

East Lancaster Neighborhood Association
 Minutes - March 7, 2019, 7:00 pm
 Swegle Elementary School, 1751 Aguilas Ct NE, Salem

	Board Chairs/Members Present		Others Present
x	Susann Kaltwasser, Chair	x	Chris Hoy, Ward 6 City Councilor
x	Sue Fowler, Co-Chair	x	Aaron Edelman, City of Salem, Public Works
	Mary Sarabia, Vice-Chair	x	Andrea Mather, City of Salem, Public Works
x	Chesta Bauer, Secretary		
x	Dave Steiner, Member-at-large		Neighbors Present
	Clark Hazlett, Member-at-large	x	Chuck Westbrook, Mahogany Ct NE
	Mike Sim, Member-at-large		

Introductions/Approval of Minutes: The meeting was opened by Co-chair Sue Fowler at 7:00 pm. The minutes of the February 7, 2019, meeting were approved with the following change: The Salem Police Officer at the meeting was Officer Sharp. Sue Fowler moved and Dave Steiner seconded a motion to approve the minutes with the noted changes. The motion was passed.

Police Officer Report: Officer Horton came to attend the meeting with his report but was unable to stay for the start of the meeting due to an emergency situation. Before he left, however, he mentioned that our vehicles should always be locked and all items in the car be put out of sight in order to discourage car break-ins. The next Coffee with a Cop event will be held on Wednesday, March 20, at the Dutch Bros on Barnes Ave SE.

City Councilor Report:

- The City is planning to increase the availability of charging stations for electric cars throughout the city.
- The City worked with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde to recover Native American artifacts from the property being developed for the new Police Facility.
- The City held a public workshop on February 27 to receive public input on the Multifamily Housing Design Project which will result in updating the City's regulations on housing developments with three or more dwelling units. In order to continue this input the City wants residents to complete a survey to comment on the initial concepts for updating the multifamily housing design regulations. The survey can be accessed at:
<https://www.cityofsalem.net/Pages/weigh-in-on-multifamily-housing-design-concepts.aspx>
- A new project at the Willow Lake Wastewater Facility will upgrade the system for generating power from methane gas resulting from the wastewater treatment process.
- The Salem library has named the design-build team of architectural and engineering firms that will be responsible for the library seismic upgrade and renovation. An open house was held on February 19 to inform the public of the design process and to get input on the process. Another open house will be held on April 30 from 6 to 8 pm at the Library. The decision on whether to move the library collection during construction has not been made. The library could move their holdings to a portable building near the City Hall or the library could be moved to another building. Chris said that he has suggested the former Book Bin facility on Lancaster Drive. Susann suggested that ELNA could write of letter of support for this idea. Chris said a letter could be sent after the next ELNA meeting.
- Chris reported that 115 previously homeless people were moved to housing but the challenge is finding landlords that will rent to the homeless .
- The removal of trees on Division Street by the new police facility was discussed. The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board recommended the removal of the trees. However, the new design will just reduce the number of trees to come down.
- At the March 11 City Council meeting a ceremonial check will be presented for the installation of new playground equipment at McKay Park. The Salem Parks Foundation raised the \$92,000 needed to complete this project.
- Also at the March 11 City Council meeting, a second reading of the revised System Development Charges will be made. Susann expressed disappointment that the Neighborhood Associations were not involved in the process for updating these charges since this is a major way that the City funds improving or developing parks, transportation needs, and water, wastewater and stormwater needs in the wake of new developments. Chris said that the development of the changes to SDC charges was done in accordance with legal requirements. The System Development Charges report can be viewed at: <https://www.cityofsalem.net/CityDocuments/system-development-charges-methodology-report-2019.pdf>.
- There have been continuing discussions of the downtown/West Salem Congestion Relief Task Force recommendations for parking, a bus circulator, and various other remedies to relieve congestion. Some of the suggestions for West Salem were to control driveways on Wallace Road, put in turn pockets by new developments, control the traffic flow into the Dutch Bros coffee stand. The Task Force's report can be viewed at: <https://www.cityofsalem.net/citydocuments/traffic-congestion-task-force-recommendations-summary.pdf>.
- Chris reported on plans to put in a refuge island on the crosswalk of Lancaster Blvd. and Sunnyview Road NE. There will also be a refuge island for the crosswalk on Sunnyview Road and Scotsman Lane NE.

- The Green Island water treatment facility is putting in barriers in its water treatment system to help prevent debris getting into the water system. This will slow down the water going through the carbon material that removes toxins from the water. Also, a chlorine reduction processing system is being constructed to remove chlorine before it gets into the water.
- The Mill Creek Corporate Center will see the construction of two new buildings in 2019.
- The Mid-Willamette Community Action Center is looking for more volunteers for its warming centers.
- Chris discussed the controversy around "weeding" of books from the Salem Library. Chris asked for a pause in the weeding and the pause was honored. Susann mentioned that the Salem Library has fewer books than normal for a city of the size of Salem. The norm is to have at least 2 books for each citizen but Salem has only about 1.6 books. So far, the removal of books has resulted in pulling 10% to 20% of the library holdings and also in removing core books that should be available in every library. Jim Scheppke, the former Oregon State Librarian, recommended removing no more than 10% of the books and maintaining a collection that reflects about 2 books for every citizen. Also, Susann mentioned that when too many books are removed, then the library needs to have the money to buy new books to bring up the collection to the recommended amount. With looming budget shortfalls, there may be no money to replace the books that have been removed. She said that the Neighborhood Associations should take a position on this issue. Chris said this issue will be brought up at the April 8 City Council meeting. Sue Fowler said that we need more information on the issue and this should be on the next ELNA meeting agenda.

Marion County Parole & Probation Officer, Trabosh: The representative of the Marion County Parole & Probation did not attend this meeting.

Fisher Road Extension: Andrea Mather and Aaron Edelman reported on the Fisher Road extension project. They said that the work will not have much impact on Market Street traffic and any lane closures will be done at night. The Fisher Road extension will meet with Market Street at the signal at Fred Meyer. Access to the Market Street Church of Christ and Photovision will be maintained. Work is being done on the storm water system, streetlights, underground power, and the signal light. There will be a storm water collector on the corner of Market Street. It is expected that the work will be done by October or November 2019. There was discussion of the problem of making a left turn from Fisher Road into the Verizon Store parking lot. This could cause a traffic back-up on Fisher Road. This situation will be watched and if it is a problem, there could be a restriction on left turns there. There was also discussion of the driveways into stores on the north side of Market Street between Fisher Road and Lancaster. Left turns going west on Market Street at those driveways can cause a back-up in the left turn lanes onto Lancaster Drive. This situation will also be monitored and may also result in other methods to get into those businesses. A flier with a drawing of the Fisher Road extension and facts on the project was handed out at the meeting and can be accessed at the City Public Works Department.

Committee Reports:

Land Use (Honey Bee, Multifamily Code, Pictsweet):

- **Honey Bee:** Susann asked Aaron Panko about the redesignation of the zoning classification from residential/agricultural to commercial/industrial of the property on 45th Street. He said that this is being recommended because the use of the property changed. The original zone classification was based on an occupied residence on the property. Now no one lives in this residence and the property is being used for a business purpose so the zoning should be changed to commercial/industrial. Susann discussed with staff the possibility of whether if the business went away so could the zoning, because with the new zone the property could also be used for multi-family units. Dave moved and Sue seconded a motion to approve the sunseting of the zoning classification if the business goes away. The motion was approved.
- **Multi-family Housing Code:** It is proposed to have two new codes for multi-family units. The existing codes for all multi-family housing don't allow for changing the parking, open space requirements, setbacks, etc., on smaller projects. The proposal would allow 10 or fewer units to be built with reduced open space, parking and set back requirements. In April there will be a follow-up proposal based on public input.
- **Pictsweet:** This project is now called "East Park Estates." New documents to add to the application were submitted to the City this day. Susann said that she didn't see if the transportation study that was needed to complete the application was included with these new documents. City staff will have 30 days to review the documents to see if everything is there or if they want more information before deeming the application "complete." The application for developing East Park Estates will be done as a Planned Unit Development (PUD) which lets developers submit plans that allow more variance from normal in the building codes and street standards. If the PUD is approved then no comments are allowed on the lot sizes and other normal requirements such as open spaces, common areas, etc. The City will have to buy the park area but she did not know if they use system development charges money whether it would be after the development is complete or not. The Salem Fire Department will have to comment on how many row houses can be together without a break.

Parks (Salem Parks Foundation Grant, follow-up): Susann suggested that ELNA apply for a small grant for a park bench in Royal Oaks Park. These are matching grants. Susann will talk to Parks staff, Kitty Larson, about the project. A motion was made by Sue and seconded by Dave to approve ELNA exploring applying for a grant for a park bench for Royal Oaks Park, if feasible. The motion was approved.

Transportation: Chris reported that Doug Rodgers had information about new reduced rate youth fares for the Cherriots bus system starting on June 1, 2019. For youth ages 6 to 18, a one-way ticket will be 50 cents, full day ticket, \$1.00 and a 30 day pass, \$10.00. Children under 6 ride free. Chris also reported that the Brown Road enhancement project is going forward. There will be sidewalks, bike lanes, and a bus pull-out as close to the park as possible. There will also be a cut-out for street parking by the park.

Board vote on new ELNA brochures/edits: Comments on the brochure were: The map should be bigger or should define the area and include just significant streets. As it is, the writing on the map for street names, etc., cannot be read. Contact information for ELNA should be included. The contact name and number for the Neighborhood Partnership Coordinator should be included. The back of the brochure could be used for some of the information which may allow for more information to be included in the brochure.

Agenda Items for the next meeting:

- Kevin Hottmann, City of Salem Public Works - Lancaster Drive signals, driveway access.
- Pictsweet documents - Susann will send the documents to the Board.
- Library book removal process and plans

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.