

East Lancaster Neighborhood Association
 Minutes - December 5, 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	Norm Wright, Dir., City of Salem Community Dev.
x	Mary Sarabia, Vice-Chair		
x	Chesta Bauer, Secretary		
x	Dave Steiner, Member-at-large		
x	Patricia Mick, Member-at-large		
	Clark Hazlett, Member-at-large		
	Fred Wright, Member-at-large		

Neighbors Present: Chuck Westbrook

Introductions/Approval of Minutes: The meeting was opened by Co-chair Sue Fowler at 7:00 pm. The minutes of the October 2019 and the November 2019 meetings were approved.

Police Officer Report: No report.

Our Salem - Norm Wright: Norm handed out the community survey which is posted on the Our Salem website at: cityofsalem.net/our-salem. The survey will be closed at the end of December. The purpose of the survey is to get public input to assist in shaping the future growth and development in the future. He mentioned that within the next 15 years, Salem is expected to grow by 30,000 new residents. We need to plan how we will be able to accommodate growth within our urban growth boundaries, provide jobs, and develop the needed infrastructure and amenities needed for these new residents and to assure that we have a livable, viable city in the future. The end result of the Our Salem effort will be to update the Salem Area Comprehensive Plan which guides development for the City of Salem. The City expects to conduct community-wide forums in 2020 and other events to get continue to get public input on this important city-wide planning process. Part of these efforts is bringing information to the Neighborhood Associations on how to provide input. ELNA will be asked to provide input on future land use and development proposals so it is important that these groups be informed on the issues on which they will be asked to comment. This will also give Salem planning staff ideas of what the public is thinking. Norm had us assign our priorities for the future plans on a chart listing the areas that will be affected by this future planning. Susann mentioned that ELNA has a Neighborhood Association plan but we can never win any arguments on proposed plans because the City plan supersedes the NA plan. It was mentioned that our plan was written in the 1980's. There was discussion about environmental health and the development of residential areas near major roads due to the fine particulates thrown off from vehicles on the road that can cause health problems. Adequate setbacks from major roads should be emphasized. EPA studies have shown that residential areas near major roads with a lot of freight traffic should be setback at least 100 feet from the road and near major roads don't have a lot of freight traffic the setback should be at least 50 feet. It was noted that a lot of

multi-family developments are located along major roads and that certain areas should be off limits to these developments. Susann mentioned that more multi-family developments should be planned for the south and west areas of Salem than in the northeast areas because ELNA and the northeast areas have about 50% of these developments and the south and west areas only about 30%. Chris Hoy said that he was glad to see that the City budget restored the new planning position for the Community Development Department and that a new planner was hired to assist in the work on the Our Salem effort. Norm reported that Phase II of this effort will include analyzing the input received from Phase I, modeling future maps of the city in order to take input on where new development will occur, and looking at ways the City can grow. It will be important to find common ground on where new development will happen. He emphasized that the website has information on meetings, interactive exercises, and maps of the city. Norm said that Phase III of the Our Salem planning effort in the fall of 2020 will start the review of the policy changes that the City Council will need to consider for implementation of the Salem Area Comprehensive Plan. Susann mentioned that the ELNA area was pretty much built out and there is not much room for further growth. She wondered if the City was going to annex County areas that are included in the urban growth boundary. She had concerns over the zoning conflicts that may occur between the City and the County. Norm said that these issues would be worked out between the two entities.

There was discussion of the Planning Commission meeting that discussed multi-family policy changes. Susann said that there were seven Planning Commission recommendations that differed from the staff recommendations. Some were: continuing to allow the garage to count for multi-family parking requirements; balconies were not prohibited on multi-family units if they were facing single family residences; private open spaces in multi-family housing projects were not required; further reducing parking requirements where there is bus service; reducing the parking requirements for housing for families with 80% less than median income; increasing parking spaces from one for each unit to one studio & one bedroom units and 1.5 for two or more units; allowing parking spaces in front of building units of four or less, and between buildings and on street. Susann mentioned that parking spaces in front of a building can ruin the appearance of the neighborhood. Norm said that multi-family developments can be approved by staff but can be appealed to the City Council. Susann said that she was the only NA representative at the meeting.

City Councilor Report - Chris Hoy:

- The Fisher Road project is complete and the road is now open to Market Street.
- The Brown Road project is also complete and open for traffic. There will still be some finishing work.
- The City Council enacted the Tourism Promotion Area in downtown Salem. This will impose a 2% room tax for people who stay in hotels in the downtown area. The increase will take effect in January 2020.
- The homeless camping ban on city streets was approved but the sit/lie portion was deleted from the ordinance. The implementation of the ban was suspended while the City explored options for supervised camping. Susann complimented Chris on his leadership on this issue. Brady Rogers also got credit for cleaning up the camping area on the sidewalks around the ARCHES building. There was discussion about what would happen if the camping areas are not identified when the no tents or structures on sidewalks is enforced. At this point there is no plan for this. Chris also said that there was a lot of guessing at the costs of homelessness for the City which was presented as

- fact. The City was directed to get real numbers so the public would know what the actual costs are. Chris also said he will bring up car camping alternatives at churches
- and limited parking in certain areas if there are provisions for basic needs such as portable restrooms. Chris said that the City is looking into implementing a project something like the Cahoots program in Eugene. This program is a mobile crisis intervention team that is integrated into the public safety system in order to respond to various non-criminal issues like homelessness, mental illness, substance abuse, etc. A trial project could start up in a couple of months. Chris is vice-chair of a continuum of care program which is starting. He doesn't know how long it will take to get funding.
- The library closure on February 3 was discussed and the opening and closing hours of the West Salem Library and the new temporary library were discussed.
- The City has restricted use of the Gateway Park; certain areas are closed off and no camping is allowed.

Committee Reports:

- **Land Use:**
 - On Monday, December 9th, the City Council meeting will discuss and vote on the issues around the 4696 Center Street apartment development. Susann said that ELNA's position on this development will remain the same. Patricia Mick said that there were environmental concerns on the western side of the property regarding the subsurface water and its effect on the ground around the buildings. There are safety concerns around staircases that may get wet in storms. Also ground fog may cause mold in ground floor units that have fences in front of them. She was also concerned about the height of the development. Susann said Pat should write up her concerns and send them to her. We can ask that staff bring us more information before a decision is made.
 - East Park Estates: The water line from Caplinger Road to State Street is being worked on 24 hours a day and there have been numerous complaints from nearby residents about the noise. Apparently the County is working on the project at night and the City during the day and the work will continue until May. An email was sent to Chris about this issue.
- **Parks:**
 - The Salem Parks Foundation received our request for funding for a bench at Royal Oaks Park. They will decide which request they have received that will be asked to submit a letter of intent and then they will pick the applicants.
- **Traffic:** No report.
- **Transportation:** No report.

Neighborhood Concerns/Other Issues:

- Susann asked if we should renew our website arrangement with Yahoo that costs \$80/year. She said that we have over \$300 account. The website should be updated. Sue made a motion and Mary seconded to renew the Yahoo account. The motion was unanimously approved.
- Susann suggested that because there were no immediate issues that needed to be addressed that we cancel the meeting in January. Chesta made a motion and Dave seconded it to cancel the January 2020 meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.
- Susann reported that Lori Lenz resigned from the ELNA board of directors.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.