#### Minutes of **GRANT NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

General Meeting March 4, 2021 6:15 pm online via: Zoom video conference

#### **AGENDA ITEM**

### **#1** Introductions

BOARD MEMBERS: PRESENT – $P$ ABSENT – $A$ EXCUSED - $E$					
JEANNE BOATWRIGHT	P	LOLA HACKETT	P	AARON TERPENING	P
SADIE CARNEY	$\boldsymbol{A}$	TINA HANSEN	P	PAUL TIGAN	P
MARK DECOURSEY	P	CYNTHIA KAVANAGH	P		
TIM FRANCE	$\boldsymbol{A}$	RAY QUISENBERRY	P		
CHRISTOPHER HACKETT	P	SAM SKILLERN	P		

Others present: Scott Munford, Susan Napack, Megan Stevens, Carolin VanOrdin, Elliott Lapinel, Lt. Jason VanMeter, Virginia Stapleton, Nick Maselli, Carol DeCoursey, Anne C., Nyah Kiley, and Marissa Theve.

Lola moved that "We approve the February minutes with one correction." Tina seconded the motion. Agenda Item #4

CORRECT: Jason VanMeter, SPD, reported that a couple of arrests have been made in the killings that occurred recently **I** the Hoover School area

TO READ: Jason VanMeter, SPD, reported that a couple of arrests have been made in the killings that occurred recently **in** the Hoover School area

Vote was 9 in favor, 0 opposed.

### **#2** Great Story from Grant

- Tina expressed thanks to the electrical workers for all the work they did following the ice storm last month, including, PGE, Salem electric and out-of-state crews.
- Sam added that several neighbors on his block worked on cleaning up a lot of downed limbs.
- Aaron reported that a neighbor on 5<sup>th</sup> Street had a generator that he shared door-to-door with about 10 houses to activate sump pumps to empty water from folks' basements.
- Cynthia said that Salem Woodcutters took some of the largest limbs that came down in her yard and will donate them as firewood to those who are in need of it.

### **#3** Neighbor Concerns

- Nick raised again the annoyance of cars with souped up exhaust systems that are so loud and annoying – especially in residential neighborhoods. Jason VanMeter said that unreasonable noise levels from vehicles are violations. They have constant levels that are applicable 24/7 and apply to horns, radios, and mufflers. The level definition is "unreasonable" (no decibel measurement) at a specific distance. Events have a code section and require permits. Some of the loud mufflers need repair and some are deliberate. Mark moved that "GNA send a letter to the City requesting enforcement of the noise ordinance and that we enlist support from the other inner city neighborhoods." Cynthia seconded the motion. In discussion Nick suggested that contact be made with our legislative representatives requesting legislation that would prohibit modifying exhaust systems to make them loud. Vote was 9 in favor, 1 opposed.

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

Jason VanMeter, SPD, reported that he spoke with some City Detectives about property crime and how the community can be less vulnerable. They recommended that we each keep the serial number and documentation, such as a photo, for every individual piece of expensive electronic equipment that you own. Pawn shops are required to post through an online system, every item they receive. Even if it takes 5 years to show up, it your information provides them with the ability to make an arrest. Jason said that the public works crews are the true heroes with the storm cleanup.

A neighbor asked how he likes the new Police office. He said it is nice and invited anyone who would like a tour to contact him at 503.932.1474 or jvanmeter@cityofsalem,net, once the COVID restrictions are lifted a bit more.

## **#5** Councilor-Elect Update

Virginia reported that:

- Storm Update:
  - Many have learned that they need to be better prepared and to start the work while it is still fresh in mind;
  - Everyone should be set up to receive City Alerts. This can be found at the City's website;
  - Take CERT classes to help you get prepared;
  - Debris pickup will continue through Mar 7<sup>th</sup> at all of the sites provided. Geer Park will continue through Mar 14<sup>th</sup>;
  - 16,000 trucks (about 24,000 cubic yards) of debris have been removed;
  - The City will be working through the neighborhoods cleaning up street trees and will then move on to the work in City Parks;
  - Volunteers can contact Tibby Larson to sign-up to help.
- The City has declared the city a "City of Forests" under a worldwide program relative to the management and conservation of trees. Virginia has proposed that trees be planted along the 12<sup>th</sup> Street promenade that lies just east of the railroad tracks.
- The COVID level in Marion County is still deemed Extreme to High. Be sure to keep up with the mask, 6' distancing and get your shots as soon as you are eligible. Salem firefighters and paramedics are assisting with the vaccine program at the fairgrounds.
- The kids are back at Parrish and that is a positive sign.
- Folks in need can request financial assistance with their water bills.
- Brady Rogers will be retiring April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- March is Women's History Month find ways to show and celebrate. The City will issue a proclamation on March 8<sup>th</sup>.

## **#6** Online Communication Update

Aaron has been working with Susan and Melissa on gathering information and brainstorming about updating our web presence and social networking. The goal is to be as transparent as possible when making decisions. They have developed a draft Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) concerning what the neighborhood association can, and should, post. They have developed a list of "do's and don'ts" and some ideas. Aaron presented a list on screen of their collective items. (*The draft report is attached.*) Comments included:

- Improving our communication presents an opportunity to double down on the things we do well, i.e. City communications;
- Limiting content to non-controversial ideas;
- Don't take the work of the NA to chat boxes come to the meetings to discuss concerns openly;
- The goal is to get the word out and move neighbors to participate in the NA meetings;
- The list of ideas for discussion includes good ideas and presents some guidance, though they might be too detailed or specific to be included in an SOP.
- State that items for general discussion include, but are not limited to, community and neighborhood events and activities.

Lola moved that "We accept the draft from the sub-committee to develop a social media Standard Operating Procedure." Paul seconded the motion. Vote was 10 in favor, 0 opposed.

Aaron then discussed appointing Susan as the NA communication manager. She is skilled and organized and can keep things moving forward. She can get the NA website back up and reach out to get more information. Her background and skills include: graphic designer, marketing director,

Facebook page designer, and website designer. Tina moved that "We appoint Susan Napack as our communications manager." Lola seconded the motion. Vote was 10 in favor, 0 opposed.

#### #7 1516 Commercial Street - SPR-ADJ-DAP 21-04

Nyah Kiley was present to discuss his proposal and answer questions. He bought the property 2 years ago. It had been vacant for a few years and had suffered some vandalism. The shop in back was a woodworking shop and needs painting. The 1910 house faces Commercial Street. He will be painting the house but will retain the original elements. The wood siding is in good shape as are the wood floors. He wants to level the foundation and replace the waterlines. The property is zoned CG – Commercial General. It has 8 parking spaces. He will upgrade the landscaping to comply with City development requirements. The house will be used for services. He has had some inquires for space for a salon and massage service. The larger building in the back could be office space or small retail. The adjustment is to reduce the required parking from 9 spaces to 5 spaces and to allow some reduction of the landscape requirements where they cannot be met. There will be no change to the yard along Commercial Street. The parking restrictions prevent the property from being used, and therefore maintained. The gravel drive that abuts the east side of the property is not in a public right-of-way or easement, even though it has been there for 70+ years. The other property owners on the block do not agree on the idea of creating an mutual access easement. Without legal access the three parking spaces on that side of the property cannot be deemed acceptable for meeting the City's onsite parking requirements. He believes that an office would probably have lower parking demands than retail and a salon would operate with appointments so the demand would be somewhat controlled. Retail would have more volume but would likely be more in-and-out traffic. All of the properties on the block are zoned CG, even though some are used solely for residences. No motion was made to support or oppose the land use proposal. Paul will provide confirmation of our discussion to the Planning Dept.

## **#8** Salem 5-Yr Capital Improvement Plan

Presenter, Tammi Starrs, was not in attendance. She will be invited to come to our April meeting.

## **49** Our Salem - Comprehensive Plan Update

Paul reported on this program which produces the document that influences land use across the City and showed a map of the proposals. Ideas for changes are initially shown as blobs on a map. There are no property-by-property changes indicated, yet, but it has progressed to a map with "Big Ideas" shown. Allowed uses affect livability, equity, sustainability, tree canopy, green space, parking, landscape, impervious area, etc. This 1<sup>st</sup> step juncture will be accepted on March 8<sup>th</sup> and the plan finalized in October or November, though it may draw on into 2022. One of the changes is commercial zones which will include mixed-use to allow restaurants, offices, and retail to create walkable neighborhoods. Neighborhood hubs are proposed. None of are in Grant but they are in the more outlying areas that are farther from the downtown area. R-4 is an expansion of the in-home business allowance. Areas along 5<sup>th</sup> Street and in the Larmar area across Broadway are included. Paul encouraged all to check out the map that is available online.

### #10 State Fair Pavilion Temporary Shelter

Sam brought news about how this refuge is operating. It is scheduled to terminate at the end of March when the State expects to start preparing for booking in this space. There are some concerns with adjacent neighborhoods mostly with the coming and going, and not so much with having the folks there. DJ Vincent, the manager of Church @ the Park, and ARCHES are providing the supervision and coordination. They host 120 folks. It is clean and safe managed camping for a mix of single women, women with children, single men, and couples. They do provide some mental health guidance. Hotels have been viable during the pandemic, while travel numbers are way down. The cold season that sparks additional shelter needs is also probably coming to an end here soon. Options for providing protection for this population an inclined set of solutions that includes: emergency overnight spaces when it is

really cold; small homes or pallet houses (moveable) as an interim solution; managed short-term camping; transitional (6-8 mo) housing; and, permanent housing. Under the Homeless Recovery Assistance Plan (HARP) there are 200 units available. The idea is to provide housing first and not wait until these peoples' live are perfect to get them into a home. Once housed, they can then work towards mental health and sobriety. Eugene has 800 of these types of units.

## **#11 Board Member Reports**

- CERT Lola reported that the last CERT class had just finished and Aaron and Susan were two of our neighbors who completed the program. The next class will begin on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. There is a Disaster Sanitation presentation on line that should be of interest to all not just CERT members. It has been estimated that Salem may have no sewer or water service for 1 year when the Cascadia Subduction Earthquake occurs.
  - The Grant-Highland CERT group had a post-ice storm Zoom meeting. One of the main takeaways was that it is not so easy to check on neighbors when there a lot to do at your own home and you have to brave downed, or hanging, branches and power lines.
- Land Use Updates See Item #9, above.
- North Neighborhoods CPT Sam invited all to the Zoom meeting of the Community Progress Team held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 11:30 a.m..

#### **#9** Other Business

None brought forth.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm Respectfully submitted by: Jeanne Boatwright

# Grant Neighborhood Association Social Media and Web Communications

# **DRAFT** Standard Operating Procedure

The Grant Neighborhood Association has a standing list of goals. Goal number 10 is "Increase participation in the Neighborhood Association". We think one of the best ways to do this is to better engage with a larger group via social media and other web-based platforms including our website and potentially other such as Next Door. This SOP will provide direction on what type of information to post and when approval from the board or board appointed committee is required. This list may

be amended to include specific types of items that may be posted without any formal approvals.

## **Standard Operating Procedure:**

- 1. Posts must be done by a board member or board appointed individual
- 2. Posts other than those listed below require approval
- 3. No political or position posts
- 4. No copywritten material
- 5. No personal information
- 6. Post Monthly Meeting Agenda
- 7. Re-post City Communications when appropriate

## **Ideas for posting include:**

- · Conversation starters- things that unite us:
  - Gardening ideas
  - Pets
  - Cooking
  - Take out
  - Kids/ school
  - Pest treatments (ants, etc.)
  - Neighborhood photography competition
- Events: seedling swap, clothes swap, meet your neighbor block party, Earth Day clean ups, (whatever events Grant NA normally does)
- Reposting City of Salem and Salem PD posts (leaf haul, crime reports, snow removal, city tree responsibilities,...)
- · County Report-a-Concern website
- Little Free Library map
- Information about our allevs
- · Historic places to visit
- · Invite your neighbors to like our page
- · Check out our new website
- Grant Business of the month
- Yard tools library

Tips on greening up your space: compost food and spread on soil, mulch or perennials instead of lawn, drip irrigation if you must irrigate, grown your own food, increase pervious area (remove concrete, install pervious pavement, mulch, vegetative cover), replace gravel driveways with pervious pavement or asphalt, or cement, pet waste stations in high-traffic dog walk spots, keep cats indoors, replace leaky windows and doors, LED light bulbs, high-efficiency dryer and other appliances, add insulation, light pollution reduction (motion sensors, timers, direct light down, only light where needed), no dumping in sewer drains, rake instead of leaf-blow,...