

January 15, 2019  
Fresh Start Market

7:00 PM Meeting called to order by Chair Mike Beringer.

### **1. Welcome, Introductions, Announcements, Approval of Minutes: Mike Beringer, Chairman**

Mike welcomed all in attendance, wishing them a Happy New Year. A motion to approve the meeting minutes of the November 20 was made and seconded. Motion carried.

### **2. Police Officer Report:**

#### **Corporal Fitzpatrick.**

- Reported that even though there have been several shift and schedule changes, Officer Renz will continue to be our officer.
- Unaware of any new issues at Geer or Thorpe Parks.
- Shopping Cart issue was again mentioned. It seems to be a daily problem with the same family. The question to Corporal Fitzpatrick was if she knew of anyway to get this stopped.
  - Technically this is a Fred Meyer problem and they are the ones responsible.
  - She will discuss this with Officer Renz, and they can determine what is legal for SPD to do.
  - She suggested discussion with Code Enforcement.
  - NESCA could write a letter to Fred Meyer, requesting they do daily perimeter sweeps (and especially at Thorpe Park) for carts that have been removed from their area.
- With the cold weather, we were once again reminded to not leave cars running in the driveway to warm up.
- Car prowls are an on-going issue so again we were reminded to not leave valuables in a car, even locked.

### **3. Salem Library Foundation**

#### **Louise Newswanger**

- Louise provided information on the upcoming "Salem Reads" program that will be happening Tuesday, January 29 from 5:30 – 7:30 PM. The book selection for this event is "Good Morning Midnight." A reception with light refreshments will be served while the public will have an opportunity to meet local professional artists who created work inspired by this book. The art will be on display until February 28. There will be 400 free copies of this book provided to library cardholders.
- A nice flyer of all February Events at the Salem Public Library was available for all who were interested.
- NESCA will put all of this information on its Facebook page.

### **4. Salem Reporter (News)**

#### **Rachel Alexander**

- Rachel introduced the Salem Reporter to those who were unfamiliar with the name. It is Non-Profit and educational, on-line only, starting this past August. The purpose is watchdog and in-depth reporting of City government, education functions.
- Free on-line trial
- Main topics to date include financial problems with the Salem Education Foundation, the Costco project, and similar, reporting on issues discussed at City Council meetings.

### **5. City Councilors' Reports:**

#### **Chris Hoy**

- 12/17/18 with Marion County Commissioners regarding solid waste and garbage rates. They set the costs, City Council sets the rates. There is hope that a way to keep costs in check was realized. Chris feels they are on track to bring the rates more in line. Also discussed monitoring air quality.
- 1/13/19 Grand reopening of the West Salem fire station. Chris said he is very glad to see this happen as it helps everyone on both sides of the river.
- 1/14/19 was the swearing in of new Councilor Jackie Leuing, Ward 4. Also, at the City Council meeting Chris was sworn in as Council President. Function of this position is to help set agendas, stand in for the Mayor when he is absent, and act as Chair for the Salem Housing Authority.
- 1/23/19 will be a work session, council policy agenda for the upcoming budget. 6 PM
- 1/30/19 will be a work session on the Salem River Crossing (3<sup>rd</sup> bridge). 6 PM
- There are many Board openings, examples given of Center 50+ Advisory Committee and Ward 6 Budget Committee. There are a number of different boards with opening and Chris encourages everyone to go to the City website to see full descriptions of all the board positions available.
- Library Policy of books being removed from the library shelves has been stopped for the Advisory Board to review. No additional books will be removed until this has been thoroughly reviewed.
- Clearing of the homeless from under the Marion Street Bridge
  - This is not a City Council consideration as the decision is made by the City Manager.
    - City Manager runs the city but reports to the City Council.
    - Everyone else reports to the City Manager.
  - This situation involved many issues and those camping under the bridge were engaged with various social services BEFORE they were removed from the site.
  - There will need to be more conversation on any future dealings with the homeless and the majority of the council needs to be on the same page before changes are made in the direction of the process.
  - Any camping and food distribution need to be cleaned out before anything can begin again.
- Street improvements for the intersections of Lancaster and D and Sunnyview and Market were discussed and approved at Council. Timeframe for those improvements is not available at this time.

#### **5. City Councilors' Reports:**

##### **Cara Kaser**

- Stats from the removal of homeless from under the Marion Street Bridge
  - 0 Arrests
  - 8 accepted medical and/or mental health services
  - 1 dog was taken to an emergency vet
- Food Distribution for homeless.
  - A group led by the Parks Department will be assessing for future policy.
- Budget Committee will begin in-depth study for a \$500m budget.
  - \$100m to the General Fund for police, fire, library etc.
  - \$400m dedicated funds for all infrastructure – sewer, water, roads, etc.
  - Priority Based budgeting vs old way of just adding dollars to previous year's budget
- Grant Neighborhood Association has requested a rule change to allow for more time on land use applications.
  - Sadie Carney, Grant NA chair, has suggested that land use requests should go to Neighborhood Associations BEFORE they are submitted to the City Council.

#### **5. City Councilors' Reports:**

##### **Tom Andersen**

- Division Street Trees

- The removal of 16 trees would only add 6-10 parking spaces.
- 3/14 meeting to be held with public testimony before any decision will be made. This meeting will likely be in the Anderson Room at the Library (possibly Loucks depending on number of attendees).
- The City Council is responsible for setting the policy and it's the City Manager's job to carry out that policy.
- Hopeful that trees can be saved or at least reduce the number of trees that will be lost.
- Board Member Marilyn Moritz voiced concern for the lack of lighting in the NEN neighborhood for kids walking to school as well as broken sidewalks. Tom suggested it may be necessary to change city code in order to increase the rate for commercial properties in order to pay for additional lighting and sidewalk repairs. Currently the assessment is \$2.80 for private residences and \$13.50 for commercial properties regardless of the size or number of occupants on that property.

## 6. Marion County Sheriff Officer

### Jordan Juster, Parole Officer

- Officer Juster invited neighbors to contact him directly with any issues or concerns about persons on parole in our community. He also provided information on how to find out more about the parole program, including a list of all persons currently under supervision. [www.co.marion.or.us/SO/Probation/Pages/offenderinfo.aspx](http://www.co.marion.or.us/SO/Probation/Pages/offenderinfo.aspx)
- Officer Juster also provided his email address for those who wish to contact him directly with questions/concerns of specific houses and/or possible gang activity. He can be reached at: [jjuster@co.marion.or.us](mailto:jjuster@co.marion.or.us)

## Committee Reports:

- i. Land Use Ian Johnson
  - i. B Street parking lot, street, and sidewalk improvements at the Yaquina Hall site
    1. DAS still owns this property and in order to improve and prepare for sale, the number of parking spaces will be reduced to save some trees, however one tree will need to come down.
    2. Following a motion/2<sup>nd</sup>/and approved (1 abstention), Ian will write a letter to the city on behalf of NESCA for which we will receive \$25.00 to our account, recommending the changes be approved.
    3. Timeline for this project is currently not available. The project is completely on Lot 3 and has nothing to do with the new D Street park portion of the North Campus.
  - ii. There is a one-page policy available on how to name a new park. Following the outlined policy, interested parties may send the requested name to the City Council for discussion.
- ii. Transportation Julie Redden
  - i. Julie was ill and unable to attend but sent a written report which Mike read.
    1. D Street at 25<sup>th</sup>, westbound 30 mph sign installed.
    2. D Street at 23<sup>rd</sup>, westbound 30 mph sign removed. New sign placed further west near the cemetery before the downhill slope.
    3. 23<sup>rd</sup> Street traffic speed card placed northbound, just north of Ladd. Eli Brody has reported he though it slowed traffic some. Julie will request traffic data from the cart when it is available.
    4. D Street overpass issue

- a. Raised area on the sidewalk remains painted, but not corrected as yet. This area has been identified as an ADA issue and the City has said they will have it fixed.
  - ii. ADA issue on the D Street overpass. (NE side – up bound). Julie wrote a letter regarding the issue. It does appear to be a city issue and she was told it will be checked on and hopefully fixed.
- iii. Parks                                      Eli Brody & Marilyn Moritz
  - i. Another NESCA/Enlace joint event will be planned. Mike will help with this event. Councilor Hoy said he will work with the city to provide a Porta-Potty so the cost will not be taken charged to the Association.
  - ii. We may be able to get volleyball courts at Geer park with a grant.
- iv. Hoover School Liaison              Teri Lupoli
  - i. Mike Beringer attended a Hoover school meeting on 12/6/18. Issues of main concern were lighting, sidewalks, and child safety. While there appears to be adequate lighting at the school, it becomes very dark down the side streets.
- v. Watershed                                      Gary Pullman
  - i. There will be a planting event of the Creek Committee on 1/21.
  - ii. Mission Street Parks group has been removing blackberry/non-native brush along Pringle Creek. They will be replanting with native plants along the banks of the creek.
- vi. OSH North Campus                      Ian Johnson
  - i. NEN is interested in what is happening at the North Campus. Our 9 Points will be sent to them.
  - ii. Mike will attend the 2/5 NEN meeting (6:30, Salem First Church of the Nazarene)
- vii. Other:                      Hawthorne Street Cleaning Project
  - i. Teri asked for someone to volunteer to take responsibility for this project at least for the immediate future. Maren Wryn volunteered.
  - ii. First clean up is planned for Saturday, February 23, the Saturday following our next meeting.

Mike thanked everyone for attending this evening. **Our next scheduled meeting will be February 19, 2019.** There being no additional regular meeting business, Chair Mike Beringer closed the meeting at 8:45 PM

Submitted by: Teri Lupoli  
 Secretary/Treasurer  
 NESCA

Attending:

Mike Beringer\*, Eli Brody\*, Teri Lupoli\*, Diane Wilke\*, Marilyn Moritz\*, Lynn Cardiff\*, Maren Wryn, Ian Johnson, Gary Pullman, Amador Aguilar, Michael Brown, Clifford Eiffler-Rodriguez, Kathy Wautlet, City Councilor Chris Hoy, City Councilor Cara Kaser, City Council Tom Andersen, Corporal Fitzpatrick Salem PD, Jordan Juster Marion County Parole Officer, Louise Newswanger Salem Library Foundation, Rachel Alexander Salem Reporter representative.