



NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
555 LIBERTY ST. SE RM. 305 SALEM OR 97301 • 503-588-6207 • WWW.CITYOFSALEM.NET/NEIGHBOR

Meeting Minutes, May 13, 2021

SOUTH GATEWAY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

SGNA met via Zoom due to Covid-19 pandemic.

Board Members

Present

Glenn Baly Chair
Mike Hughes Vice chair
Dave McKenna Secretary
 Treasurer

Absent

Jerry Sachtjen
Trevor Elliot
Sylvia Machado

John Ledger
Jake Krishnan
Kathleen Lempka

Guests

Jackie Leung, City Councilor, Ward 4
Lt. Jason Van Meters, Salem Police Department

1. Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 PM by Chair Baly. Attendance taken, quorum declared present, and board members introduced themselves.

Discussed whether to continue with Zoom meetings. Decided will continue meeting with Zoom for at least three months and will revisit the discussion in August. Currently payment is month to month. Jake is handling this.

2. Approval of Minutes

Approved minutes for April meeting.

3. Police Officer Report

Jason Van Meters gave report. There have been some traffic and speed control issues in the area. There have also been several shootings recently. Some issues with the unsheltered. There has been some bad heroin on the streets with some overdoses. Red light traffic cameras have been installed in several locations including Commercial/Keubler, Commercial/Madrona, and Mission/12 Street.

Group discussed with officer about racing around the City. He said that they can cite them for racing and noise, but due to COVID no arrests are being made.

Neighborhood attendees asked whether people can get involved with for addressing drug use. There seems to be more of a problem since decriminalization. Pros and cons of the decriminalization were discussed. Mental health professionals are needed to help people end their drug problems.

Lt. Van Meters said that police are now operating out of their new building

downtown. **4. City Councilor Report**

City council member Jackie Leung gave report. The City Council is looking into getting a mental health professional to assist the police team in deescalation of mental health situations similar to a program used in Eugene. It will be voted on for approval at the next meeting.

City continues to do cleaning up of homeless areas. Camping in parks will be ended soon.

There are some issues coming up before the council on land use decisions. She said that they can be followed on line. There is one that will involve property on Rees Hill Road.

Casey Kopcho who was present at this meeting will be sitting in for Jackie at the next City Council meeting. He can engage in discussions, but cannot vote. He is a member of the Planning Commission.

8. Other business

Our Salem meetings are wrapping up with the update of the City's Master Plan. There are also Climate Action Committees meetings being held. There are several new types of zoning areas in the plan including mixed-use areas and neighborhood hubs. Three neighborhood hubs have been sited in the SGNA area. These are meant to be walking areas with access to local businesses. Currently one neighborhood hub is proposed for the Miller residential development by Landau and Battlecreek. Glenn said he would see if he could get Eunice Kim to discuss Our Salem at our next neighborhood meeting.

Someone said that Salem will be getting \$38.2 M from the COVID relief fund and that this could be used for bike lanes and sidewalks.

Discussed infrastructure issues at top of Robins Lane hill where proposed development is located. Will need to get developer to address issues to control speeds on these roads and the blind hill that the road will create.

Adjournment