

Minutes of Meeting of the Board of Northeast Neighbors (NEN) on January 12, 2021

Meeting convened on Zoom at 6:30 PM by chair Lynn Takata. Other members present: Laura Buhl, Ken Simila, Joan Lloyd, Jacqueline Schindele, Jeremy Mills, Leslie Polson, Lainy Kruger, Ken Betterton, Ken Houghton, Nick Cantonwine, and Delana Beaton

Minutes of December 8, 2020 were approved by acclamation with the following corrections: 1) Jeremy Mills was not in attendance. And 2) Nick Cantonwine mentions that re the planning for restoration of basketball court in Mc Rae Park, \$1300 mentioned in the Dec 8 minutes was the 25% amount at that time. This will not be the final 25% amount. Nick also informed us that the 25% will be covered largely by grants and donations. It will not all be paid out of NEN funds.

Councilor Tom Andersen reported from City Council. He discussed the motion by Councilor Jackie Leung calling racism a public health issue. Council unanimously supported this motion.

Virginia Stapleton, city councilor, presented on city council and efforts re homelessness.

Kevin Hottmann, city of Salem, spoke re traffic safety, especially pedestrian safety, particularly on Market Street. He referred to the “intersection safety” section of the city website. Discussion of possible lighting improvements on Market, and also of possible speed cameras. An area resident was recently killed by a vehicle while legally crossing Market Street. Her daughter, **Amanda Guthrie**, attended this meeting and commented about safety concerns.

Janet Lorenzen of the Salem Climate Action Force presented re sources of green house gas emissions (2016 data) in Oregon. 53% of these emissions are produced by transportation, 16% by stationary generators, 26% by electric generators. She noted that the last coal-powered plant in Oregon, in Boardman, is now closed. She said the state now has a goal of no natural gas in new construction.

Evan Sekulic, site manager, provided updates from Neighborly Ventures, housing project at D Street and Park to 25th. Foundations are expected to be built in February, and first residents are expected in late 2021. There was discussion of protection for street trees.

ACTION ITEM: **Laura Buhl** has written a letter revisiting city regulations and Administrative Rules regarding city trees. Jeremy Mills moved the Board approve this letter re city trees, urging developers to maximize city tree preservation. Vote was ten (10) aye, and zero (0) nay.

ACTION ITEM: **Nick Cantonwine** commented that for the restoration of the basketball court at **McRae Park** the 25% of the final budget for which NEN will be responsible will probably be close to \$2500. Nick moved, and Jeremy seconded a motion to approve Joan Lloyd and Nick to submit a final proposal. This motion passed ten (10) aye, and zero (0) nay.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30.