

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

Others present: Tracy Schwartz, Richard Johnson, Katherine Mercer, Kevin Lapsley, Marissa Cagle, Gerogiana Ulberg, Rod Ulberg, Rhys Jones, Rachel Butenhoff, Carol DeCoursey, Mark DeCoursey, Helen Vandenberg, Randy Vandenberg, AnnMarie Thompson, Debbie Cook, Dianne Rush, Amanda Scott, Greg Gibson, Kathe Lucht, Nick Beleiciks, Carolin VanOrden, Cara Kaser, Marie Emerson, Lisa LaManna, Darrin Brightman, Brady Ricks, Officer Jeffery Lucenti, Doris Rynerson and one minor.

Christopher moved that: ***“We approve the August minutes as submitted.”***  
 Tina seconded the motion. Vote was 8 in favor, 0 opposed.

**#2 Great Story from Grant Neighborhood**

Mark reported the occurrence of a middle-of-the-night hit-and-run crash into a parked car on Fairgrounds Road a couple of weeks ago. All the neighbors came out and one had seen the driven vehicle pause before driving away and was able to provide a description to the 911 operator. The red pickup truck went north and got into the re-route back to Summer Street. It then proceeded east on Market Street where an officer pulled it over and arrested the driver, who was intoxicated. A good result to a bad situation thanks to the help of neighbors.

Christopher reported his children and their friends were having a water balloon fight when a police cruiser pulled up. They were afraid they were in trouble, but the officers joined in and even let the kids pelt them with balloons.

Salem Alliance Church is hosting a Block Party for the whole neighborhood on Saturday the 7<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-8:00 and again on Sunday morning from 9:30-1:30 in the Broadway Plaza at Broadway and Gaines. A bounce house, root beer and hotdogs, and more will be provided for free.

**#3 Neighborhood Concerns**

A neighbor asked if the upper room at the Broadway Commons was repaired yet. Apparently the AC is not working and it has not yet been fixed.

Neighbors in the Church Street area expressed concern about the number of transients who have taken to sleeping on the parking strip between the sidewalk and the curb. Officer Lucenti said that, at this time, the police have no recourse for the situation. The neighbors asked about those who actually come into their yard. Lucenti asked if they had the perimeter posted with No Trespassing signs. If strangers are on private property, they can be asked to leave. If they refuse owners can call the non-emergency police number. The owner will be asked “Are you willing to identify as a victim of the trespass and are you willing to prosecute a charge of trespass?” If the answer is yes, the police can remove them. If you are not willing to claim you are a victim, there is nothing they can do. If the perpetrator is a danger to another or themselves, you can call 911. The neighbors also asked about people with metal detectors who dig holes in the parking strip. Can they be stopped? Not in the public right-of-way, though they should replace the divots they create. Discussion went on to question why the city and state can remove transients from under the bridge approaches, but not from city streets. The bridge situation was an accumulated problem, not just an individual.

A neighbor reported that the school flashers were not operating this week on Capitol Street at Parrish Middle School, even though the students were existing school for the afternoon. Sam suggested that she contact the principal at Parrish and he will check in with the City to make sure they are operational. Neighbors reported speeding issues on Summer Street. Sam suggested setting up a work group to consult with Kevin Hottmann, PE, at the City for any possible solutions. Officer Lucenti suggested calling the Police traffic team for a speed sign and to discuss focused patrol and enforcement. Wayne Vandenberg and Cynthia Kavanagh agreed to be a subcommittee and pursue remedial options. A Winter Street neighbor reported attending the City Council meeting where the parking removal on Winter Street to provide ADA access at Cherriot Transit bus stops was discussed and tabled. She understood that the City, Cherriots and the Grant Neighborhood Association were to meet and try to reach a solution. Paul said he would reach out to Kevin Hottman to see how that meeting is being handled.

#### **#4 Officer Reports**

Salem Police Officer Jeffery Lucenti was present. Most of his help was offered in item 3, above. A neighbor asked what can be done about a loud truck that roars east on Market Street every morning at 4:30 am. Officer Lucenti said that there is not much they can do as they cannot just sit in one spot waiting for something to happen, especially at that time of day when the contingent of officers on duty is spread thin. Sam commented that, in the past, officers have volunteered to sit and do their paperwork in a location that needs watching so that they are present, but not non-productive.

#### **#5 City Councilor: Questions and Answers**

Cara reported:

- The Sidewalk Behavior Ordinance will be going to City Council, but there is no date set at this time. The proposal would ban sitting, laying or camping within the street right-of-way between the hours of 7:00 am and 9:00 pm. No structures, such as boxes, tents, tarps, etc. would be allowed at any time. City documents do not contain any ordinances dealing with camping except in City parks. The 9:00 pm to 7:00 am period would allow lying, but not camping. There is an exclusion clause, ranging from 30 to 90 days for repeated violations in certain areas. The goal is to balance between letting folks sleep (based on a 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit ruling) but not allowing folks to “live” on streets and sidewalks. No defecation, urination, or garbage is allowed. The City needs a mechanism to deal with the situation. There was an information forum at the Union Gospel Mission on Sept. 4<sup>th</sup> that presented the proposal at a location where the homeless can learn about it. The next one will be in Loucks Auditorium at the Library on Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> from Noon to 1:30. Cara says she has heard a lot from the extreme ends of the opinion spectrum; from “kick them out of town” to “you poor thing”. What she wants is the middle group that has constructive ideas. Cara is supportive of the ordinance. A few of the un-housed have the worst behavior, but most are not abusive.
- The City is still looking at ways to raise much needed revenue. One of the options is a payroll tax. It will go before Council on September 23<sup>rd</sup> with a proposal to put it on the ballot for voters to decide. The second option is an operating fee that would be added to utility bills. That has been tabled for now and will be reconsidered at the same September 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting. If approved, the fee would run about \$38/month for commercial accounts, \$8/month for single family homes, and \$6/month for multifamily units.

#### **#6 North Mall Historic Park**

Darrin Brightman, from the Oregon Department of Administrative Services (DAS), stated that they are having a difficult time keeping the homes on the North Mall Historic Park occupied. The first year they were available, they were full, but have not been since. He said there are three issues: houses, uses, and parking. The former houses are small and have, pretty much, the same layout that they had when they were homes which are hard to adapt to offices. The uses for structures in the Capitol Mall zone are limited to office, daycare and restaurant. No retail is allowed.. The area between the houses has 24

parking spaces; 6 are ADA and 18 are conventional. Darrin was asked if they could be changed back to residences. He replied that DAS is not set up to manage residential property. Additionally, the Legislature would have to remove them from the Capitol Mall in order to allow that use. They are able to lease to private businesses or non-profits. When asked, he said that small boards and commissions, such as were in the structures prior to them being moved, cannot be forced to use these spaces. DAS is open to any ideas or suggestions on how to make use of the structures. If we want, he can provide a Survey Monkey survey on the Grant Neighborhood website.

#### **#7 Capitol Street Improvement Ideas**

Virginia was unable to attend and will be with us next month.

#### **#8 Nebraska Street Neighbors - 1175 Nebraska Proposed Development - DR-SPR-ADJ-DAP 19-06**

Amanda Scott spoke for the neighbors who have appealed the Planning Commission's approval of this development, many of whom were in attendance. They had attended the September 23<sup>rd</sup> Planning Commission meeting. They are requesting that the development be limited to 2 units and that it mirror the duplex development that the Salem Housing Authority constructed on the lot immediately to the east. 35 neighbors signed a petition in support of the appeal. The adjoining neighbors are concerned about the increased use of the alley and are opposed to improving the alley with a hard surface. Much of the comments and discussion were not able to be captured when many people were speaking at the same time. Amanda said that, during construction, the developer was willing to not block the alley or damage underground utilities in the alley by using large construction equipment. Aaron moved that ***"After hearing neighbor concerns, Grant Neighborhood Association wishes to amend the record and provide a revised letter to the City requesting that the developer comply with the parking requirements in the SRC."*** During discussion and prior to the vote, Amanda was asked if they are aware that meeting the parking requirements for a duplex can still mean that there will be four parking spaces off of the alley. She said that she knew that. Vote was 7 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention (Jeanne).

#### **#9 Land Use Updates**

Salem is working on revisions to its Comprehensive Plan, under a program called Our Salem. Paul provided a handout detailing the Dates, times and locations for various workshops.

#### **#10 Land Use Planning Notifications**

In light of the communication problems experienced with the Nebraska Street land use application, Jeanne has composed a letter to Salem Planning Division requesting that the pertinent Neighborhood Association, its chair and land use chair, and their contact information, be added to all required land use notification letters from the City to surrounding property owners. Paul read the letter out loud. Paul moved that ***"Grant Neighborhood submit the letter to Lisa Anderson-Ogilvie at the City Planning Department."*** Aaron seconded the motion. Vote was 8 in favor, 0 opposed.

#### **#11 Chess Table- Update**

Paul reported that the chess table was installed this week. It did not get any Grant Neighborhood Association identification added as had been proposed.

#### **#12 November Meeting Topics**

Sadie was not in attendance. With her impending arrival of twins this fall, she has stepped down from the land use chair position. Paul volunteered to be our land use chair.

#### **#12 Chess Table Update**

Paul suggested inviting Eunice Kim from the Planning Department to come and speak about the process to update the Comprehensive Plan. Tina suggested reporting on the temporary move of the Library during the construction scheduled for the main branch building.

**#13 Campaign for Excellence**

Sam is going to check with the principal at Grant School to see if there is a project we can identify for support.

**#14 Other Business**

- Neighborhood Plan to meet Alley Improvement Goal – Paul and Sam agreed to begin the formation of a subcommittee. Meeting with the city public works department may be a good first task to get a feel for what regulations we need to be aware of.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm

Respectfully submitted by: Jeanne Boatwright