

AGENDA ITEM

#1 Introductions

BOARD MEMBERS:	PRESENT - <i>P</i>	ABSENT - <i>A</i>	EXCUSED - <i>E</i>		
JEANNE BOATWRIGHT	<i>P</i>	TINA HANSEN	<i>P</i>	SAM SKILLERN	<i>E</i>
MARK DECOURSEY	<i>P</i>	CYNTHIA KAVANAGH	<i>P</i>	AARON TERPENING	<i>P</i>
TIM FRANCE	<i>P</i>	ELLIOTT LAPINEL	<i>P</i>	PAUL TIGAN	<i>P</i>
CHRISTOPHER HACKETT	<i>P</i>	NICK MASELLI	<i>P</i>		
LOLA HACKETT	<i>P</i>	SUSAN NAPACK	<i>P</i>		

Others present: Randy Vogel, Carolin VanOrdin, Teresa Joslin, Scott Munford, Virginia Stapleton, Christie Wolfe, Marissa Theve, Dustin Purnell, Anne C., Matthew Gill, and Derek Metsen..

Minutes were not prepared.

#2 Great Story from Grant

- The Seed of Faith Church at Market and Winter held a Covid-19 vaccination party.
- A neighbor ran into Shannon, the proprietor at the Barrel & Keg. She is anxious to get back to normal and would be interested in participating in the National Night Out block party in August. She is also looking forward to bringing back the Walk on Broadway event. Maybe this year the National Night Out could be a “progressive” block party around the neighborhood.

#3 Neighbor Concerns

- A neighbor reported an incident of porch piracy last evening. An Amazon package was stolen before they even got the Amazon text that it had been delivered. This was a first for them.
- Tina requested that a way be found to train apartment dwellers and landlords how to develop an emergency plan. Lola said CERT is trying to organize information and training sessions for just this group. Mark suggested that it should be mandatory for any apartment complex with more than 10 units to have a backup generator for the whole building. Nick commented on the push to create more compact housing and the need to address the safety factors that will arise. Members of the legislature should be engaged to consider these issues. He volunteered to reach out to our elected officials and encouraged Tina to be an advocate as she is living in the situation every day.

#4 Officer Reports

Salem Police - Officer Matthew Gill was present. The City is concluding the program that allowed camping in the park. The closure will start with Wallace Marine Park. Expect to see an increase in the houseless population downtown which will require grace and understanding from the rest of the community. All service providers will be involved in the change. Teresa asked if Marion Square Park is an option.

Regarding a recent situation at D and Winter streets where a pedestrian threatened some residents, he reminded all to call 911 whenever a threatening or safety situation is in progress. The police do have qualified mental health professionals who can ride-along, so be sure to ask for that if the circumstances warrant it.

A neighbor brought up an incident where someone was starting multiple fires in an alley between Belmont and Market and a call to 911 brought no response. Officer Gill was surprised as any reported arson attempt should have been reason for someone to show up.

Compliance Services – Christie Wolfe told us about a new system for code enforcement reporting that went on line 4 weeks ago. Google “City of Salem Code Enforcement” to find it. You will have to set up an account, but it is a one-time action.

A neighbor reported an 8' fence with barb wire in the front yard of a residential lot that is not in, but next to Grant Neighborhood. He never received a response and Ms Wolfe suggested he resubmit it. A neighbor asked about a street tree limb that is hanging down to head height across a sidewalk. She was referred to Public Works as the Code doesn't deal with this issue.

A neighbor asked if Officer Wolfe had seen an uptick in the occurrence of small graffiti around the neighborhood.

The most common complaints she receives are cars that are parked on the street for too long, junk cars, and garbage. She tries to use education to correct these problems, rather than threats.

#5 Councilor Report

Virginia reported that:

- Operational Cost Assistance Grants are available for businesses that offer food & drink, indoor exercise and recreations or personal services. Applications are being accepted from May 26th to June 6th through the Business Oregon website.
- The City is resuming issuing event permits, but each event will need to have a Covid safety plan.
- Camping in the parks is coming to an end. There are two sites in town that are moving forward with pallet housing or tent housing but the information has not been released yet. More are in the works. They are looking at smaller groups that are spread out. Hotels will still be utilized for those who are fragile or have health challenges. The city has received a \$5 million grant to establish and operate a navigation center.
- State representatives are working on programs that will fund: housing vouchers; pallet shelters; shelter operations; cooperation regarding use of State lands; sobering centers; crisis response teams; and body cameras.
- The budget committee will hold its first public hearing on June 14th.
- Upcoming schedule and topics of City Council work sessions are:
 - o June 21st: Solid Waste Collection & Recycling and HB 2001 Code Amendments/Incentives for Middle Housing;
 - o July 19th: Sheltering Status, Implementation, and Planning;
 - o Sept 20th: Climate Action Plan;
 - o Oct 18th: Our Salem/Planning Commission;
 - o Nov 15th: 2022 City Council Policy Agenda.
- On July 12th City Council will consider her request to approve the closure of Union and Winter streets, during the hours of the Saturday Market to relieve congestion and make it more pedestrian friendly.
- Paul asked if there have been any decisions made on how to spend the federal aid money that the city is receiving. Virginia said they need time to consider, digest, and ponder. She welcomed any wish lists we would like to have considered.

#6 Sensible Speech - Development & Zone Change

Randy Vogel established Sensible Rehabilitation 9 years ago with his wife. It is a pediatric development center that assists families with special needs, including autism, speech issues and developmental delays. They have been at Capitol and Shipping for the entire time. They provide services in English, Spanish, and sign language. 70% of their clients are low income households and on the Oregon Health Plan. They partner with Salem-Keizer School District, Salem Hospital, Willamette Educational Service District, Family Building Blocks, and local pediatricians. They offer speech therapy, occupational therapy, handwriting, emotional regulation, body awareness, physical therapy, and help with development issues and gross motor development. They would like to provide mental health counseling for those ages 18, and younger, as there is a huge need for this one-on-one service and other providers in town are overwhelmed. They would be able to work with those children who have less severe conditions that are not covered by other programs, but still need professional help.

They are proposing to add services in the old T&R Automotive Repair buildings at Capitol and Norway. Architect Derek Metsen discussed the property and the structures. The site is made up of 3 lots. The concrete structures are in good condition and well sited. They were constructed in the 1950s and 60s. A house was taken down by a previous owner to provide an onsite gravel parking lot. They intend to refresh the property, put in new windows, pave the parking lot, add landscaping, move the Capitol Street driveway south, away from the intersection, and create 29 parking and 2 ADA spaces. The lot facing Norway and west of the intersection is zoned RM2. They are proposing a Zone Change/Comp Plan Change to CR so it is consistent with the other two tax lots. The existing buildings have been an existing non-conforming use since 1966. They will combine the 3 lots into 1 to more easily deal with current development standards and requirements.

A neighbor asked what the number of patients seen at one time is and how many staff they have. Right now they see 7-8 patients at a time and that will increase to 13-15. They have 17 staff members.

A neighbor asked about the Norway Street façade, since the building entrance will face the parking lot on the south side of the site. There is a currently a door, a garage door and a few windows on the north elevation. Those will be replaced with a few different windows, but most of the building will be solid concrete. The therapy rooms, which will mostly be located along that side of the building, need to be free of distractions, which low windows will present.

The soils have been tested and came up free of contaminants. No changes have been proposed for the site under the upcoming Our Salem plan.

A neighbor, who has worked as a vocational rehabilitation counselor for the State of Oregon, applauded the development saying that it really is a needed service.

#7 **Neighborhood Goal 2021-2022**

We need to set at least one goal to work towards during the coming year. Last year our goal was to update our social media which we have made significant progress on. Some of the suggestions were:

- Reach out to State Legislators and City Councilors regarding bills that affect our neighborhood. A neighbor suggested that, rather than set it as a formal goal, we set up a sub-committee to collect information and bring 5-minute reports back to our meetings. It will be hard to make the time commitment to accomplish this as a goal for the year. Mark, Nick, Elliott and Teresa all expressed interest in being involved with the subcommittee.
- Use more outreach to get more neighborhood involvement and reengage as the community reopens through vaccination clinics and events like National Night Out;
- Address parking issues;
- Work towards more Historic signs and utility vault covers in the neighborhood;

Paul moved that ***“Grant Neighborhood Association’s goal for 2021-2022 be spending down our Association’s Communications Fund Account for such things as pop-ups, historic sign toppers, social media and real space involvement, and informational handouts.”*** Susan seconded the motion. Vote was 10 in favor, 0 opposed.

#8 **Board Member Reports**

- CERT – Lola reported classes with be resumed in September, hopefully in person. They are working on an informal Disaster Preparedness sessions for apartment dwellers and landlords.
- Land Use Updates – Paul said that there are so many Our Salem meetings going on – at a rate of about 1, or more, per week. Discussions have included maps and specific code language as they try to weave in the changes to density form State law. He would like to set out a block of time at July’s meeting to review these items and get a feel for how Grant Neighborhood stands on some of the changes.

The Union Street family-friendly bikeway has received a federal transportation grant that will be matched with Salem funds. Construction is scheduled for 2022. There is a Zoom open house meeting on June 8th from 7-8:00 pm.

- North Neighborhoods CPT – Sam was not in attendance.

#9 Other Business

No items were brought forward.

Meeting adjourned at 7:56 pm

Respectfully submitted by: Jeanne Boatwright