



NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
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Meeting Minutes January 11, 2024
SOUTH GATEWAY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

SGNA met via Zoom due to Covid-19 pandemic.

Board Members

Present

Absent

Dynee Medlock Chair

Jackie Leung Vice chair

Dave McKenna Secretary

Treasurer

Jerry Sachtjen

Mike Hughes

John Ledger

Kathleen Lempka

Glenn Baly

Community members:

John Miller

Greg MacDonald

Jerry Bennett

Amy Teegarden

Patty Willams

Jan S

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Andrew Hull (Rep. Tom Andersen)

La Festa

Jay Walter

Neil R.

Charey Cooke

Guests

Officer Burke, Salem Police Department

Vanessa Nordyke, City Councilor, Ward 7

Deanna Gwyn, City Councilor, Ward 4

Nicolette (Nicki) Roth, PE, Senior Project Manager, City of Salem

Aaron Edelman, City of Salem

Jeff Johnson, Natural Resources Planner II, City of Salem

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Dynee Medlock. Members of the Board introduced themselves and a quorum was declared. Approved minutes from December meeting with some name changes.

2. Officer Burke

Officer Burke gave report. Was told from last meeting by Lieutenant Aguilar to come back with information on mail theft in South Salem. The statistics that he reported were from August 1st to November 1st:

- 560 reports of mail theft in Salem from the US Postal Service
- 69 reports of mail theft to the Salem Police (so not all thefts being reported to police)
- 294 reports of mail theft in South Salem from the US Postal Service
- 69% of thefts were from clustered mailboxes

Mail is most often stolen at night, although there have been reports of suspicious cars pulling up to mailboxes during the day.

To help prevent mail theft:

- Check mail everyday
- Report thefts to police

Three people were reported and arrested recently for robbing mail.

Last year officers were doing 12-hour shifts. This year they are going back to doing 4 day - 10 hour shifts. Have hired 20 new officers this year.

3. Vanessa Nordyke - City Councilor Report

Councilor Nordyke gave report.

There will be a Superhero Fun Run on June 2nd at 11 AM in Salem Riverfront Park. Registration for the event begins on April 1st.

For the Town Hall Councilor Meeting held at Westminster Presbyterian Church there were approximately 100 people who attended. Recommend that people who attended fill out on-line survey so that they can get feedback on the event. Are planning to have future Councilor Town Hall meetings.

The City had 157 applicants for the Revenue Task Force of which they will be selecting 20 to 30 people. Will do "best practice" research on how to address revenue shortfalls and identify lessons learned from other cities. Task Force meetings will be recorded and be open to the public.

The Council approved a competitive bidding process for a Design Build contract for the Geer Skate Park.

The Salem Housing Authority is working on two new affordable housing projects: renovations of Englewood West Apartments (54 units) and renovations of Southview Terrace Apartments (60 units). Both have waiting lists and are for seniors making less than \$31K/yr.

Review of the December 11th Council Meeting considered and approved:

- (1) A multiple unit housing tax incentive program grant for a seven-unit residential project,
- (2) Acquisition of a property for a pedestrian crossing project (Sunnyview road NE and Hollywood Drive NE)

- (3) An application for transportation safety projects through Oregon Department of Transportation All Roads Transportation Safety Program Committee.

In September 2023, Oregon Parks and Recreation awarded the City a grant for \$500,000 to help complete the skate park planned for Geer Skate Park, 241 Geer Drive NE in east Salem. The total cost estimate is \$4.2 million. Will use funds from the Infrastructure Bond approved by voters. This includes:

- Site clearing and grading across 5.5 acres.
- Construction of an accessible paved pathway.
- Construction of a skate park.
- Construction of an accessible spectator viewing.
- Construction of a picnic shelter.
- Storm drain system and stormwater basin improvements.
- Installation of benches, picnic tables, bike racks, and trash bins.
- Planting and establishment of shade trees and other vegetation.

Web-pages for the development of Gear Skate Park:

<https://www.cityofsalem.net/Home/Components/FacilityDirectory/FacilityDirectory/144/599>
<https://www.cityofsalem.net/government/shaping-salem-s-future/>

She gave a pop quiz on homelessness in Salem:

What percentage of homeless Marion and Polk adults experienced homelessness as youth? **70%**

How many persons experiencing homelessness were counted in the 2023 Point-In-Time County?

1,683

115 people 0-17 years old

89 people 18-24 years old

126 people 64 years and up

She gave a pop quiz on Salem Gun Violence:

What was the population of Salem in 2022? **179,605**

How many homicides occurred in Salem in 2022? **5**

MAIN SOURCE OF SALEM GUN VIOLENCE

- **Gangs commit most gun violence in Salem**
- **Shootings are concentrated within five square miles of northeast Salem**
- **Nearly 70% of victims & suspects are "known to the criminal justice system" (parole, arrest, felon, etc)**

4. Nicki Roth and Aaron Edelman - City of Salem Transportation Department

Report on conceptual grind and inlay paving of Commercial Street from I-5 ramp to Fabry with signalization and ADA Ramps. Provided Powerpoint presentation of drawings showing initial conceptual design.

Contact Info:

Nicolette Roth, PE Senior Project Manager

nroth@cityofsalem.net
503-588-6211 ext: 7769

Aaron Edelman

cell: 503-932-7085
AEdelman@cityofsalem.net

5. Jeffrey Johnson - Natural Resources Planner II, City of Salem

Presented work being done on Goal 5 Riparian Corridor Planning Project Phase 1 - Inventory

What is Goal 5?

- One of 19 Statewide Planning Goals
- Adopted 1973
- Concerns about rapid growth impacting:
 - livability of communities
 - environment and natural resources
 - industries
- City Council directed City Staff to work on Goal 5 riparian corridor inventory process
- Focus is Riparian Corridors
- Requires local governments to adopt programs to:
 - protect natural resources
 - conserve scenic, historic, and open space
- Establishes a two-part process
 1. Local resource inventories and
 2. Comprehensive plan policies (zoning and land use ordinances)

Riparian Corridor = a Goal 5 resource that includes the water area, habitat, adjacent riparian areas, and wetlands within the riparian boundary (OAR 660-023)

This will include a 75' setback from the side of each river and it's wetlands and, a 50' setback from the side of each stream and it's wetlands.

Why Plan for Riparian Corridors?

- Facilitates locally-appropriate and effective resource protection beyond state and federal permitting programs
- Reduces uncertainty for future development
- Optimizes values of riparian corridors to residents
- Safeguards functions of riparian corridors
- Safeguards fish and wildlife habitat
- Satisfies Statewide Planning Goal 5

Phase 2 will include a protection program and process for the riparian assets identified in Phase 1.

The preliminary map for Salem has found:

- 110 miles total waterways
- 78 miles of fish-bearing waterways
- 32 miles of non-fish-bearing waterways

Proposed Phase 1 Approach

- Hire consultant to do Standard Inventory of waterways
 - Fish bearing
 - Non-fish bearing
 - Wetlands only as part of riparian corridor
- Ongoing outreach to community groups
- Public input on draft Inventory map
- Refine map based on public input

- Final map to Community Planning and Development Department for Phase 2 (Protection Plan)
- Estimated Timeframe 1-2 years

Contact Info:

Jeffery Johnson
Natural Resources Planner
City of Salem | Public Works Department
jdjohnson@cityofsalem.net
Office: 503-589-2041

6. New Business

Because the meeting had gone past the adjournment time it was decided that the election of the board would be moved to next month's meeting.

7. Adjournment.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 8th at 6:45 PM at Baxter Hill Community Hall and will be a hybrid meeting with Zoom.