

Sunnyslope Neighborhood Association
Minutes
January 18, 2024
Meeting held in the Gathering Space
Liberty Christian Church

The meeting was called to order at 7:12 by co-chair Alan Alexander.
Minutes were approved as circulated.

No police report

Councilor Gwyn

She reported that it has been slow with the holidays and the winter storm

The city council will approve the members of the revenue task force at their meeting on Monday, January 22nd.

Budget meetings will begin in April.

A discussion followed about what values neighbors attending the meeting have as the budget process begins:

Parks : Maintenance and programs for all ages including Stride runs/walks
Sunnyslope Park hosted summer programs. Neighbors would support reduce parks planning staff in favor of maintenance staff

Our library, which provides resources and programs for all ages. It is also a safe place to "hang out"

The city SOS team that works 4 days a week making connections with the unsheltered, cleaning up garbage, connecting the unsheltered with resources. Councilor Gwyn said she went on a ride along with the officers involved in the program and was impressed with their efforts. She mentioned that they were able to get an unsheltered family into permanent housing. There was discussion that these micro shelters are not inexpensive to run and neighbors would like to see actual buildings turned into living spaces. A neighbor mentioned that on Greek row at Willamette University only one house is being used and the rest are sitting empty. It would be amazing if there could be an agreement between the Greek Fraternities and Sororities, Willamette University and the city to use those for

temporary housing understanding that this would not be low barrier and would exclude those with addictions, mental health issues, abusers etc. A neighbor mentioned that Willamette University locks the walkway over 12th Street from Tokyo University to Willamette University

There was discussion about warming shelters. How can the library be used as a warming/cooling shelter? There was also discussion about the schools that have added space that are earthquake resistant. Are they prepared to host neighbors in case of such a disaster? Is there an agreement between the city and school district to open up for a warming/cooling shelter when schools are not in session with the realization these would not be low barrier shelters

It was mentioned that there is a lack of meeting/gathering space in South Salem.

It was reported that the city of Salem has been awarded a Safe Streets for All Federal planning grant for \$300,000.

<https://www.cityofsalem.net/HomeComponents/News/News/945/15> There is more information about safer streets and the opportunity to give input

Salem Parks Improvement Grant - Alan Alexander

He was informed by the parks department that it will cost \$5,000 to add pickleball lines to the sports court at Sunnyslope Park. A seasonal gaga ball pit cost \$750 There is definitely room to install one at Secor Park, but the parks department was not sure if there was enough flat space to install one at Sunnyslope Park Alan also reported that there are lots of grant requests this cycle. By consensus neighbors agreed to request a grant for pickleball lines on the sports court at Sunnyslope Park and for gaga ball pits for both Secor and Sunnyslope Park Alan will submit the paperwork.

Alan shared information about the shade structure for the playground equipment at Secor Park which was a SPIF grant we received in 2023 The April 2023 minutes show that the grant was for \$6,500 with the cost of the structure being \$7,500 The parks department found another \$1,000 The Salem Parks foundation has \$200 designed for Secor Park . In the June, 2023 minutes, it was reported that the Shade Structure was fully funded. Alan reported that the cost now is \$17,000 The parks department is trying to find additional funds for the

structure By consensus, neighbors agreed to seek donations of matching funds for the structure to the Salem Parks Foundation Henry agreed to create promotional material to post on our Facebook pages, Nextdoor and something to put on the communications board at Secor Park. The purpose of the shade structure is to make it more comfortable to use the playground equipment with the lack of trees shading the area. Salem Parks Foundation salemparksfoundation.org/ways_to_help.htm is the link to the Salem Parks Foundation website that gives ways to donate.

New Business:

Sally Cook reported that Dynaee Medlock and Jackie Leung are planning a scavenger hunt in South Salem for Spring Break. They will either attend a future meeting or send the neighborhood association information about it.

Neighbors agreed to invite Neighbor to Neighbor Services to a future meeting to give information.

We will also invite someone from the victims assistance fund of Marion County to speak and share information on how they help victims of violent/traumatic crimes in Marion County

Our next meeting will be held on February 15th 7PM in the Gathering Space at Liberty Christian Church (Linda was notified that the church is happy to host our meetings)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Miller
Secretary

Those in Attendance
Alan & Judith Alexander
Sally Cook & daughter
Bruce & Linda Miller

Henry Neugass

Councilor Deanna Gwyn