

East Lancaster Neighborhood Association Minutes - October 4, 2018, 7:00 pm
Swegle Elementary School, 1751 Aguilas Ct NE, Salem

Board Chairs/Members Present

x Susann Kaltwasser, Chair
x Sue Fowler, Co-Chair
x Mary Sarabia, Vice Chair
x Chesta Bauer, Secretary
x Clark Hazlett, Member-at-large
Mike Sim, Member-at-large
x Dave Steiner, Member-at-large

Neighbors Present:

x Laura Berry (Terra Gardens)
x Bryan & Rebecca Hughes, Royalty Drive
x Chuck Westbrook, Mahogany Ct.

Others Present

x Officer Judy Dan, Salem Police Department
x Officer Adam Bello, Salem Police Department
x Chris Hoy, Ward 6 City Councilor
x Brandie Dalton, Multi-Tech Engineering
x Natalie Janney, Multi-Tech Engineering
x Mark Grenz, Multi-Tech Engineering
x Nelson Morales, Compliance Officer, City of Salem
x Doug Rodgers, Salem Transit Board/Cherriots
x Katya Golonznina, Salem Chamber of Commerce

Police Officer Report: Officer Dan said she was new to the area. She has been on a lot of patrols in the area lately and there have been some reports of vandalism and drug offenses. She suggested that anyone wanting more information on crimes committed in the area go to the crimereports.com website. All crimes are listed there by location.

Susann asked if the officer had any reports of street racing on Lancaster Drive and what is being done about it. There seems to be no positive enforcement of speed limits and driving up and down Lancaster multiple times. This activity is occurring late at night and in the early morning hours around 3:00 am. The officers explained that this would be under the purview of the motorcycle patrol and they do not work at night. Officer Bello suggested that we go to the police department and report the problem in order to get a dedicated effort to monitor the situation. He said that the swing shift of an officer could be adjusted if there is a special concern about these speeding occurrences. Susann mentioned that there are signs that prohibit cruising but that they are faded and are hard to read. Officer Bello said that it was up the neighbors in the area to get license plate numbers that can be reported to the police department.

Mary mentioned that the intersection of Market Street & Lancaster Drive was dangerous because of all the cars going through red lights and whipping around corners. Officer Bello suggested having ELNA make a request to have this intersection monitored. Susann said she will put in a report. He said that the patrol officers were very busy during the day going from call to call and that the traffic patrol unit would handle traffic issues.

Code Enforcement Officer: Hector Morales reported that the Salem Police Department is hosting their annual Halloween Dress Rehearsal event on Saturday, October 27, from 4 pm to 6 pm in atrium on the first floor outside the police station. Parents can bring their children in costume for an afternoon of activities which remind children to be safe on Halloween night.

Hector mentioned a Town Hall would be held on October 24 by the Salem City Council to seek public input on priorities for our community. These priorities will influence future budget priorities and will guide the allocation of funds for important projects.

There was a property on Market Street that was reported for a complaint about bags of trash on the sidewalk that were blocking access on the sidewalk. Hector called the person and the situation was taken care of. He also mentioned that he got a TLC (trespassing, trash, litter consent) for a vacant property on Tierra Drive. Neighbors of this property can call the police if someone tries to get in or damages the property. This allows the police to come on the property and arrest trespassers. Without a TLC, the police can't come on the property. A TLC is signed by the owner of the property and gives consent for the police to come on vacant or abandoned properties. He said that TLCs are usually approved by the property owner but it's sometimes difficult to get a bank or mortgage company to sign a TLC on property they own. He mentioned a property at 2445 Market Street that has been reported as a derelict house and was featured in a story in the Statesman Journal. It has built up fines that have placed a \$20,000 lien on the property. Hector also said there were several problems after Toys-R-U's vacated their building on Lancaster. He got a TLC for that location and got the property cleaned up and cleared out the homeless camps. There was a mention of an RV that has been parking by the Olive Garden on Weathers Street. People seem to be selling CDs from the RV. Hector said it's hard to enforce overstay parking if the vehicle moves around and doesn't stay in one place for 5 or more days. He said to call his office and make a report and he will take a look at the situation.

Bryan Hughes reported that there is a huge cedar tree on Royalty Drive in the 1100 block that looks like it will fall down. This should be reported to the City and someone will evaluate the situation. The City Forester usually is involved.

ELNA report: 118 hours in ELNA; 95 cases. Most of the cases are parking, junk, grass & weeds, barking dogs. Eight abandoned vehicles were towed; no stolen vehicles in the area lately. Most complaints were from citizens, 53 calls, 22 from the website and the rest from other agencies. The website is checked every day.

Chuck Westbrook reported on the parking situation on Mahogany Court. There is parking on one side of the street only, but people park on the no parking side. Hector said to call 503-588-6421 to report illegally parked cars. Get license plates numbers and note the make of the car. Chuck also said that people park in front of the mailbox site. Hector said that parking enforcement can't do anything about someone parking in front of mailboxes but the Post Office can put a warning

on the car.

There was discussion about people parking on both sides of Royalty Drive and speeding on the street. Hector said the Neighborhood Association should come together to get traffic officer to monitor. We can ask for an electronic reader board and also request a traffic study. Someone mentioned speed bumps but these are not feasible because of the buses using the street & they are very expensive. Chris Hoy said that someone on Royalty Drive can check out a radar gun from the Police Department and be used to monitor speeds on Royalty and to collect data that can be reported to the Police Department. This data can help get some action started and in developing plans for mitigating the situation.

Hector can be reached at 503-589-2070.

City Councilor Report:

- A TLC had been secured for a property on Coral Avenue behind Bi-Mart. The property has been cleaned up.
- The stop signs on Fisher Road have been installed. Concrete is being poured for a permanent speed reader on Fisher Road and street lights will be installed.
- There will be a free fall leaf collection on Minto-Brown Island on November 17 and December 8.
- On November 5, there will be a special work session of the Congestion Relief Task Force. They will be discussing peak hour issues in downtown and West Salem. They will hear suggested solutions and some easy things that can be implemented soon. The city is working on having longer signal lights at peak times; delaying pedestrians a bit; and, restricting left hand turns on Wallace Road during some hours.
- A Town Hall to be held on October 24 at the Broadway Commons to get public input on the budget.
- On October 22, the Council will again review the single use plastic bag ban. The ban will affect department stores as well as grocery stores but the department stores didn't get a chance to comment so the discussion was delayed until this meeting.
- On Tuesday, November 13, the City Council will discuss a garbage collection fee increase. Haulers are losing money because of the new restrictions on recycling and the recycling contamination issues.
- Property at 4741-4753 Lancaster NE has been annexed to the city. This is past Haysville across from Melton's. The annexation was probably made because of a water issue.
- On October 8, the City Council will discuss increasing and/or decreasing water rates.. They will establish different classes of customers dependent on their rate of water usage. There was a flyer sent out on water rates. Chris said that comments could be made until 5:00 pm on October 3 to be part of the public record but can also be made in person at the meeting. The rates will be a reflection of the actual cost of providing water service. The staff report is on the City's website. Rates are going up because the system needs replacing and installing an ionization system instead of the current carbon filtering system which would cost more money in the long run. The pipes were installed in the 1930's & the 1960's and must be replaced. In addition it will allow reserve funds to be built up to pay for future upgrades to the system. Susann mentioned that increasing rates puts a hardship on lower income people and that there should be some type of fund established to assist people living at the poverty level to manage the cost. She said that at this time about 150 people a month are having their water shut off.

Committee Reports:

a, Land Use: Brandie Dalton, Natalie Janney, and Mark Grenz of Multi/Tech Engineering, the project managers for the development of the former Pictsweet mushroom farm, gave a presentation on the plans for the project. They explained that the planning and development of this property is in its very early stages. They also mentioned that there were several property developers involved in the planning for this project but none of them were named at this meeting. At this time, it is proposed that there will be approximately 800 residences on the 117 acre site and there will be a mix of single family homes, duplexes, apartments, and commercial development. There will also be space for a park on the property. There will be approximately 8 houses per acre. The single family homes are proposed to be similar to row houses with alleys and garage access at the rear of the house. The lot sizes will vary depending on the size of the structures but the row house lots are proposed to be 20 feet wide & 90 to 100 feet deep and duplex lots 30 feet wide by 90 feet deep. There are also plans to have pedestrian paths throughout the development. There were many questions about the impacts on schools, traffic patterns, bus routes, etc. The project managers did not have any information on the school issue; they said that Salem-Keizer School District will be notified of the plans. There will be no access to the development from Cordon Road; access will be from State Street and Auburn Road. A traffic signal at Cordon and Auburn Road is being planned and there will be at least one bus line serving the area. A tree conservation plan for the property and a plan for preserving the white oak trees on the site will be developed. There are no flood plain issues with the site. A question was asked about CC&R's being proposed for the development and it was stated that the project developers are not involved with these. The project developers are hoping to have the permit applications submitted to the City in early December and to start construction in 2019. The project developers will come back to ELNA when the applications are ready to be submitted. Susann mentioned that we may have to have a special meeting of the ELNA in order to develop comments and recommendations to be submitted to the City regarding the application. She mentioned that ELNA can't oppose the development but we can comment on: lot sizes; traffic and accessibility issues; wetlands, open spaces, parks, and tree conservation; and, school issues.

Our Salem: Susann discussed the effort to update the Salem Area Comprehensive Plan which includes seeking public input through the formation of the Our Salem Stakeholder Advisory Committee. The first meeting of this group will be held on November 5, 4 pm to 6 pm, in the Anderson rooms at the Salem Public Library. Susann is planning on attending this meeting and will bring back information on its goals and plans. She wants to ensure the involvement of all citizens in this process and is concerned about engaging people who lack access to information because they don't have computers, access to newspapers, etc. She is also concerned about including low income, minority, & disabled individuals in the process. The committee does not have a Neighborhood Association representative. A public workshop will also be held on Wednesday, Dec.5, from 6 pm to 8 pm at Pringle Hall, 606 Church Street SE. The community will have the opportunity to

ask questions, learn more about the project, and provide input on how the city should be evaluated. Information on the Our Salem project can be accessed at: <https://www.cityofsalem.net/Pages/our-salem.aspx>.

b. Traffic - Safer Crossing Advisory Committee - no report.

c. Parks: There will be a City parks workshop on October 25, 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm at Pringle Hall, 606 Church Street SE.

d. Transportation: Doug Rodgers reported that Cherriots is hiring people for the new bus routes that are scheduled to be in operation by next summer. He also discussed the Drive Less Challenge sponsored by Cherriots. From October 1 to the 15th, people are being encouraged to try alternatives to driving through taking the bus, carpooling, biking, walking, etc., and logging the trips on the DriveLessConnect.com website. This will enter the person into a pool from which daily and grand prizes will be drawn.

Neighborhood Concerns: Susann reported that the City Sidewalk Rapid Response Team will make a presentation at the next ELNA meeting.

Dave Steiner asked a question about flood plain issues. Susann said that we had a presentation on the Floodplain Master Plan for the City of Salem at the June 2018 meeting. No properties in Ward 6 were reported to be in a floodplain area. The Floodplain Master plan can be accessed online at:

<https://www.cityofsalem.net/CityDocuments/floodplain-management-plan.pdf>. Also Dave can call the City Public Works Department at 503-588-6211 to get more information on the relationship of his property to the floodplain. A staff member will come out and look at his property, determine what mitigation efforts should be made if necessary, and advise on how to get cheap flood insurance if the property is not in the floodplain. More information about these services can be viewed at: <https://www.cityofsalem.net/Pages/floodplain-information.aspx>.

Susann reported that she will be going to the City Council meeting to discuss the water rate increase and will give comments to the Council regarding having a way to subsidize water payments for low income individuals and families. Her comments will not oppose the increase but she will have a strong argument for developing a plan for a water payment assistance fund for people living at the poverty level. A motion was made by Sue and seconded by Dave to approve Susann developing these comments to send to the ELNA Board Members. The motion was approved by all.

Minutes: A motion was made to approve the September 2018 minutes with one correction: Mary Sarabia should be listed as Vice Chair of ELNA. The motion was made by Susann, seconded by Dave and approved by all.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm.