



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

**Meeting Notes**  
January 2nd, 2024, 6:30pm

Location: Westminster  
Presbyterian Church.  
Hybrid Zoom

## **SWAN January 2nd. Meeting Notes.**

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

*Ted Burney –Chair P*

*Allison Houck -Co-Chair*

*John Lattimer- Land Use Chair*

*Pat Norman, Parks Co-Chair P*

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

*Becky Miner-Board Member, Past Chair*

*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**

- *Thank you Councilors Nordyke, Nishioka.*
- *Thank you to Beth Schmidt, MWVCOG Safe Routes to School Mgr. and Jason Gundlach, Principal, Candalaria Elementary School*
- *The City of Salem has been awarded a \$2.8 million grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation to support Salem's Vision Zero program.*
  - *The goal of Vision Zero is to reduce or eliminate pedestrian deaths and serious injuries on our roadways.*

- *Residential Neighborhood Speed Limits: Installing 20-mph speed limit signs in residential neighborhoods, aiming to create safer transportation for all.*
- *Speed radar enhancements: Purchase speed radar devices and trailers to inform drivers of new speed limits.*
- *Public Education Campaign: Initiative to educate the community on road safety behaviors and responsible driving, walking, and biking practices.*
- *Many of you may remember when SWAN began backing the "20 is plenty" campaign here in Salem. It may be arriving soon.*
- *Welcome Councilors Nordyke and Nishioka.*

***Minutes: December minutes approval.***

*SWAN Board Quorum*

*Motion Made to approve November minutes*

*Motion seconded.*

*All in Favor*

*Motion Carried.*

*SWAN December minutes approved.*

***Police Report, Salem Police Department.***

***Sgt. McFerron, SPD Not Present on January 2nd.***

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

*VN: welcome.*

*Who is new Here! Welcome.*

*SWAN is mostly in Ward 7, but Ward 2 is also a part of SWAN.*

*Who attended the recent town hall? A good many of you. We hope to do it again.*

*No reports, per se as council has not met since our last meeting in 2023..*

*Many cities are struggling with structural deficits. We are having budget conversations.*

*City violence: We are seeing gun violence in a small focused area. We are after some action here. This is a fairly concentrated effort.*

*The mayor is putting together a task force to talk about raising revenue. Who pays and why? Pulling people from the public to serve. We have had 111 applicants.*

*We hope whoever ends up on the budget committee brings a creative solution to solve some of these challenges.*

*Affordable housing: we are struggling to keep up.*

*Q: Where can I find the budget info: A: City of Salem.net*

Q: What's the best place to look up the information about affordable housing. A: Salem Housing Authority website.

Q: Land use issues? Check the Building Permits map showing the permits that are in your area and what is being proposed. It is on the city website.

**Linda Nishioka, Ward 2 Councilor.**

Welcome.

We are working to get crime info and find solutions:

Capital Community media You Tube on November 20th.

Upcoming events: Salem Reporter sponsored open forum presentation on gun violence in Salem - January 17th at the Elsinore theater.

We try to encourage people to come to these Neighborhood Association meetings.

When things are good, there may be no reason to come but we encourage you to come and be part of the solutions for your neighborhood.

Budget committee is looking at new revenue sources. We have had 111 applications thus far. This task force is empowered to look at revenue sources. We look forward to seeing what they are going to come up with.

I've been here for 17 months. I am learning all the time. We are part of a group. We are learning about how the city works. Councilors are part of a process.

We are hoping to be an effective council.

Q: Best way to get a hold of you? A: Email is best.

City cell phones. You can call.

Q: Homicides? A: 4/5 of the deaths were a result of gun violence.

Q: Mail theft? A: We hear we have two apprehensions thus far. The city is working with the US post office as these are federal crimes.

Q: I heard we had another mailbox break in last week.

A. There may be more than one master key out there. Postal Inspectors are working with local authorities.

**SWAN January Program: Doing Good Things for Our Community: Volunteer Opportunities with Salem Parks: Amanda Sitter, Volunteer Coordinator for the City of Salem Parks Department.**

Hello! We can be found at 1457 23rd from 9 am-5 pm in the new Public Works Building. We are here to help.

The city accounts for 60-65,000 volunteer hours, which equals about 30 or so FTE. I am an Oregon State graduate. I look after the Volunteer programs here in Salem.

Mainly, it's in Parks and Rec. We are doing city sponsored projects.

We are going to work with SWAN to plant some trees at Nelson Park

*We are hoping to bring shade to the park.*

*April is Arbor month. Fircrest park had a tree planting.*

*Friends of Trees. Lansing Park. They need some help.*

*I have volunteer contact forms for anyone who is interested in helping out.*

*First and last names are needed.*

*One good form of contact is also needed.*

*Q: Is that application available online: A: The application yes, the waiver is not.*

*Pat: We love Amanda. Volunteer opportunities abound. We have good snacks.*

*Deepwood, and Bush Park.*

*Lord and Schryver. All provide opportunities to volunteer and make a difference.*

*If you say 'I want to...volunteer at Salem City Parks.... Check the calendar.*

*How do I give back?*

*Samples...*

*Contact info on web page.*

*Email is best! A clear and consistent form of communication.*

*All this is available on site.*

*Volunteer app is fillable .pdf.*

*Follow us on Facebook and Instagram.*

*Q: Alternate volunteer opportunities? A: Yes*

*Q: What is the best day to plant trees? We plant big trees. We plant things that are difficult to take. We are trying to get these in early.*

*Q: How many trees?*

*Q: We went and scouted the area: Red oaks. Two. Cascara and dogwood. Around the area. Two big, 5 smaller. We have tools! And gloves. Bring your stuff. 5 gallon water containers.*

*Q: Have we got a date? A: We are working on that currently.*

*Nelson Park tree planting needs to happen on a weekday. Before 5:30 pm.*

*Noon to 3 pm? Daylight helps.*

*Nelson Park 11 am. On the 17th.*

*(after the fact note: winter storm - ice and snow delay moved tree planting to Feb 2)*

*If it rains, we plant.*

*Gloves, shovels and boots. We bring the trees!*

### **Land Use:**

**John Latimer (shared by Ted)**

*Crestview No Parking signs are a go.*

*735 Madrona update: Two structures planned.*

*We are asking for erosion control measures.*

**Parks:**

**Pat Norman and Karen Freeman**

*Parks: We are waiting on consultation on Candelaria. It's in the works..*

*Minto Brown, Arron Kinsey. Parking lot 2 and 3. Update: construction in spring of 2024. Condition dependent. Tree removal will occur in February in preparation. Lighting was removed in an effort not to interfere with wildlife and because the facility is open from dawn to dusk.*

*Karen Freeman is co-chairing parks. If you want to help when we have an issue or comments, please copy your councilors.*

**Community Updates:**

*Thank you for supporting our efforts in obtaining the No Parking signs. (from residents asking for signs to be placed on their street)*

*We are very excited about newsletters. We are waiting on city IT to help with secure delivery of our city email list so it does not get flagged as junk.*

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)**