

East Lancaster Neighborhood Association

Minutes - February 4, 2021 - 7:00 pm - Combination Zoom & In-person Meeting
First Free Will Baptist Church, 1390 45th Avenue NE, Salem OR

	Board Chairs/Members Present		Others Present
x	Susann Kaltwasser, Chair - Zoom	x	Chris Hoy, Ward 6 City Councilor
x	Sue Fowler, Co-Chair	x	Lt. Jason Van Meter, City of Salem Police
	Mary Sarabia, Vice-Chair - absent	x	Maureen Casey, Catholic Community Services
x	Chesta Bauer, Secretary - Zoom	x	
x	Terry Mott, Member-at-large	x	
x	Patricia Mick, Member-at-large	x	
x	Vern Golden, Member-at-large		
x	Chuck Westbrook, Member-at-large		
x	Lynette Horton, Member-at-large		
x	Mike Sim, Member-at-large		

Neighbors Present: Cathy Sim

Introductions/Approval of Minutes: The meeting was opened by Co-chair Sue Fowler at 7:00 pm. A motion was made by Mike Sim and seconded by Terry Mott to approve the December 2020 ELNA meeting minutes with the following correction: Change "January" to "December" on the last page in the notation about cancelling the December meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Police Officer Report: Lt. Van Meter reported that there has been a lot of activity lately. There were two arrests in the shooting at Hoover Park. Also, there was a fatality at the Market Street and I-5 on ramp caused by a pedestrian running across the ramp. There was a discussion of the speeding on Market Street and cars going through the left turn signal at Market & Lancaster after the light has turned red for the turn lanes. Lt. Van Meter said he would check into having more surveillance on that intersection. There was a question on whether the nuisance houses had been contacted by the POP team. Lt. Van Meter said that the team had been diverted to other issues but that we would contact them and find out what the situation is. He said that a newsletter was going to be sent to Neighborhood Association chairpersons with information and suggestions for various problems such as how to prevent mail theft.

Little Library Vandalism: Maureen Casey discussed the vandalism that has happened to the Little Library structures. These Little Libraries were put up by the Salem Rotary club to help families to get books for their children since the schools and the Salem library are closed. The vandalism has included books being thrown in the streets and graffiti on the structures. They are looking for donations of more books with the emphasis on children's books but adult books can be donated also. People near the Little Library structures have been asked to monitor them daily and report any vandalism. Maureen can be reached at mcasey@ccswv.org.

City Councilor's Report:

- Chris Hoy reported that through the CARES Act the City has personal protective equipment available for free for both for-profit businesses and non-profit organizations. Those interested can submit their request on line on the City website at: <https://>

form.cityofsalem.net/s3/Salem-Personal-Protective-Equipment-PPE-Request-Form. The Salem Chamber of Commerce will be distributing the PPEs.

- The Our Salem plan has been newly updated and includes comments made by the public in the last round of information gathering. It can be found on the City website. This version is not final, input from the community and others is still possible. Susann mentioned that she thought that some of the issues included in Salem's Climate Action Plan should also be included in the Our Salem plan.
- The City water issues were discussed. The recent increased river flow and erosion caused water turbidity which was a problem for the water filters but the activated carbon system was able to handle the problem. A new ozone treatment facility will be on line in three or four months. This will help with the impacts of the wildfire on the river water going into the treatment system. Chris said that the City staff are working hard to keep our water safe.
- The homeless camps under both sides of the I-5 and Market Street overpass are on ODOT property and they have issued instructions not to clear the camps at this time due to the COVID pandemic. Susann said a group was working on trying to place them somewhere else because of the safety issues. ODOT has increased the amount and frequency of the trash pickup at those sites. A volunteer group (Market Street Homeless on the Next Door app) has been formed that is providing meals to people camped there and is helping with trash pickups and getting services for those in need of them. Chris is a representative on the State Legislative Committee on homelessness. They are very interested in resolving the issues and one result was the opening of the State fairgrounds facility for housing up to 100 homeless people. The site is being managed by the Church at the Park.
- The next City Council meeting will include Marion County representatives to talk about the intergovernmental agreement with Marion County to conduct a transportation planning study and develop a management plan for the Cordon/Kuebler corridor. Susann said the SKATS study on the Cordon Road improvements included a provision for the NAs to be engaged in the discussions of the proposed changes.
- Update on Neighborhood Issue: People were parking on Plateau Avenue all the way up to Swegle Road which caused a hazard for the sight lines when entering Swegle. The curb on Plateau has been marked with no parking paint for 15 feet from the intersection to prevent this situation from occurring. There was discussion about the same issue for cars parking on Swallow Court. Chris said this issue should be reported to the City. Contact with the City may be made by calling 503-588-6293 or going online at <https://www.cityofsalem.net/Pages/traffic-complaints.aspx>, or sending an email to trafficteam@cityofsalem.net.

Committee Reports:

- **Land use:** Once the East Park development has completed installing a pump for the sewer system. The developers can start work on the infrastructure, but the progress will be in phases so we might see some work this summer.
- **Traffic:** There was a question about what is happening on lowering the speed limit on 45th Avenue to 30 mph. Chris said one study has been completed but another study still needs to be done.
- **Parks:** Susann submitted the final grant application to the Salem Parks Foundation for a new bench to be placed in Royal Oaks Park. A decision will be made at the end of February. If our grant is approved, we will need to provide a contribution of \$500 in order to get the grant. We discussed how fund raising could be accomplished. Suggestions were: getting pledges from interested people, doing a GoFundMe promotion, mailing flyers to the neighbors adjoining Royal Oaks Park. Pastor Terry Mott said that his church could make a donation. There was also discussion about how to accept donations and how to keep track of how much we have received. Susann will talk to Irma Dowd to see if she could set up an account with the City to accept the money and, if we decide to do flyers to the park neighbors, how to get addresses for the mailing. The City would print our flyers. Pastor Terry also suggested that we could put up a table at the Park with a couple of Board

members (and he volunteered to be one) so we could talk to park users, hand them a flyer, and generate interest in submitting donations for the bench. If any of the Board members are interested in donating money, Susann asked that an email be sent to her (susann@kaltwasser.com). Susann also mentioned that she would like to see a plaque put on the bench with the names of ELNA board members who have passed on in honor of their service on the board.

Additional Items: Susann discussed the NA chairs meeting. She said that the new Salem Chief of Police, Trevor Womack, will be attending our March 4th ELNA meeting. Some of the things to be discussed are working with NAs and improving communications, communication strategies that will be implemented, how the City is handling homeless issues, and, planning for how to discuss issues in forums that allow for dialogue rather than just presentations.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.