

AGENDA ITEM

#1 Introductions

BOARD MEMBERS:	PRESENT - <i>P</i>	ABSENT - <i>A</i>	EXCUSED - <i>E</i>		
JEANNE BOATWRIGHT	<i>P</i>	LOLA HACKETT	<i>P</i>	AARON TERPENING	<i>P</i>
SADIE CARNEY	<i>A</i>	TINA HANSEN	<i>P</i>	PAUL TIGAN	<i>P</i>
MARK DECOURSEY	<i>P</i>	CYNTHIA KAVANAGH	<i>P</i>		
TIM FRANCE	<i>P</i>	RAY QUISENBERRY	<i>P</i>		
CHRISTOPHER HACKETT	<i>P</i>	SAM SKILLERN	<i>P</i>		

Others present: Susan Napack, Elliott Lapinel, Marissa Theve, Scott Munford, Jeff Petrillo, Megan Stevens, Virginia Stapleton, Lt. Jason VanMeter, Carol DeCoursey, and Nick Beleicks.

#2 Great Story from Grant

- Tim reported that Salem Alliance Church gave away 190 Thanksgiving baskets to families in the Grant and Highland neighborhoods.
- Paul commented on the Sackcloth and Ashes Store on Broadway. It has been dark but is now lit up and looks very interesting. Tim said they love to have visitors drop in.
- Sam said that the barbershop on Fairgrounds Road, between Shipping and Cottage streets, is operated by Tanner Hamilton, who grew up in the neighborhood.
- Susan said she had a young man ask her if he could take a photo of her house for an Art History project.
- Marissa & Elliott reported that they had contacted Cherriots about getting a wastebasket at a bus stop in the neighborhood. They emailed in the stop number and it appeared about 2 weeks later.

#3 Councilor Update

Lt. Jason VanMeter, SPD, was present. He reported that the new Police Chief will be sworn in next week. Trevor Womack is from Stockton, California. The new police facility is occupied. They are hoping to eventually be able to give tours to the public. It feels like going from a tent to a mansion, when compared to their old cramped quarters at City Hall that they have outgrown. Motorcycle officers will soon be addressing speeding problems in residential neighborhoods. They will make it a priority to work with Neighborhood Associations on trouble spots.

Neighbors asked what can be done about cars that have very loud tailpipe noise and also those that are racing. VanMeter said that citations can be made when the violations are observed by officers.

#4 Neighbor Concerns

A neighbor complained about cars that are waiting at the traffic lights at Market and Summer streets who have their stereos turned up so loud that their house thumps. Lt. VanMeter replied that if the license plate can be observed, the police may be able to find the owner and have a talk with them. Another neighbor asked the Lt. if recordings or video tapes are useful. Yes, especially when a major crime is committed and there are no identified suspects. He reminded us that residents can register their security cameras with the City so that the police know where they are and can approach the owners about obtaining any recordings from the pertinent time window if there has been a crime in the area. Paul commented on the tragedy of Selma Peirce’s recent death after being hit by a car while out walking.

#5 Councilor-Elect Update

Virginia reported that:

- The City Manager has said that the gas tax shortfall will be \$450,000/year for the next 5 years.

- The City is moving \$1 million to the safe crossings program. She wants to work towards more speed reading radar signs that flash when a car exceeds the posted speed and also on more flashing pedestrian crossing installations.
- She is working with Peter Fernandez to replace the signs on Market Street at Grant School. The pedestrian signs are not enough.
- Curbside pickup at the Library has been stopped due to Covid virus concerns. They are pushing to re-open the Library as soon as possible.
- There has been a lack of volunteers at the warming shelters due to Covid fears, especially since so many of the volunteers have, historically, been older individuals and in a higher risk category. Additionally, and for the same Covid reason, more shelters have been proposed so that the houseless can be safely distanced. That only raises the need for more volunteers. Anyone can go to the City's website to learn how to volunteer.
- The City Manger has worked to acquire grants that can be used to get motel/hotel rooms that can serve as overnight warm shelters.
- The International Violence Against Women observance runs through December 10th. Violence in March of 2020 was up 83% from the level seen in March of 2019. The isolation caused by Covid has increased the incidents. There is a question of whether, or not, women's shelter workers are deemed essential workers.
- A neighbor asked what is to become of the now-empty police offices at City Hall. She said they are being freshened up and upgraded but doesn't currently know what will go in that space.
- Paul commented that the City Budget Committee has been discussing moving departments, that are currently leasing spaces elsewhere, back to City Hall and to this space.

#6 Land Use Updates

Paul has been looking at permits and applications by neighborhood and nothing is happening right now in the neighborhood. On November 23rd an appeal was heard before City Council for 905-925 Cottage Street. It was approved pretty much as proposed by the application for RH (residential high-rise). The only change was that the requested height of 50 feet was reduced to 35 feet. The 3-hour public hearing went all different directions. He was not pleased with the way the neighborhood association was portrayed by staff, but also doesn't believe in yelling at the referees. Unplanned increases in density causes an outsized affect on a neighborhood. There are real infrastructure problems in this area, but a single development will not trigger the necessary changes and improvements. For instance, because the DevNW project does not increase traffic by 400 trips per day, no sidewalk improvements or crosswalk markings can be mandated. If the City wants more density, they need more tools in the tool box to address the impacts. If no parking lot is required in order to promote more walkers and bike and bus riders, then investments need to be made in those structures that support those alternate modes of transportation. The City, right now, has 50 pedestrian crossings on their list that neighborhoods and citizens have requested to be improved. They only have enough money to finance 3 projects per year. Aaron added that Our Salem needs our input to guide development and density. We need to stay engaged through the next several months as the program is developed and adopted.

#7 Board Member Reports

- Social Media - Aaron said he has been meeting with Susan and Marissa about updating and keeping active on the GNA website and other social media sites. Aaron reported that the website hosting is still in limbo, but it is being worked on.
- LOGO - Susan has worked on a new logo for the NA. Jeanne described the look and history of the old, and very dated, logo from the 1970's and said that, though the City of Salem continues to use it, we have not used it officially for about 8 years. A simple letter head with an Arts and Crafts font and motif in dark olive, burgundy and dusty purple has been used since it was adopted by the Board in 2012. Susan presented her draft proposal. It retains the Arts and Crafts font and uses the dark olive green for the lettering with a lighter, more muted version of the green for a simple, stylized,

front view of a classic Arts and Craft bungalow house. She said she can experiment with incorporating other colors or details if the neighborhood would like her to. Discussion included adding trees or more details on the house. Overall it received lots of appreciative comments that it captures the historical architecture predominant throughout the neighborhood. Paul moved that ***“We accept Susan’s work on the new logo.”*** Tina seconded the motion. Vote was 8 in favor, 0 opposed.

- CERT – Lola reported that another set of classes was completed late this fall. The next class will begin January 26th. It will be online and consist of 5 classes, each 2-2½ hours in length. They are getting pretty organized with the online program and have lots of videos which make these remote classes a little easier.

#8 Other Business

None

Meeting adjourned at 7:49 pm

Respectfully submitted by: Jeanne Boatwright