

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>P</i>	AMANDA OTT	<i>A</i>
JEANNE BOATWRIGHT	<i>P</i>	CHRISTOPHER HACKETT	<i>P</i>	SAM SKILLERN	<i>E</i>
ERIC BRADFIELD	<i>P</i>	LOLA HACKETT	<i>P</i>	AARON TERPENING	<i>A</i>
SADIE CARNEY	<i>P</i>	TINA HANSEN	<i>P</i>	PAUL TIGAN	<i>P</i>
HOWARD COLLINS	<i>P</i>	CYNTHIA KAVANAGH	<i>P</i>		

Others present: Scott Bensink Lewis, Marilyn Bensink, Dayna Collins, Carol DeCoursey, Mark DeCoursey, Cara Kaser, Victoria Binning, Katya Goloviznica, Ray Quisenberry, Kayleen Warner , Toni Franseen and one neighbor.

Paul moved that: ***“We approve the December minutes as submitted.”***

Sadie seconded the motion. Vote was 10 in favor, 0 opposed.

#2 Great Story from Grant Neighborhood

A neighbor was pleased that a mother and two children knocked on their door looking for the owner of a lost puppy – taking time to take care of an animal in need.

#3 Neighborhood Concerns

None brought forth.

#4 Officer Reports

Salem Police reported that there were no major concerns in our area. The home at 1145 Hood Street has undergone a transformation with the tenants moving out and the property back under the control of the owner.

#5 City Councilor: Questions and Answers

Cara missed City Council meetings in December for personal reasons. She was not present for the decision by Council to deny the Costco/PacTrust application to locate on Kuebler Blvd., west of I-5. PacTrust, the property owner, has appealed the decision to the Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA), where 3 judges will decide the issue. From there it can be further appealed to the Court of Appeals and then to the Oregon Supreme Court. The argument centers on whether, or not, the proposal is aligned with the zoning requirements.

The single use plastic bag ban at checkout stands for all retailers in Salem was passed. It will take effect on April 1 for businesses who have 10,000 square feet of retail space, and October 1 for those under that size. There will be a mandatory 5¢ cost per bag for the paper bags to reimburse owners costs. When asked, Cara was not sure why that charge was necessary, since so many already provide paper in lieu of plastic. A neighbor asked if bags, such as dry cleaning covers, are included. The answer is yes, all will have to switch to different materials. Enforcement will be driven by reporting.

The City continues to address homelessness. If you witness someone experiencing a mental health issue or causing problems in the neighborhood, call the non-emergency police number and be sure you say that it is a mental health-related issue. Oftentimes, the police know the individual. Some officers have mental health experience and during the day there is a mental health specialist available and who will be contacted. Usually, individuals interacting with the police in these situations are picked up but are not arrested.

A neighbor reported that a drone was following their neighbor around in the vicinity of Norway and Capitol streets. Another neighbor said that a drone had come up to one of their home’s windows.

A neighbor commented on the Planning Department not responding to Grant Neighborhood's request for adjustments to the neighborhood association contact requirements prior to acceptance by the city of land use applications. Eric and Jeanne met with Lisa Anderson Ogilvie in spring of 2017 and were told that they would be addressing the issue that summer and most likely make the changes. Going on two years later, nothing has happened. After a group discussion, Tina moved that ***“Grant Neighborhood form a sub-committee to explore changes to the City of Salem Land Use Application process regarding interaction with the appropriate Neighborhood Association.”*** Paul seconded the motion. Vote was 11 in favor, 0 opposed. Sadie and Jeanne will be members of the sub-committee.

#6 **Bridge Covenant Church**

Scott Bensink Lewis, co-pastor of ridge Covenant Church was present to discuss the Church's Land Use Application for the Church at 1715 Capitol Street. The NA had raised concerns about the parking situation and the safety of the route from the contracted spaces to the church. The site has only 3 spaces and needs to have 10 or 11 off-site spaces to meet their parking needs. A conditional use approval can allow off-site parking within a prescribed distance of the site. The contracted spaces are in the FACES lot at Summer and Norway. Scott said the Church has been operating at this location of 2 years. He has friendly, non-binding, agreements with surrounding businesses, including Graber Insurance, Nexus Wellness and Michael the Archangel. There are also a number of curbside parking spaces, both north and south of the Church, that are available along Capitol Street on Sundays and which are located along the frontages of these, and other, businesses and offices that are closed during church meeting time. As a resident, himself, of the Grant Neighborhood, Mr. Lewis said he is aware of the problem of parking limitations for residents, and does not want to become that problem for his Church neighbors. He does, and is very willing to continue to, ask his congregants to not park in front of residences. Mr. Lewis proposed posting a temporary informational sign at the north property line on Sunday mornings, which would inform attendees to not park west of the Church property, which is residential. These types of temporary signs have been particularly helpful in controlling parking on the west side of the neighborhood around the Salem Alliance Church. Tim France stated that he is willing to meet with Mr. Lewis and help him set up an effective program such as what he does at Salem Alliance. Mr. Lewis was very receptive to this collaboration. Christopher moved that ***“Now that the Grant Neighborhood Association understands the Conditional Use parameters, we overturn our recommended denial and provide testimony in support while expressing our concerns about traffic in the neighborhood, particularly on Summer Street, and how it might affect the safety of those walking to church services.”*** Motion was seconded by Tina. Vote was 11 in favor, 0 opposed. The Neighborhood will provide a letter to the City tomorrow and Sadie will appear before the Hearings Officer.

#7 **Cherriots Bus Stop Construction**

No one was present to report.

#8 **Grant Park SPIF Grant**

Paul Tigan reported that he was notified that our preliminary application had been approved by Salem Parks Dept. on December 27th. The proposal is to install a chess table which is ADA accessible (3 seats an open side) in the covered area. Final applications are due January 31st. The cost for the table is about \$2700 and about \$1200 to install, for a total project budget of about \$3900. The SPIF Grant can cover 75%, for \$3000, leaving the neighborhood to raise about \$900. The Salem Parks Foundation could be a source for the additional money. Howard moved that ***“We take the next step in the application process.”*** Cynthia seconded the motion. Vote was 10 in favor, 0 opposed.

#9 **Board Member Reports**

CERT-

- Lola reported that the Grant Neighborhood quarterly CERT meeting on January 17th will be at 6:00 pm at the Airport Fire Station. The speaker will be from PGE and speak about power line safety.

Land Use

- Sadie reported that Oregon House of Representatives speaker, Tina Kotek has a proposal before the legislature to eliminate single family zoning in cities with populations over 10,000. Testimony will begin on January 22nd. If this is implemented, she said the adoption of design standards for our neighborhood could be very important.

#10 Other Business

None was brought forth.

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm

Respectfully submitted by: Jeanne Boatwright