

Highland Neighborhood Association
Meeting Minutes
April 12, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Steve Emerson with a quorum of Board of Directors present. Introductions were made by all and we had 25 neighbors in attendance. Due to some issues on the agenda that would keep our City Councilors from participating in our meeting, the agenda has been rearranged so that the councilors can leave prior to the issue of the Union Gospel Mission Zoning discussion.

Meeting Minutes from March 8, 2018 –No additions, corrections or deletions to the minutes and they were approved by acclimation.

Police Officer Report – Officer Hibbler stated that if you know of a situation with vagrants to please notify police so that they can take swift action to alleviate the situation.

A neighbor on Tamarac was very upset to discover graffiti in the area and stated that they have lived in the area for over 14 years and this has never happened before. Neighbors were reminded to contact the Graffiti Hotline to report these issues and it was suggested that if you have a camera to take a picture and email it to the city. It has been found that the sooner the graffiti is painted over the better it is to control and that each time it is painted over then the less frequency and the taggers will go somewhere else.

This neighbor has also stated that they would like to find a way of getting help with creating things for youth to do so that they are not out and about all hours of the night. Salem does not have any current programs to get youth out of trouble, occupied and safe. It was suggested that they contact Irma Dowd and find out if she knows of any resources or if she can guide them in the right direction for getting help.

Parole Officer Report – Tyler Frederickson – not in attendance.

City Councilor Comments – Councilors Cara Kaser and Matt Ausec– Councilor Kaser stated that the Homelessness Task Force had their final meeting and now they are in the assessment phase of going over ideas that were presented and deciding which ones are feasible and determining the costs to implement.

The Peter Courtney Minto Island Bridge won the National Steel Bridge Alliance National Honors for its innovation, economy and design and engineering.

The Salem Police Foundation raised over \$ 65,000 to replace three of its canine officers. They also raised additional money to help with medical expenses of the retired canine officers. Their next fund raiser is to help buy a six-passenger ATV for use at Minto Island Park to help with transporting injured or arrested people out of the park.

Breakfast with Chief Moore fund raiser helped to purchase a new mobile command vehicle to be used as a mobile incident command center where needed.

Neighbor Concerns and Announcements – Issues not on agenda or previously discussed – Another concern that was brought to the attention of the association is that pedestrians are not using proper crossing areas and wanted to know how to stop it. One suggestion was to talk with our officer at the meeting and ask if there is a way for them to make point of stopping in the area when they are doing their reports so that they can observe the issue.

Clean Streams Initiative – Stacy Nelson, City of Salem – Stacy Nelson presented materials regarding how to help protect our waterways better and how our everyday behaviors affect streams. The Clean Streams/Clear Choices Initiative was developed to help Salem residents realize that there are several steps you can take to help keep our streams clean and reduce pollution. For more information, call (503) 588-6211 or go to [www:CityofSalem.net/Clean-Streams](http://www.CityofSalem.net/Clean-Streams)

Union Gospel Mission Zoning – Jim Garaventa/Dan Clem – Dan Clem stated that the goal of the UGM is to reduce homelessness by providing shelter and resources. The vision of the new facility is to get out of the downtown core, to move and build a facility that will be able to take care of and meet the needs of the amount of homeless men on the streets.

The concerns of some of the neighbors and business members is that there would be no resources available for the community and the impact the new facility could have on the neighborhoods. Some felt that the model that was presented would not solve the issues while others felt that the scope and size of the facility could bring in more homeless people in to the area as well as what would be done for those homeless that are rejected or refuse to stay in the shelter and where those people would end up during hours that the mission is not available to them.

Other Business/Announcements - We had the following guest speakers at the meeting:

Melissa Parker – seeking election for Municipal Court Judge
Sadie Carney – seeking election for Marion County Commissioner
Lisa Harnish – Yes for Salem Keizer Schools

The Marion Polk Food Share – Highland Village Neighborhood Garden will be in operation sometime around the end of May.

Upcoming Events for April 2018

April 18, 2018 – Downtown Streetscaping Planning – Courthouse Square at 5:30 p.m.
April 23, 2018 – Union Gospel Mission Hearing – City Council – 6:00 p.m.
April 24, 2018 – Riverfront Park Master Plan – Pringle Hall at 6:00 p.m.
April 25, 2018 – Budget Committee Meeting – Council Chambers – 6:00 p.m.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. with minutes were recorded by Mary Harp.

Next Neighborhood Association Meeting: May 10, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.