

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

Others present: Scott Munford, Virginia Stapleton, Teresa Joslin, Nick Beleicks, Carol DeCoursey, Ash Dalen, Carolin VanOrdin, Megan Stephens, Penny Morley, Thomas Madison, Marlayne Madison, and Connie (no last name available).

Lola moved that ***“We approve the December minutes with corrections.”*** Tina seconded the motion. Vote was 13 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

In discussion, Susan thought that the motion passed under item #7 Board Reports, Communication/Outreach should have included Grant NA sponsoring the Street Art Project, not just approving Susan as the GNA liaison to the matter. Jeanne reviewed her notes and said that she did not capture that. She asked Susan to put forth a motion during her Board Report this evening requesting that action.

Correction:

#1 Introductions

CORRECT: Edit the board attendance chart to indicate that Lola and Christopher were present, not excused.

#2 Great Story from Grant

- Paul relayed a story about his young son and a group of friends. After playing in the snow at Grant School and Park, they were headed back home and arrived at the Cottage and Market crosswalk. A police officer stopped his vehicle to allow the children to cross, but cars heading the opposite direction did not. Three vehicles violated the law requiring them to stop at crosswalks for pedestrians. Finally, the fourth car stopped and the children crossed the street. The police officer promptly made a U-turn and pursued, at least one of, the violators.
- Ash reported that Salem Alliance Church partnered with the Community Resource staff members at Grant, Highland, and Parrish schools. They provided about 300 Christmas gifts for 100 families.

#3 Neighbor Concerns

None raised.

#4 Officer Report

No Police Officer was present.

#5 Councilor Report

Virginia reported that:

- She and Paul joined the other members of the Budget Committee at a meeting last night (Jan 5th) to start the process of developing the city budget;

- Upcoming City Council meetings will include the following topics:

Jan 10th

Update on sheltering options

Parks Plan presentation

Vote to approve Kristin Retherford the interim City Manager effective with Steve

Powers retirement on February 28th. Retherford in the City's Urban Renewal Director

Jan 24th

Debate on Code updates, no testimony allowed, but emails are OK;

- Tina asked about any progress on the emergency power backup plan for apartment dwellers. Virginia said she is making a motion in February to formally initiate the process. It will take work, as no one else has proposed this.
- Finding locations for additional micro-shelters moved forward when five potential sites were identified. One of them, the old US Bank site at the intersection of Capitol Street, Summer Street and Portland Road, has an offer for purchase by another party and is now off the list. The remaining four are: The property in the 1200 block of Center Street, directly south of the Safeway store; property on the west side of Front Street at its intersection with Hood Street; the Peace Plaza at City Hall; and, the Arches property at 2410 Turner Road SE. The City is looking at funding to pay for leases on private properties. There will be an in-person meeting at Broadway Commons the afternoon of Jan. 13th regarding these sites.

Catholic Community Services houses 60 folks on their property on north Portland Road. The shelter at Portland Road and Silverton Road has 40 shelters and 10 vehicle spots. There has been success there in stabilizing people and assisting them in moving on. Gretchen Bennett is looking for more sites, so, if anyone has knowledge of a potential location, please let her know.

Marlayne said that a Lana Avenue location near the Teen Challenge building may have potential.

Teresa asked about Marion Square Park.

Susan asked several questions: How are support services for mental health, case workers, and job services, paid for? Will folks who live in cars and the woods be willing to go to micro-shelters?

Virginia said ARCHES, Salem Housing Authority, and Bridgeway Recovery Services are helping and are paid with funds from the State – not with Salem General Funds. However, State dollars are one-time dollars. The costs will eventually end up in the City's budget.

Aaron asked how many rounds of discussion will there be? Virginia replied that the strategy last year was to find the initial sites. Now they are looking at spreading them out, geographically, around the city, but have not been successful in finding available properties. So, they are going with what they can get, which is mostly in north Salem.

One neighbor thought the Peace Plaza was not a good idea.

Virginia said they are also looking for available state-owned land within the City Limits.

- The proposed Confederated Tribe of the Siletz Indians development of a casino complex at the northeast corner of the I-5 Hayesville interchange was brought up. It is not imminent as there are many hoops to jump through. All of the other Oregon tribal organizations must agree to it and additional work has to be done at the state and local level. Improvements would be made to Salem infrastructure in the immediate and surrounding area. It will take a minimum of two years to get approval: one year at the state level and one year with the city and community. Construction would occur in 2024-2025 if all necessary approvals are gained. It would likely expand commercial improvements in the area and would help with Salem's efforts to "dress-up" the area.

#6 Waterfront Development

Paul reported on a meeting at the Chamber of Commerce regarding the development of property along Front Street. The Truitt Bros. cannery site will be rezoned Mixed-Use Riverfront under the Our Salem Comp Plan. This is a unique zone that, in the Grant Neighborhood, will run from Union Street to the north border of the neighborhood. The goal is to create a pedestrian-orientated mixed commercial-housing area with a high density of residences. It must allow pedestrian access to the river promenade

in the Willamette Greenway. The first meeting included a wide variety of owners who believed there were far too many restrictions for this vision to work. The second meeting was a smaller group. The opinion there was that you can't just change the code and expect this desired outcome to appear. It needs glue to hold it together. Grant Neighborhood has had some success in adding several awesome revitalization projects to the city. After Our Salem is adopted, GNA needs to get busy on updating our Neighborhood Plan. GNA includes a chunk of this area and we have some influence on its transformation. Aaron commented that the private sector sees the riverfront properties and envisions 400 units on one property. That's a \$250 million investment, which is huge. They need assurance that Front Street will not look like the current Front Street. It needs a plan for what it can look like and developers will want something on paper to know there is a vision for the area. This will take a combination of private and public work. Virginia said it will take investment in both the greenway/parkway and the roads. Cynthia asked about the train traffic. Mark commented on the tracks not being well maintained. Sam mentioned the need for art and industry to meld - think pubs with an industrial feel?? Teresa was concerned about housing and the need for more affordable units. This is a huge financial project, but it needs to get going. We will have time to develop a strategy or position, but we need to keep it on our radar.

#7 **Dev NW/Evergreen Church**

Paul reported that the current information is that ARCHES will manage the site and it will be utilized for veterans' permanent and supportive housing.

#8 **Board Member Reports**

- CERT - Lola brought information about:
 - The Jan 20th Zoom meeting at 6:00 pm. The topic will be "OK, now that we've surveyed our house, what do we do when we get to the cache?"
 - The next class will begin on Apr 19th and will be a Tue-Thu schedule. The final exercise will be on May 7th, hopefully, at the Airport Fire Station if in-person meetings are allowed by then.
- Communications/Outreach – Susan reported:
 - She has 60 people signed up to receive the GNA newsletter. Anyone who wants to be added can email her;
 - Regarding the street mural at Cottage and Belmont, on Jan 24th, Virginia will be proposing that city staff set up the program that will allow these. Susan will share the program details with us when they come out. The sign code needs to be updated to differentiate between signs and murals. Street art should be organic. Currently, murals are in the sign code. One must either pay for a permit or donate it to the public through the Art Commission. The art must be maintained for 7 years - then it can be donated. The goal is to make it easier to create murals. However, with that, it's a tricky situation to control hate speech or hurtful images. This is one of the growing pains as we transform from a little city to a big city. Aaron said that the Public Art Commission needs to untangle these two. Susan moved that the ***"Grant Neighborhood Association be an official co-sponsor, with Laura Herrmann, of the street art at the intersection of Cottage and Belmont streets."*** Paul seconded the motion. Vote was 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstention (Mark).
- Land Use Updates - Paul reported:
 - The Our Salem plan will be before the Planning Commission in March and to the City Council this summer.

#9 **Other Business**

None brought forth.

Meeting adjourned at 7:34 pm

Respectfully submitted by: Jeanne Boatwright