

AGENDA ITEM

#1 Introductions/Approval of Minutes

BOARD MEMBERS:	PRESENT - <i>P</i>	ABSENT - <i>A</i>	EXCUSED - <i>E</i>		
CHRISTOPHER BECHTEL	<i>P</i>	TIM FRANCE	<i>A</i>	AMANDA OTT	<i>A</i>
JEANNE BOATWRIGHT	<i>P</i>	CHRISTOPHER HACKETT	<i>P</i>	SAM SKILLERN	<i>P</i>
ERIC BRADFIELD	<i>P</i>	LOLA HACKETT	<i>P</i>	AARON TERPENING	<i>P</i>
SADIE CARNEY	<i>P</i>	TINA HANSEN	<i>P</i>	PAUL TIGAN	<i>P</i>
HOWARD COLLINS	<i>E</i>	CYNTHIA KAVANAGH	<i>P</i>		

Others present: Andrea Tobin, Mark DeCoursey, Carol DeCoursey, Fred Coopridger, Carolin VanOrden, Marc Morris, Toni Whitler, Ray Quisenberry, Cara Kaser, Stephanie Wile, C. Wolfe, J. Davidson, and Heather Wright.

Christopher H. moved that we: **“Approve the September minutes with the following correction.”**
 Sadie seconded the motion. Vote was 10 in favor, 0 opposed.

Page 1, #1
 “Vote was 1 in favor, 0 opposed.”
 Should read: “Vote was **10** in favor, 0 opposed.”

#2 Good News from Grant Neighborhood

- The “Alley Party” for welcoming staff back to Grant Community, Parrish Middle, and North Salem High schools was well attended. This has become a yearly event hosted by Sam & Jennifer.
- North Salem High School band was named Band of the Week;
- The Grant School/Park drinking fountain has been replaced and is operational;
- A neighbor went to the coffee-with-a-cop event and met several officers and thought it was quite worthwhile to attend.
- A neighbor reported several new families moving into the neighborhood with young children, or expecting children. Excited to have growing families choosing to move here.
- Heather Wright was introduced as the new coordinator of the Neighbor-to-Neighbor mediation program.
- Not good news, but, Duncan Beevers has bought a home in the Highland neighborhood and will no longer be on our board.

#3 Neighborhood Concerns

- A neighbor reported beer stolen from off his back porch. Meanwhile, a neighbor had food stolen from a refrigerator inside their house.
- Several neighbors commented about the dim lighting at Grant School’s front entranceway which makes it very hard to see when coming out of the brightly lit interior at night. School Principal, Marc Morris, said he will check on it with facilities and see if it can be improved.
- A neighbor noted that they had concerns about possible substandard heating along with broken windows at residences at 940 Norway and 1590 Broadway.

#4 Officer Reports

Officer Davidson reported that car clouts and burglaries are down in our area. She reminded us that, as the weather cools, warming up a car is dangerous if it is unattended.
 Sam expressed the neighborhood’s appreciation to Nick, Detective Seth Thayers and Councilor Kaser for dealing with the situation at 645 Gaines St. The area is now quiet and the house is empty after several months of turmoil.

A neighbor asked about getting a crosswalk sting operation at the marked walk in the Fairgrounds-5th-Hood area. It is quite difficult to get across.

Salem Child Development Center was asked if they had any issues with the Reefer Madness shop across Fairgrounds' Rd from their facility. They said "no". However, a neighbor asked about the rather cartoonish window signs.

Officer Wile introduced our new compliance services representative, Officer Wolfe. Officer Wile said she would take a look at the Reefer Madness signs to be sure they are in compliance. There have been 94 new cases in the past 4 months with 24 still open. Most are for abandoned vehicles. They are still dealing with 1020 Shipping and it "on-going" yard sale. 1080 Shipping is still listed as a derelict building. The situation at the Kuenzi Apartments at 1360 Liberty is still unresolved. Improvements at 755 Hood are nearly complete. 1460 Capitol is the site of an illegal taxi business. There is an accumulation of garbage and junked vehicles at the site. The old Arctic Circle site has been fenced. A neighbor asked about the placement of orange stickers on parked cars. These are put on potentially abandoned, abandoned or junked vehicles or vehicles deemed in disrepair. Vehicles are not allowed to park without being moved for any longer than 5 days.

#5 City Councilor: Questions and Answers

Cara reported on the following items:

- There will be a Public Hearing on a single-use plastic bag ban on October 20th at 6:00 in Council Chambers.
- Also at the October 22nd meeting, she will be making a motion for staff to explore an ordinance requiring closed captioning be in place on all publicly viewable screens so that deaf or hard of hearing individuals do not have to find someone to ask to turn it on.
- The City is working on code updates. Individuals can advise or comment at the project website. There will be meetings for stakeholders, land use chairs and neighborhood associations.
- Plans for a sobering center are still ongoing. Location will be in the Liberty-Division-Front area.
- There was an archeology day at the new police facility location. About 5000 artifacts have been found, most dating to the post-contact time frame. Many house foundations were unearthed.
- There will be a town hall meeting October 24th at Broadway Commons from 6-8 pm. This will kick-off the Council's project agenda, progress and will accept input.
- November 13th City Council will hold a public hearing on the solid waste collectors request for increased service rates. The request is based on the collapse of the recycling market.
- November 19th will be a City Council work session.
- Neighbors brought up the topic of leaf pickup. Suggestions were made that the waste collectors' fee increase includes cleanup and disposal of leaves in the fall. Many commented that the green bins do not hold a week's worth of debris at this time of the year. Some commented that the annual leaf haul sponsored by the city in early December is too late in the year. It would be better to be earlier and maybe more than once. Neighbors would also like to know the street sweeping schedule so they can be sure that parked cars are not blocking the sweepers. A neighbor asked if it was possible to have an extra bin in the fall without having to pay for it year-round. The question of storage of these bins during of the balance of the year was brought up. A neighbor commented that in some jurisdictions disposable/biodegradable bags are available for leaf debris and they are picked up by the haulers. A neighbor suggested that the blue recycling bins only be picked up once a month now that there are so few items that can be placed in them. It was also discussed about going back to the non-comingling system for recycles.
- The YMCA project is considering a salvage plan for the IKE Box (formerly Rigdom-Ransom Funeral Home). They are considering removing and selling architectural and ornamental items. The neighborhood is welcome to invite them to a future meeting to detail their plans. A neighbor asked about the tile mural on the brick building at Church and Court. The Salem Public Arts Commission believes they have an easement for its placement, though a copy cannot be found. The estimated cost to relocate the mural in two sections is \$375,000, according to the Salem Arts Commission.

- Ray Quisenberry is on the revenue taskforce. They will meet in four sessions between October 15th and year's end.

#6 911 Calls

Andrea Tobin, supervisor at the Willamette Valley Communications Center (911 Call Center), was present and brought a very helpful handout. The flyer has information about who to call and when; checklists for knowing what kind of information and descriptions to be able to provide to the operator about suspects and vehicles; and, a guide to how to report a crime, including a good description of the location and what to expect the operator to ask you about. She also gave examples of emergency and non-emergency situations. Things like welfare checks when the individual is not in a life threatening situation are non-emergencies. If someone is passed out, the first question asked by the operator will be "Is the individual breathing?" If they are, the fire department will be sent. If they are not, the police will be sent. These questions from the operator are important information to know who should respond. It is also important to know that if the situation changes the response will also change so any deterioration needs to be passed along while you are on the phone. All calls to both the emergency and non-emergency phone numbers go to the same call center and are answered by the same folks. The non-emergency calls are taken as the operators are available, or they are returned when time allows. The Communications Center serves 25 agencies in Marion, Polk and Lincoln counties.

#7 SPIF Grant Fixture Selection

Toni Wittler and Paul Tigan brought examples of several of the items that are under consideration. Principal Marc Morris that safety is the school's biggest concern. Christopher B. moved that ***"We apply for a grant for something that is "fun" – which is the chess table."*** Tina seconded the motion. Discussion about this choice included comments that it may be the best fit, size wise, is functional for other uses, and Grant has a chess club that can use it. The vote was 11 in favor, 0 opposed. Paul will write the letter of intent for the Parks Department. Christopher B. will write the Campaign for Excellence letter describing that this project and that money collected this year will go towards the table in the park. We will continue to pursue some longer range solutions to the fence conditions.

#8 Proposal for Organized Camping for the Homeless

A meeting between various City officials and community partners, including the Mayor, Police Chief, Salem Housing Authority, Can-Do Neighborhood, Community Development Director, Parks, Urban Development Director and Arches wherein about a 90 minute discussion took place. The consensus was that outdoor camping probably will not work in Salem. A "low barrier" (no program and less restrictive) shelter, within a building is more beneficial. It's a "big idea" but no decision has been reached. The conversation on why camping probably is not the ideal solution included:

- maintaining a camp can be expensive, it run correctly;
- a specific group benefits;
- those not sheltered try to get in;
- there can be taunting and resentment.

The difference between a camp and a building shelter may not be much, but walls give you the ability to control and knowledge about who is present. The goal is to pull various groups together who are each trying to address this problem. Building sites brought up include: Old Hillcrest site; Kmart building on Mission Street. The proximity to services and transportation are important factors, along with the ability to store their possessions when they need to. People do best in permanent housing with support to repair their lives. Small house communities might also be an option in some circumstances for certain populations. The City's homeless rental program housed 80 people this year. There are another 50 waiting. Neighbors suggested that, instead of looking at a single large facility, it might be better to seek out multiple smaller sites.

#9 Campaign for Excellence

Christopher B. will write the Campaign for Excellence letter describing that our SPIF grant project and that money collected this year will go towards a chess table in the park.

#10 November Meeting

The agenda will include a primer on current recycling items and a presentation by Steve Powers on updates regarding the City's drinking water treatment program. A suggestion was made to include the Grant Neighborhood meeting schedule with the handouts again this year. Sam will check with Parrish Middle School about any handouts they would like delivered for their annual fall food drive. All hands that are available will meet at Grant School on Tuesday October 16th to divide up all of the flyers for delivery in the 18 neighborhood sectors.

#11 Board Member Reports

- None presented

#12 Other Business

Christopher B. made a motion that "***Grant Neighborhood request that a 4-way stop be made at the intersection of Belmont and 5th streets.***" Aaron seconded the motion. Vote was 10 in favor, 0 opposed. It was suggested that next spring we approach the budget City's committee with the request.

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 pm

Respectfully submitted by: Jeanne Boatwright