

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>P</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>E</i>	NICK MASELLI	<i>P</i>		
LOLA HACKETT	<i>E</i>	SUSAN NAPACK	<i>P</i>		

Others present: Andy Herrmann, Laura Herrmann, Teresa Joslin, Scott Munford, Travis North, Carolin VanOrdin, Megan Stevens, Carol DeCoursey, J. Keniston, Luke Glaze, Virginia Stapleton, and Shelly Ehenger.

Paul moved that ***“We approve the October minutes as presented.”*** Tim seconded the motion. Vote was 10 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

#2 Great Story from Grant

- Sam reported that the North Salem High School football and boys’ soccer teams made it into the state playoffs.
- Tim commented on the nice article on Susan in the Statesman Journal.
- Carole said she attended services with the new congregation in the Evergreen Church and was a minor celebrity as “the lady from the neighborhood.”
- Susan reported that the Willamette Heritage Center trick-or-treat event that Grant participated in was a great success.

#3 Neighbor Concerns

- Teresa reported that the house at 1290 Summer Street is being updated to meet code so group home clients can move in.
- Teresa commented on Highland NA’s Halloween contest for best yard display. A gift card to a local business was the prize. Maybe we could do something similar, or join with them.
- Sam said that the local micro-shelters provided for the houseless are all good, clean, and functional.

#4 Officer Report

Salem Police Officer Sgt. J. Keniston was in attendance. He said that sergeants have been assigned to attend the neighborhood meetings so that patrol officers are not taken off the street to attend them and the attendance is steadier.

Note: The rest of his report suffered from a garbled microphone and was not captured.

#5 Councilor Report

Virginia reported that:

- Salem Housing Authority is closing on the sale of Yaquina Hall, located on the former Oregon State Hospital Campus, on November 18th;
- The Safe Park program is looking for partners to provide overnight vehicle parking for the houseless;
- The Window-to-the-West site, across Commercial Street from City Hall, is being reviewed for different sheltering options that will work with the adjacent slopes. The slope issue prevented a previous plan;
- The West Salem pallet housing site has been removed from consideration due to wetlands identified on the site.

- The warming shelters in town are gearing up to be prepared for oncoming cold weather;
- Salem, Marion County and Polk County are partnering to establish a community sobering center;
- City Council voted to place a \$300 million infrastructure bond out for voter approval. Two other bonds are coming to an end, meaning that passage of this new bond would not increase current taxing rates. The money would be used for transportation, fire truck replacement and seismic upgrades to City structures;
- An article in the Statesman Journal reporting that the Salem water supply is unsafe is not true;
- The City Librarian has resigned and a replacement is being sought. Additionally, they are working towards getting the library open full-time and taking the strategic planning for the library off of “pause”;
- There are a number of openings on Salem boards and commissions. Of special interest might be the Parks Board, as it currently has all of its members from West Salem;
- The Council received Grant NA’s letter regarding the “20 is Plenty”. Grant neighbor, Ray Quisenberry, is to be commended for bringing this movement to the forefront. The Council is excited about it and there is lots of support.
- Upcoming Council meetings will be addressing the following topics:
 - 11/8 - Winter Street closing presentation
 - 11/15 - Work season on councilors’ priorities
 - 11/22 - Ward redistricting
 - 12/06 - Climate Action Plan
- A neighbor asked about the assessment of the Winter Street closures during the late summer days of the Saturday Market. Virginia said it was a learning process to gauge the community’s response and the human behavior lessons for pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers. There were cars that ignored the “road closed” signs so that the street never became a truly safe place for those not in vehicles. The car culture is not ready for dedicated spaces for bikes and pedestrians if they do not include sharing with cars. The next phase is to determine how to educate and get “buy in” from these different communities.

#6 **Knights of Columbus Hall**

Luke Glaze is under contract to purchase this building on the northeast corner of Cottage and Shipping streets and is doing his due diligence. Under the developing Our Salem comprehensive plan, the property will be rezoned to mixed-use2. Currently it is zoned single family residential with a pre-existing use and an exemption as a non-profit. The current owner, the Knights of Columbus, is a Catholic men’s organization. They have owned the facility for at least 70 years. The building has a 5,000sf ballroom, secondary bar and event space, kitchen, bathrooms, and several other rooms. Some of Luke’s conceptual ideas for the building include: restaurant, brewery, event space in the ballroom, café. Neighbors asked about parking. There are 18-20 onsite spaces and 12 streetside spots. Shared parking in the Salem Child Development Center on the adjacent property may also be available. Neighbors were pleased that someone who is already committed to the best interests of the neighborhood is taking on this redevelopment.

#7 **Salem for Refugees**

Luke Glaze presented information about the use of the old Walker Cycle building site and the adjacent lots, through to Shipping Street, for a housing, service, connection, and welcome center development to accommodate Afghan refugees. The two, 3-story housing structures will, together, accommodate 24 families, couples, or individuals. The units will include 3-bdrm, 2-bdrm, 1-bdrm, and studios. There will be a common courtyard area between the two buildings. The stairways will be on the interior face to preserve a friendly street view that matches the neighborhood. The facades will have porches and front doors off the street sidewalks. The drawings shown are only conceptual layouts with no details. There will be 23 parking spaces and additional street frontage parking. Generally, immigrant refugees do not have personal cars. Paul commented that the area is to be zoned mixed-use2 under the Our

Salem plan. The intent is to be able to provide different size homes that will include serving larger families. The Salem for Refugees program will offer housing subsidies. The timeline for funding for construction is tied to the grant cycles of City of Salem HOME funds, which open in November and December, and State of Oregon funds which are awarded in March and April. They hope to start site work before the autumn rains in 2022. A neighbor commented that he hoped that developers do not buy up houses, let them fall into disrepair and then use that as the reason for replacing it with multi-family housing. That has been going on in Protland where old building are routinely razed to make way for townhouses. Aaron commented that the zoning on the corridor streets with good transit service – Summer, Broadway, Fairgrounds, Capitol – is for higher density, with services and offices on the ground and living areas above.

#8 Evergreen Church Property

Travis North, a development associate with DevNW was present to update the NA on the repurposing of the church and parsonage structures. They intend to commence work in late summer-early fall of 2022. Architectural plans are being prepared. It will use both structures and provide 17-19 units for veterans.

An historical survey of the near surrounding area is being prepared by a consultant company under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Salem and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). It will update an existing survey. The organization conducting the survey will be in the neighborhood this week collecting exterior design information that will be entered into the SHPO data base. An onsite investigation was also made. Five spots were excavated with no artifacts discovered. A report will be forthcoming. A sign will be erected on site providing historical information about the original German Baptist Church that occupied this corner.

An advisory committee was formed that includes Sam Skillern, Elliott Lapinel, Dustin Purnell, and Robin Ferrell. This was the result of the city asking DevNW to continue conversations with the local community.

A neighbor asked how the veteran's group was selected - how was the decision made? Shelly Ehenger said that the City identified the group because the housing is needed, veterans' services are nearby, and state funds are available.

A neighbor asked if the plans to provide reinforcement to the building could be provided to Grant NA as soon as possible.

Note: Most of Travis' presentation was garbled, fading, and unintelligible on my speakers. Even after I mentioned it, he was unable to make it clearer. Shelly Ehenger, project manager and budget manager with the City of Salem, filled in a lot of the information.

#9 Board Member Reports

- CERT - Lola was attending a CERT class and not in attendance.
- Communications/Outreach – Susan reported:
 - She spent \$28.00, of the \$50.00 approved by the Board, for printing and cutting the Halloween cards that the Grant NA team passed out at the WHC trick-or-treat event. The cards expressed Happy Halloween from the Grant Neighborhood Association and provided a link to the City of Salem webpage where Neighborhood Association information is available for anywhere in the city.
- Land Use Updates - Paul reported:
 - He will bring a presentation about Our Salem to our December meeting.
- North Neighborhoods CPT (aka N²) – Sam did not provide a report and relinquished his spot so that neighbor Laura Herrmann could present an idea for a neighborhood improvement.

#10 Other Business

Laura Herrmann is a teacher at Grant Community School and lives on Belmont Street. She is interested in planning a street mural at Cottage and Belmont. All four owners of the corner properties, along with others nearby, support the project. This asphalt art - or street painting – is done by the community. The painting is public art that creates a meaningful public space. The design will be chosen by the neighbors. It is usually colorful and consists of geometric shapes. City permission will be needed to both paint the public street and to close the streets to apply the paint. She is hoping to get everything in order to complete the work in late spring or early summer of 2022. Virginia said that city staff are on board with the project. There are standards that have to be met: no words; kept away from the curb; and, a specific type of paint must be used. Susan said as an artist, community member, and communication chair, she is very excited and supportive of the project and is ready to help. Paul moved that ***“Grant Neighborhood Association support the concept of painting a colorful, geometric, and exciting design at the intersection of Cottage Street and Belmont Street.”*** Susan seconded the motion. Virginia commented that these art installations act as a traffic calming device. Aaron added that they do not cause confusion; folks slow down to look and that makes the streets safer. The vote was 10 in favor, 1 opposed, and no abstentions. Paul will compose the letter to the city.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm

Respectfully submitted by: Jeanne Boatwright