

**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>A</i>	RAY QUISENBERRY	<i>A</i>		
CHRISTOPHER HACKETT	<i>P</i>	SAM SKILLERN	<i>P</i>		

Others present: Tammi Starrs, Susan Napack, Megan Stevens, Carolin VanOrdin, Elliott Lapinel, Dan Clem, Jill Holmstein, Jean Palmateer, Anne Colao, Alena Harvey, Carol DeCoursey, and Virginia Stapleton,

Lola moved that ***“We approve the March minutes.”*** Tina seconded the motion. Vote was 7 in favor, 0 opposed.

**#2 Great Story from Grant**

- Sam reported that the North Salem High School football team beat rival South Salem High School in the Mayor’s Cup.
- The Grant Facebook page is now live.

**#3 Neighbor Concerns**

- Columbus Hall at Cottage & Shipping streets, needs to cut their grass.
- A neighbor reported an abandoned car in the 1000 Block of Summer Street.
- Sam commented on the coming Pallet House establishment at Fairgrounds and Silverton roads and asked folks to contact him or D.J. Vincent if any concerns arise.

**#4 Officer Reports**

No officer was in attendance.

**#5 Councilor-Elect Update**

Virginia reported that:

- The American Rescue Plan (ARP) will bring about \$32 million to Salem over the next 2 years and it has to be spent by 2024. It can be used for one-time purchases or items that do not need ongoing financial support.
- In March, the city issued 61 permits for the construction of single and duplex housing.
- A cleanup at Wallace Marine Park was organized after a DEQ complaint that there was trash too close to the Ordinary High-Water mark.
- “Speed on Green” cameras have been installed at Center & Hawthorne, Commercial & Kubler, and Commercial & Madrona intersections. Photos will be taken of vehicles going too fast through these intersections.
- Virginia and her family have been tending the aquaponics garden at Parrish Middle School and have had a lot of the new plant starts eaten by rodents. She would welcome anyone’s suggestions on how to deal with this.

**#6 Salem 5-yr Capital Improvement Plan**

Tammi Starrs brought information about the Salem Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). She is a long-time employee of the Public Works Dept. and has worked for 16 years on the Capital Construction budgets for that department. For the last three years she has worked on the CIP. This plan is developed with

input from the public which is then reviewed, scored, and prioritized. The top scoring projects receive a budget setup and are submitted for inclusion in the final plan. Last year, the plan included 147 projects with a budget totaling \$261.8 million. Some of these involved reimbursements for portions of private projects that were required to upsize items, such as pipelines, to accommodate future development beyond the subject property. The budget addresses city services: water, sewer, transportation, parks, facilities, and urban development. At the City's Budget & Finance website, there is a form that citizens can fill out to provide information about issues and ideas. Alternately, one can call Tammi with this same information. A neighbor asked what role the \$32 million from the American Rescue Plan will play in the City's budgets for the next few years. Tammi said it may go to shovel-ready projects. Any City expenditure over \$50,000 has to be included in the CIP. There is a map available online that shows the locations of CIP projects. Virginia suggested using some of the ARP funds for sidewalk repairs and for purchasing shelters for the homeless, recognizing that the maintenance and operation of the shelters would need to come from another source. The Safe Crossings program was also brought up as a potential ARP funded project, as there have been so many areas of concern for pedestrians already identified. Tammi said that the City has received State and Federal money for some of those crossing improvements.

### **#7 UGM Men's Shelter Construction**

Dan Clem, Director, and Alena Harvey, Public Relations and Marketing Leader at Union Gospel Mission were in attendance to share information about the progress of the construction at their new UGM facility on North Commercial Street. Dan reported that this Easter marked the return of the volunteer force. The new facility will double the capacity from 150 to 300 and expands their recovery program. They enlist employers and landlords to help the program's graduates with jobs and housing. The 57,000 SF structure will open June 18<sup>th</sup>. The first floor includes a hospitality area and dining room. The second floor has an area that will accommodate a maximum of 220 beds. The third floor includes the Life Fellowship and Recovery Program and will house up to 78 men. The facility has elevators, whereas the old structure had 78 steps, which was difficult, or impossible, for some to climb. The new environment was designed to provide respect and dignity for those it serves. It has been built with grants and private donations, along with a small City of Salem grant. The expected building lifespan is 50-100 years.

Alena shared renderings of the exterior facades. There will be a guest entrance in the Hope Courtyard which is away from the street. A bathroom is provided that will be accessible 24-hours a day. There is a day room and a health room on the main floor. Mental and behavioral health services will be available and provided by volunteer professionals. They will continue to invite more professional health providers to participate, particularly those who are retired. Other services include recovery programs, trauma care, a learning center, and a GED testing center. They are hosting a Walk for Hope charity event on July 17<sup>th</sup>. Neighbors asked about safe pedestrian access to the site. Dan replied that they were unable to get a direct crossing to the east side of Commercial Street. It can be done by using three crosswalks to the south. It's a safe alternative - but it is a process. Neighbors asked about the fate of their existing building farther south on Commercial. Dan said the block was sold to the City of Salem following 6 years of environmental clean-up by the owner. Sam said he had toured the new structure and was impressed with all the windows and light, and, that it is bigger on the inside than it appears from the outside. Tours are available on Fridays from 2:30 to 3:30 (no open-toed shoes allowed in the construction zone). Call 503.967.6388, or see a video of the construction at [ugmsalem.org/buildingprogress/](http://ugmsalem.org/buildingprogress/)

### **#8 Salem-Keizer Grant School Cottage St. Plans**

Sam spoke about the new plans that arrived and Paul put the image onscreen. Jeanne presented her review comments on the plans:

- Concern about the two Sunburst Honey Locust trees shown against the gym wall and about 5-6 feet away. These trees are 30-70 feet tall at maturity with a drip line at maturity of 25-30 feet.

- There is an “existing tree, to remain” shown at the southwest corner of the gym which is a shrub.
- There is a third honey locust on the south side of the entrance walk. What is missing is the large tree that the NA requested on the north side of the walk between the sidewalk and the building. This is an area that does not have any overhead utility wires, so it is an ideal spot for a specimen/statement tree.
- The rhododendron bush that the District said would be removed from the area adjacent to the school entrance because it interferes with sight lines and security, is not shown as being removed.
- The landscaping between the south side of the entrance walkway and the building is all tufted hairgrass and sword ferns. This seems like it will be a bland and messy bed if it is not maintained and will probably collect litter and debris. Could Brenda Knoblach help us come up with a brighter alternative that is easier to maintain?
- It is odd that the shed roof on the expanded walk canopy is tilted with the high side on the south instead of the north. It would seem to offer less, sun or rain, cover in this configuration.
- The brick walls along the entrance walk are nice, but will they be treated to resist graffiti?

### **#9 NEN-Grant Clean-up May 1<sup>st</sup>**

Our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual clean-up with NEN will be on Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup> from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at the First Nazarene Church on Market Street. It is in the parking lot east of 16<sup>th</sup> Street. Cascade Tire, Cherry City Metals and The NW Hub all participate and help us dispose of or recycle the items that are brought. Volunteers are needed to help pick up items from residents who are unable to transport their items and to staff the site. Donations are requested at: \$5 per car, \$10 per truck and \$15+ for trailers. Setup begins around 7:00 am. Covid prevention procedures (distancing and face masks) will be enforced. Volunteers can email Sam to schedule your window.

### **#10 Parking**

Elliott Lapinel shared a power point presentation addressing parking minimums. He stated that calculated parking minimums are inaccurate, expensive, inequitable and going away. He suggested that the NA delve into this more and possibly explore charging those outside the neighborhood to pay market price to park while keeping the residential permit system.

### **#11 Board Member Reports**

- CERT – Lola asked us to consider what our situation will be immediately following the Cascadia Subduction Earthquake. Water and sewer services will likely be non-existent for up to a year. Greg Walsh will be giving an online presentation on how to be prepared for this on April 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 pm at the Grant-Highland CERT meeting.
- Land Use Updates – No items to report.

### **#9 Other Business**

None brought forth.

Meeting adjourned at 8:06 pm

Respectfully submitted by: Jeanne Boatwright