so we incentivize them to provide these affordable rental rates. Council asking for 15 to 20% of new units being built to be "affordable"*

*Q: Any other details on future work sessions.*

*A: We just completed one. We are looking forward to the next one.*

**SWAN December Program: Beth Schmidt: Salem-Keizer Safe Routes to School Coordinator.**

*Safe routes to school means combining education and infrastructure. We are pushing to incorporate this into PE classes. We are at a 40 year high for pedestrian deaths. We are trying to change the thinking. We are teaching children.*

*Be safe, be seen is our theme. Bring a light! Be seen.*

*Walking to school. It's good for all of us.*

*Walking safely promotes traffic reduction around the schools. Avoids "drop off" jam.*

*Adults need to be role models*

*These Kids are our future.*

*Q: Walking bus? A: You meet at a remote location and walk as a team. Know your meetup, know your time, know your route. Be a role model. The parent behavior is poor when walking. On and off sidewalks/ walking in the street/on cell phones*

*Q: Do we talk about infrastructure? A: yes.*

*Q: How do we get more info? A: I would encourage you to ask the principal, and the PE teachers. A: These are life skills. We should teach them. We want them to anticipate traffic. Our job is to teach them how to be safe. It's simple stuff. It seems silly. We need to teach safe behavior. We need to model safe behavior.*

*Bill Dixon note: Salem Heights Ave. S is now in the Transportation System Plan. It's all connected. From crossing guards near the school to the improvement plan for Salem Heights Ave. There is a need for safer pedestrian infrastructure. There will be an update coming to the TSP and we need to be involved in the process to get important street improvements on the radar.*

*We have several more streets in the works for solutions.*

*Councilor Nishioka: Note to SWAN board. At current rate, it will take 425 years to build these out.*

*Jason Gundlach. Principal at Candalaria Elementary School.*

*Pedestrian safety. We have 295 students. Of those, 275 walk or get dropped off. Safety is a big part of our school day. PTA board members Steve and David. Our PTA has a significant role.*

*Lighting is our next challenge. Arriving and leaving when it's dark. Our vision for our next project is for lighting along the school sidewalks on Hansen Street. The light it up project is in the making. It matters to our community. We brought visuals. We have a commitment to making a safer school. Volunteers drive this.*

*Q: How do we make it safer? A: It's what we do: We want to make it a safer place. We need solutions. Lighting will help.*

*Q: Are these landscape lights? A: Yes. Thanks for the input on Dark Sky considerations.*

*Coming up: We are planning a fundraiser: Auction. On April 16th. At Candalaria.*

*Thank you.*

**Land Use:**

**John Latimer**

*We've trying to find out about the development on Madrona.*

*735 Madrona. More info coming*

*No Parking signs on Crestview.*

*Will bring it up at the CATC. I might see staff at the next meeting.*

*Crestview Drive South. North end of Crestview Drive, after Schurman.*

*We have to build a priority list for capital improvements.*

*We asked for a sidewalk on Madrona.*

*Safety counts.*

*Speed survey on River Road. We asked for one, the City did it quickly and responded to our request quickly.*

**Parks:**

**Pat Norman and Karen Freeman**

*Candalaria. The city has hired a consultant. We wait.*

*We have submitted a letter of intent for Nelson Park kiosk.*

*Fircrest Park: Bird and pollinator area.*

*We are creating community through plants.*

*We are making friends in parks. We have two new tables.*

*Nelson Park heads up: We have poison oak.*

*Poison oak patrol. It's a 10 year project.*

**Community Updates:**

*Newsletter. New e-mail. We are hoping to get e-mail delivery issues fixed*  
*Stickers! SWAN.*

*Logo? Should we trademark our logo?*

*Do we want to spend \$50 a year to trademark this?*

*Should we make a motion?*

*Let's move forward with a motion to trademark our logo.*

*SWAN Board Quorum*

*Motion to Trademark our New Logo.*

*Motion seconded.*

*All in Favor*

*Motion Carried.*

*SWAN approves the expenditure of resources from our communications fund to*  
*trademark our logo.*

SWAN Meeting Summary: December 5th, 2023

We are adjourned.

***NOTE: Please E-mail extensive neighborhood concerns or questions and additional agenda items prior to the meeting so they can be accommodated. For more information contact Ken Freeman, SWAN Sec/Treas at [kfreeman@salemneighbors.org](mailto:kfreeman@salemneighbors.org) Sign up for SWAN emails: [www.cityofsalem.net/neighbor](http://www.cityofsalem.net/neighbor)***