

Lansing Neighborhood Association Minutes February 26, 2019 Board Meeting

Waldo Middle School, 2805 Lansing Ave NE

11 present: Dorothy Pedersen-Secretary, Virginia Barker, Mary Dodson, Sandi Hinshaw, Frank Pack, Jeanne Pack, Terry Pratt, Claudine Shaw, Matt Ausec (City Councilor), Pat Norman (Salem Parks Foundation), Officer J. Sharp (City of Salem Police)

Virginia Barker called the meeting to order, in the absence of Patty Tipton, Chair, and introductions were made.

Terry moved to approve minutes of the January 22, 2019 meeting; seconded by Claudine and carried.

POLICE REPORT: Officer J. Sharp

- There continue to be stealing of cars which have been left running unattended in driveways. These seem mostly to be crimes of opportunity, where cars are used for a short time and then abandoned. Also vehicles continue to be broken into and items stolen.
- Recently residential burglaries have lessened. We should continue to report prowlers—the police are tracking them.
- Officer Sharp explained in regard to a news report of two Salem police officers that had been arrested, that Officer Thayer was already on administrative leave from the Salem Police Department due to previous behavior, and the other officer had been previously discharged from the force.

CITY COUNCILOR: Matt Ausec

- A 2/26/19 Statesman Journal article reported incidents of harassment by city employees or managers. Two active incidents are being investigated and investigations of 5 past incidents are now closed. The City takes these seriously, and does not consider even a few incidents among hundreds of employees to be acceptable.
- The City Council is considering raising the charges on new developments, to fund City services such as parks and transportation. Historic and current rates in Salem are less than half the median rates charged by other cities. The proposed increase will bring our rates up in line with the median rate for other Oregon cities.
- The City Manager now posts a weekly update on the City website.
- Continuing projects include setting budget priorities and revenue options, studying various options to relieve traffic congestion in downtown Salem, and implementing homeless task force recommendations (showers, storage spaces, etc.). Yaquina Hall is proposed to be renovated in 2019, to provide 44 units ready for occupancy in 2020.
- The City Council did not approve Costco's proposal to build on Kuebler Road. Costco may look for another location.
- Saturday bus service is planned to take effect in September.

PARKS FOUNDATION: Pat Norman

Grant applications are due April 30th for funds to improve parks. Lansing NA had received grant money in 2012 and 2014 for improvements in our neighborhood parks. McKay Park is to be developed this summer with new play equipment. The Foundation has Bottle Drop/Give bags for people to use when turning in refundable bottles and cans, so that the refunds will go to increase grant money to benefit parks. If you would like one or more of these blue bags to fill, send an email to info@salemparksfoundation.org.

NEIGHBORHOOD CONCERNS:

Concerns were expressed regarding:

- Why an area of Lansing Park is locked up, and a drinking fountain there that is not working—Pat Norman will follow up on these issues.
- In the Highland area, a man has been sneaking around, looking to get into houses. In some cases the police responded to neighbors' reports and told him to leave. However he came back, so we need to be vigilant.
- Irma brought a supply of Lansing Neighborhood Association pamphlets in both English and Spanish. These will be very useful; however, there was some concern that the list of the "Executive Board & Positions" was not

correct. This led to questions about who composes our current Board, how many members constitute a quorum, where to find our current bylaws, etc. Councilor Matt Ausec pointed out that a link to our “Bylaws” document can be found on the Lansing NA section of the City of Salem website. Dorothy will make copies of the Bylaws to have at the March meeting, so we can find answers to our questions.

CHAIR’S REPORT:

- Patty suggests that we order additional refrigerator magnets with contacts for community services. **Terry moved that we authorize Communication Funds to order 20 more magnets. Frank seconded and the motion was carried.**

ANNUAL MEETING, April 23rd

We voted on a style of shopping bag to order which will have “Lansing Neighborhood Association” and our web address printed on them. **Claudine moved that we order 135 bags for \$299.95, to be paid for out of Communication Funds. Terry seconded, and the motion carried.** We hope to have these at our annual meeting to hand out, and then to be available to give out at other events.

One suggestion for a speaker at our annual meeting was to have a person who had been instrumental in spearheading a successful clean-up effort that two adjoining neighborhoods had done. Virginia and Dorothy had heard reports of that effort at a Chair’s meeting. The neighborhoods had arranged a day or weekend when large dumpsters would be located near the boundary between the neighborhoods, and people could bring junk that they had not gotten around to individually take to the dump.

Terry moved that we reinstate the position of Vice Chair when we elect new officers. Claudine seconded the motion and it passed. As a point of order, it was suggested that first election of the Board occur, and then officers be elected from among the Board members.

POTENTIAL GOALS for 2019 (still on the table from the January meeting, but not further discussed)

- Clean up the neighborhood—Michele was not present at this meeting, but there is interest in this idea.
- Shelters or ½ court basketball in parks
- Neighborhood Night Out
- Plant trees
- Get a better representation of neighborhood demographics involved in Neighborhood Association

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Land Use:

- 2425 Market Street lot is proposed to have a 3-plex townhouse built on it.
- 3025 Lancaster is proposed to have a vehicle charging station.
- A proposed partition to divide a lot at 3146 Beacon Street NE into two parcels.
- February 27th there will be a public workshop on multi-family housing design.

Traffic: None

Neighborhood Watch: None

Salem Parks: None

State Fair: None

Partnership Update: None

Frank moved the meeting be adjourned. Terry seconded and motion carried. **The next meeting will be March 26th, 2019 at Capital Baptist Church, due to school spring break.**

Respectfully submitted,
Dorothy Pedersen, Secretary