



MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, March 14, 2024, 6:30 pm
North Neighbors Resource Center
945 Columbia St NE, Salem

Present:

Executive Committee Members

Leigh Tracey-Gaynair, Chair
Ryan Erickson-Kulas, Secretary & Treasurer

Heather Ames, Member At Large

Guest/Association Members

Sarah Vick
Celine Coleman
Cathy Hornaday
Michael Holselton
Brandon Gould- Salem PD
Valerie Petty
Laurie Beitzel, SKEA

Theodore Corgini Greenbaum
Gema Cruz
Katya Marcusky
Kaethe Mentrum, Northgate Neighborhood Association
Bayard Mentrum, Northgate Neighborhood Association
Claudia Cruz

Minutes

1. Introductions
2. Motion to amend to agenda to include SKEA presentation
 - a. **Motion:** Ryan Erickson-Kulas
 - b. **2nd:** Leigh Tracey-Gaynair
 - c. **Vote:** Unanimously Passed
3. Highlights from Highland Neighbors
 - a. 2-3 house that have been renovated and look really nice
 - b. Spring has sprung!
 - c. Peas are sprouting
4. Approval of Minutes
 - a. **Motion:** Ryan Erickson-Kulas
 - b. **2nd:** Leigh Tracey-Gaynair
 - c. **Vote:** Unanimously Passed
5. Reports/Updates
 - a. Salem Police Officer - Brandon Gould- Salem PD
 - 11 vacant sworn positions
 - Overview of Community Police Academy
 - Discussion of Official Community Watch Program
 - Officer Gould is not aware such a program exists but will inquire and report back for our next meeting. Michael Hosleton volunteered to follow up.
 - b. City Councilor(s) - Not present
 - c. SKEA Laurie Beitzel Special Education Teacher Learning Resource Center, Lamb Elementary School
 - Negotiations since last April

- Started as an open process
- In Sept/Oct went to closed negotiations
- Contract expired in July
- District declared mediation which helped but due to Portland Teachers strike it took weeks to get a mediator
- 4 key areas no gains but agreement on more than 15
 - FTE definition
 - Caseload management
 - Cost of living adjustment
 - Workload
- Impasse in Feb was declared
- There may be a strike vote soon
- Question from HNA members: How can we support teachers?
 - Email the superintendent to express your feelings
- Motion to draft letter to support teachers
 - **Motion:** Ryan Erickson-Kulas
 - **2nd:** Leigh Tracey-Gaynair
 - **Vote:** Unanimously Passed

6. Highland NA Board/Committee Chairs Updates

- March We 30th Kids Clothing Swap Event
 - People tabling:
 - Catholic Community Services
 - Chemeketa
 - Helping Hands - anything leftover will be donated to Helping Hands
 - Neighborhood Services
 - CBEL (Highland Neighborhood Family Council)
 - Need volunteers for:
 - Setting up
 - Coordinating a kids craft during the swap
 - Sort clothes as they come in
 - Check people in & hand out entry tickets
 - Cleaning up
 - Additional "floating" help as needed
 - Next steps:
 - Meet with Center 50+ next week to finalize details
 - Center 50+ can accept donations in advance, please consider dropping off in advance so we have plenty of clothes to get started!
- April 20th Earth Day Clean Up Event Discussion
- Mural Refresh Committee Discussion
- National Night Out Committee Discussion
- Motion to cancel July meeting due to summer travel
 - **Motion:** Ryan Erickson-Kulas
 - **2nd:** Leigh Tracey-Gaynair
 - **Vote:** Unanimously Passed

b. General Board Updates

- Salem Seekers Ask
 - Salem Seekers is a local treasure hunt designed to promote community connectivity, rejuvenate interest in our local parks, and encourage the physical, emotional, and mental well-being of the greater Salem community.
 - The fun-filled events are free for anyone to enjoy and aim to encourage members of our Salem community (and beyond) to step outside their homes, come together, and joyously reclaim our city parks. The treasure-seeking,

month-long events are known for their iconic glass-blown birds, safely hidden in local parks to be found by participants and kept as a gift. This is an effort to support connections in our communities between friends, families, and neighbors - fostering the intended vision of our city parks while creating a lasting memory.

- Last year was a huge success with over 900 participants from all over the city in attendance at four Salem events!
- Request to support event at River Road Park: \$450
- What the funds will provide:
 - 30 glass-blown birds (\$13.50/ea) created by local Glass Art Oregon to be hidden "in plain sight" (these events are designed to be accessible and inclusive) at River Road Park during one of four summer months (June, July, August or September).
 - Identifying tags with QR codes for each of the birds.
 - Advertising for the event - highlighting the chosen park
 - Highlighting Neighborhood Association for its financial support and encouragement in online posts and articles.
- HNA decided to get more information and vote during our April meeting

7. Neighborhood Concerns- N/A

8. Land Use- N/A

9. Motion to adjourn

a. **Motion:** Ryan Erickson-Kulas

b. **2nd:** Leigh Tracey-Gaynair

c. **Vote:** Unanimously Passed

*Next monthly meeting: April 11, 2024

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