

Minutes of Northeast Neighbors NEN Board

September 14, 2021

Board Members Present: Lynn Takata chair, Jeremy Mills treasure, Delana Beaton secretary, Joan Lloyd, Leslie Polson (by phone), Ken Houghton, Cindy Kimball, Nick Cantonwine, and Benjamin Witt.

Meeting called to order by Chair, **Lynn Takata** at 6:30 PM. Location: Englewood Park

Minutes of meeting on July 13, 2021 approved by acclaim following motion by **Cindy Kimball** for approval, and second by **Ken Houghton**. Copies of the July minutes and of **Jeremy Mills'** July treasurer's report were made available.

Sgt. Dawson of the Salem Police Department was introduced. Sgt. Dawson is now assigned to the NEN area. He announced there will be new security cameras installed in Englewood Park.

Sgt Dawson announced creation of a new position at the sergeant level within the Salem Police Department. This is a new crime analysis position. He announced that Salem has 1.1 officers per 1000 residents, and the national average of policing levels is 1.6 officers per 1000 residents.

Lynn Takata announced she will send contact information for Sgt Dawson to board members by email. Officer Dawson responded to questions. He was asked if there is a designated area(s) within Salem for safe legal use of drugs. There is not.

ACTION ITEM: Due to continuing concern about possible drug distribution at north end of 20th, immediately behind Englewood School, **Jeremy Mills** moved, and **Ken Houghton** seconded, that NEN request a No Parking designation for that area between the hours of 10 PM and 6 AM. This motion passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEM: Guest **Lisa Carpenter** spoke about her desire to save two healthy giant Sequoia trees near intersection of 17th and Chemeketa.

City Councilor **Virginia Stapleton** gave an update. She expressed her personal concern about the Salem Public Library being closed due to COVID. Several guests also expressed that concern. Thirty (30) library staff are now out on quarantine, so staffing is limited.

Councilor Stapleton announced a City Council work session on **Climate Action** next Monday, September 20. "20 is Plenty" initiative supported locally by Ray Quisenberry will be considered.

Also Vision Zero, a goal of zero death due to the transportation system may be considered.

ACTION ITEM: A long time NEN board member, **Alan Scott**, has tendered his resignation from the board. Alan was vice-chair of NEN. **Ken Simila** is nominated to now serve as vice-chair. Gratitude was expressed to both Alan and Ken. **Cindy Kimball** moved that Ken Simila be voted the new vice-chair. **Joan Lloyd** seconded. This passed unanimously.

Lynn Takata announced that NEN would meet on ZOOM in October. Next meeting will be Tuesday, October 12 at 6:30. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.