

NESCA MEETING MINUTES

March 16, 2021

ZOOM Meeting

1. Welcome, Introductions, Announcements, Approval of Minutes, Treasurer's Report: Mike Beringer, Chair

Mike welcomed and introduced everyone and opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

A motion to approve the February 16 meeting minutes, as provided, was made and seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report provided by Teri Lupoli:

Beginning Balance:		\$1,617.50
Less reimbursement to Mike for Zoom account	-	74.95
Plus Attendance & Activity Credits	9/4/20	+ 25.00
	1/28/21	+ 30.00
Current Balance:		<u>\$1,597.55</u>

2. Police Officer Report: Lt. Jason Van Meter

- Quite a bit of activity. There was another shooting this past weekend on Williams off Silverton Road. It happened at 5 PM, so was concerning due to the number of people out and about at that time of day. SPD is hoping to increase resources to help with these situations.
- The main thing detectives would like to reinforce to the Neighborhood Associations is the importance of having a list of serial numbers of all valuables. The lists can be entered into the police data base in perpetuity and often helps reunite owners with their stolen property, sometimes years after the theft.
- Neighbor Mark Neuman mentioned his concern about the camping that is happening at Geer Park. Lt. Van Meter said they have increased patrols at Geer Park, but they are not specifically looking at the camping. Councilor Chris Hoy said that Geer Park is not one of the authorized parks for homeless camping and asked Mark to contact either him or Councilor Virginia Stapleton with immediate concerns.
- Market Street at I-5 is still a major concern for pedestrian safety with all the camping that is happening under the overpass as well as on the hillside next to the northbound off ramp. There have been multiple accidents involving pedestrians there. ODOT did place signage on both off ramps to warn drivers to watch for pedestrians
- Bridget West, Principal of Hoover School, thanked Lt. Van Meter and SPD for their partnership with the school. SPD has been very responsive, and it is much appreciated.

3. City Councilor: Chris Hoy

- ODOT did a speed limit study on 17th between Mission and Silverton Roads. The speed limit is 25 mph on some sections and 30 mph on others. ODOT made the decision that the entire length of the street should be 30 mph which Chris disagrees with and plans to ask for an appeal. Chris feels that the car count which allowed for this higher speed limit is skewed due to the pandemic and fewer people on the streets.
- Chris has taken a tour of the new library to see the progress of the remodel/upgrades. He said it is looking nice, with a lot of good changes. It is currently on schedule and on budget. The reopening of the library is scheduled for early July.
- Chris mentioned that he likes the Geer Park plan. There were good conversations with the City's Park Planner and a lot of the feedback from NESCA was incorporated into the plan.
- Follow-up on the downed light pole on the Park Avenue extension south of the State hospital: The pole should be replaced by April 1. As the street is classified as a private street (owned by the State), future safety concerns should be directed to DAS (Department of Administrative Services).

3. City Councilor: Virginia Stapleton

- Virginia will be taking an upcoming tour of the new amphitheater which will be an amazing asset to the city.

- Due to concerns about camping and resulting safety issues, \$200k has been approved for clean-up and security at the downtown city-owned parkades.
- Virginia will be meeting with the City Forester regarding the 12th Street Promenade next week and will provide an update at the next NESCA meeting.

4. Guest Speaker: Tammi Starrs, Program Manager, City of Salem Public Works

- Tammi provided an overview of the 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan, how citizens can be more involved in the process through various committee meetings. A draft of the Final Capital Improvement Plan document has been submitted. Key projects include:
 - Ozone
 - Wastewater – Pump Stations
 - Stormwater
 - Willow Lake – Aging infrastructure
 - Transportation
 - Parks
 - City Facilities on 22nd St. SE – needs updating
 - Utilities Funding
- For more information or to submit concerns, please see the city's website:
 - <https://www.cityofsalem.net/Pages/capital-improvement-plan.aspx>

4. Guest Speaker: Bridget West, Principal of Hoover School

- Bridget reported they have had their first day with K-5 kids back at school and everyone is excited to be at school even with a hybrid model. Distancing and masks are required in all classrooms. Students are split into two groups, one in school for five hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays; the other for five hours on Wednesdays and Fridays. On the off days when not in the classroom, they are on-line learning from home. In-school hours are from 7:40 AM to 1:00 PM. Currently, students are working on bringing foundational skills back to grade level. With this shorter day, teachers have a two-hour period at the end of the day for lesson preparations, etc. No students are in the school on Mondays which also give teachers additional time to plan and prepare for their students.
- The new physical facilities are really making a positive difference for students and staff. The layout is working well, and the new structure provides better room for the required distancing.
- Due to recent safety concerns, Bridget reported that there are many new security cameras, possibly about 20, with cameras also pointing towards the park. With the recent ice storm and trimming of trees, lighting is also better.

4. Guest Speaker: Carol Snyder, Salem Parks Foundation

- Carol stopped by to let us know that she had sent out grant information to the neighborhood associations.

5. Committee Reports:

a. Land Use/OSH North Campus

Ian Johnson

- There has been concern voiced about the large dump trucks using the side streets instead of the arterial streets when entering and leaving the construction area on the North Campus. The issue is especially concerning on Evergreen where the speed bumps were installed. There is concern that the tonnage of these trucks may do damage to those speed bumps. Ian will talk to the City Engineer about these concerns and, if valid, will discuss the issue with Richard Berger and Evan Sekulic of Neighborly Ventures to have the trucks stay on the arterials.
- There was a meeting with NEN regarding Mountain West and the D Street trees. There are concerns about the sidewalk areas to be included in the development and how that may affect trees.
- Lynn Takata, NEN Chair, will be signing a letter to Curt Pellatz in support of the plan provided by Neighborly Ventures regarding the preservation of street trees on D and Park streets. She will share the letter with NESCA which can be used as a guide if the board wishes to also submit a

letter. Ian volunteered to write a letter on behalf of NESCA. A motion was made, seconded, and approved for Ian to go forward with a letter.

b. Transportation Julie Redden (not in attendance; no report)

c. Parks Eli Brody

- As mentioned by Carol Snyder, new grant applications have been sent out. If anyone has any thoughts on how NESCA might use a grant, please contact him or Marilyn Moritz.
- Geer Park has been remarkably busy with all of the debris drop off from the ice storm. Eli reported that there is more camping showing up regularly.

d. Hoover School Teri Lupoli (no report)

e. Watershed Gary Pullman (not in attendance; no report)

6. Other Business:

- Eli Brody: NESCA's first street clean-up for 2021 will happen on Saturday, March 20. NESCA's adopted street is Hawthorne NE from Sunnyview to Center Street. Everyone who wishes to participate is asked to meet at the north end of the park and ride lot on Hawthorne (east of the Holiday Inn) at 8:30 AM. Safety vests and all equipment is provided. Eli said he plans to schedule another street clean up in June before the end of the city's fiscal year.
- Marilyn Moritz gave a shout out for the terrific bi-monthly newsletters that NESCA sends out. They are always informative and well done. Marilyn also mentioned the Climate Action Plan and suggested everyone take the on-line survey. It will take about an hour to complete the survey, but this subject is important.
 - https://form.cityofsalem.net/s3/Strategy-Idea-Ranking-Feedback-Survey?utm_source=ehq_newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=ehq-Share-Your-Input-on-Salem-Climate-Action-Plan-Strategy-Ideas&utm_campaign=website&utm_source=ehq&utm_medium=email
- Lois Naylor, NESCA neighbor, brought up concern for pedestrian safety on Ellis at the curve just west of the Park Avenue intersection. The large arborvitae in that block obscures line of sight. Line of sight issues combined with often excessive speed, presents a real danger to everyone on the street, but especially pedestrians. Councilor Hoy will talk to Kevin Hottman, Traffic Engineer, about possible traffic calming efforts. This topic will be added as an Agenda item for next month's NESCA.
- Teri Lupoli requested all who are attending a NESCA meeting for the first time to provide their email address to be on the mailing list to receive meeting minutes. If there is reluctance to post the email in the public ZOOM meeting, attendees are encouraged to send it to her email at: lupoli-882@hotmail.com

There being no further business, Mike Beringer, Chair, thanked everyone for their attendance and adjourned the meeting at 8:55 PM. **Our next scheduled meeting will be held via ZOOM, April 20, 2021, beginning at 7:00 PM.** The meeting link will be provided to those on the NESCA NEWS mailing list ahead of the meeting.

Submitted by: Teri Lupoli
NESCA Secretary/Treasurer

Attending:

Mike Beringer*, Marilyn Moritz*, Teri Lupoli*, Eli Brody*, Lynn Cardiff*, Ian Johnson, Jim Lupoli, Lucy Beringer, Bob Stainbrook, Mark Neuman, Lynn Takata, Lois Naylor, Tasha Chapman, Kimberly Hyatt, Chris Hoy City Councilor, Virginia Stapleton City Councilor, Lt. Jason Van Meter SPD, Tammi Starrs City of Salem Public Works, Bridget West Principal Hoover School, Carol Snyder Salem Parks Foundation

*NESCA Board Members