

**Faye Wright Neighborhood Association
Monthly Meeting
Zoom
10/14/21**

Attendees:

Sally Cook- Board Member
Bev Ecklund- Board Member, Secretary
Susan Hecox - Board Member, Land Use Chair
Blake Shelide- Board Member, Chair
Senator Deb Patterson
Sgt. Jeff Wiedemann- Salem Police Department
City Councilor Vanessa Nordyke
City Councilor Dr. Trevor Phillips
Thomas Ellis
Emily Mooney
Michael Slater
Lisa Novak
Adele Moore
Glen Morrison

Board Members Absent:

Bryant Baird- Board Member
Shawn Range- Board Member, Vice-Chair

Call to Order

Called to order 7:00pm

Acceptance of the Agenda

Roll Call/Introductions

Approval of Previous Minutes

No minutes to approve from September

City and County Reports

1. Salem Police Report

Salem Police Strategic Plan comments/survey is open now. All welcome to complete by 10/24/21. Form is on the Salem Police website via the City of Salem website.

Halloween Dress Rehearsal is canceled again this year.

Reminders about Halloween safety. Consider testing out costumes at home in a dark room and get creative about making the costume/child more visible. Remind children about being safe outside and walking the neighborhoods. Drivers are reminded to be aware of trick or treaters.

Sally- consider trick or treating in your own neighborhood to get to know your neighbors. Drivers need to be aware while driving especially in areas without sidewalks.

2. City Councilor Reports

Councilor Nordyke-

Oregon Hispanic Heritage Event. Great event to support our community.

Micro shelter approved for ages 55+ in West Salem. Managed sites show increased success for folks moving out of homelessness. Sites are safe, clean, secure, and effective. Managed sites have rules, curfew, and services. City council voted to approve.

Public Works won an award for restoration of Mill Creek.

Mid Willamette Valley Homeless Alliance received a 3.7 million dollar grant.

The Indigenous Peoples Day at the Rotary Amphitheater was a success.

December- public hearing on Climate Action Task Force Plan.

Winter is approaching. Reminder to prepare for emergency situations. Greg Walsh at the city is hosting Youtube lunch hour sessions on how to prepare. Reminder to sign up for the City emergency alert system.

The City of Salem Housing Authority works with 7500 people currently on affordable housing programs. The Center for Hope and Safety purchased a hotel for domestic violence survivors.

Navigation Center coming soon. Thanks to Senator Patterson and Councilor Phillips. for their work on affordable housing and homelessness.

Vanessa welcomes questions and comments on a Mobile Crisis Unit. Portland and Eugene have current programs. Studies are showing they are effective.

Councilor Phillips-

East of Commercial, Reed Road is dangerous, narrow. The city bus system isn't able to use it currently. Developers on projects on Reed Rd. are working to improve Reed Rd. Top 75% of the north end of the road is set to be improved by summer 2022. Two future parks will be there, and the plan is to connect the two new parks.

Climate Action Task Force is moving forward. Another public hearing planned for December.

City Staff at Morningside Neighborhood association last night talked about the importance of trees and will reconsider tree city ordinances. Plan to put it in front of the City Council for the December meeting.

Trevor appreciates comments from West Salem residents with concerns about the micro shelter and stressed the difference between managed and unmanaged shelters. It's a learning process. Based on conversations with DJ Vincent of Church of the Park, if the city can house 50% of the homeless population then we will see real change. Looking forward to building more managed shelters.

Agrees that we need a civilian response mobile crisis response unit.

Reminder to wear a mask and get vaccinated. Recommend that folks get their flu shot.

Redistricting in City Wards. It may change things slightly. Process has started. They are collecting community input.

New Business

1. Senator Patterson – Legislative Update

Plan to be in the building in February 2022. Covid and seismic update to the building has necessitated mostly remote work.

Chair of the Health Care Committee. The Senator is also ordained clergy. Clear to her that housing is one of our main issues. She also served on the Housing Committee, and the Natural Resources and Wildfire Recover Committee.

Healthcare- prescription drug affordability review board. Passed a bill to make insulin more affordable.

Housing- Toured Fairgrounds managed shelter. Hopeful for the success of temporary managed shelters. Designated 765 million dollars for affordable housing, rent assistance for tenants and landlords, and for down payment assistance. 6 million for veteran's housing services through the YMCA Navigation Center.

Designated 470 million dollars for mental health services. Junction City Oregon Hospital will be open 100%.

Encouraged folks to contact Marion County Commissioners to encourage them to apply for funding for the mobile crisis unit.

Small Businesses- designated funding beyond the two hotels purchased. 200k to the Salem Chamber and 200k to Monmouth/Independence Chamber to assist struggling small businesses. 500k to Liberty House. 200k to Boys & Girls Club. 100k to Shangri La. Additional funds to Willamette Academy.

Email- sen.debpatterson@oregonlegislature.gov

Sally Cook asked how we can support the work Senator Patterson is doing. Senator Patterson replied that getting out to meet people/business owners/neighbors is how to support her work.

2. Thomas Ellis – Garden Guild

Tom presented a PowerPoint.

Climate issues are all local. Noticed so many neighbors had beautiful, well kept gardens. He also noticed that most of the time he was the only person walking. People seemed afraid to interact. Found that gardening and talking with a neighbor that also was interested in gardening was beneficial. He thought about how it made sense to start a group.

Proposal is called “Garden Guilds”. The idea is that by making these local connections we can build community.

Benefits include getting to know neighbors, sharing recipes, and grown food and flowers. Learning how to grow our own food and flowers in this region. These connections can help in emergency situations.

How to start- form a steering committee of two or more neighbors. Appoint a volunteer facilitator that maintains a database for communications. Host potluck dinner on a regular basis- based on the guild’s desires.

Guilds can work with city sponsored neighborhood associations and city councilors to network with other guilds. The Marion County Master Gardeners will create a list of volunteers with expertise and could be available for presentations at the potlucks.

How to get started- invite folks out to coffee. Canvas the neighborhood. Contact local neighborhood associations to get support. Speak at meetings.

Other ideas- recipe contests, backyard work parties, donating extra produce, tool sharing.

tiellis@gmail.com or on Nextdoor and join the Garden Guild Network group.

Sally- reminder that our community gardens are a current great resource. Our parks also have edible plants and fruiting trees.

Gaias sp? Garden. Recommended book. Working together to make the garden visible, attractive but also sustainable and productive.

3. Salem Parks Improvement Fund

Opportunity to apply by the end of the month for a funding request for Hillview City Park walking path.

Lisa- asked if ivy removal could be covered by this funding. Woodmansee particularly has an ivy issue.

Sally gave history on the funding process. Sally shared about the 'No Ivy Coalition' and suggested that Lisa contact the volunteer coordinator for the City of Salem.

Plan to request funding for improvements to the path at Hillview Park.

4. Neighborhood issues/concerns/questions

Michael Slater- Hrubetz Rd SE

Hope to ask the city to install sidewalks on at least one side of the road. Daycare center, access to park, connects Judson Middle School, Liberty elementary, and Liberty Rd.

Propose that the Neighborhood Association make a motion to the City Council to fund sidewalk improvement.

Motion by Micahel- Move that the Neighborhood Association supports including Hrubetz improvements in the next sidewalk bond measure.

Second- Sally

Vote- approved

Adjournment

8:53pm