November 10, 2020 Meeting – Virtual Southwest Association of Neighbors (SWAN)

Attendees

Board Members - Jeanine Stice, Pat Norman, John Lattimer, Carol Grimwood, Allison Houck, Connie Jones, Ted Burney, Ron Eachus, Darren Howard, Neighbors- Rob Thrasher, Daryl Thomas

Meeting called to order by Jeanine Stice at approximately 6:44pm

Minutes Approval

August minutes approved and seconded.

City Council Update - Councilor Nordyke

Homelessness – A Navigation Center, the first one in Salem, has been established to provide low barrier indoor shelter for men and women as we head into winter.

The emergency declaration providing extended financial assistance had been extended allowing for temporary zoning changes to accommodate housing and other accommodations although the city council can modify these changes at any time. Mobile response unit – after a yearlong effort to research the impact of a medical response unit to free up police involvement, a motion to draft a proposal by city staff has been approved and will involve bipartisan members of Salem community, DT businesses and mental heal communities.

City Budget - Finances remain in tack due in part to the federal CARES Act although the there has been a 15% reduction in the gas tax revenues as a result of less travel.

Pioneer Cemetery – staff report may be ready by December meeting on proposed recommendations.

Canyon fires – voluntary efforts continue to provide counseling for FEMA eligibility to those who lost their homes in the fire. Funds are sought for those who lost everything.

Police Chief Interviews – Trevor Womack from Stockton CA was selected as the new Salem police chief and joints the police department on Dec. 7th. In conversation with Councilor Nordyke, she was encouraged by his position on diversity, implementing police changes and his support of mobile units.

Neighbors raised policing concerns citing no response in the wake of recent demonstrations around the capitol and seeming unequal enforcement practices, suggesting that best practices need to be implemented.

Land Use Report and Update - Ted Burney

Wren Heights – it appears that the sediment control proceedings are being handled professionally as well as the excavation and grading process. Ted encourages anyone with concerns to email the board for follow up.

Kurth – Old building has been cleared and as rezoning permit for apartments was withdrawn, a partition request for 2 lots has been made although there is no information at this time on what is being planned.

Doughton – partition has been approved and is moving forward.

lvy pull – Ted, in coordination with Tibby Larson of city parks maintenance, has a signup sheet to track volunteer hours for anyone who would like to help with pulling ivy at Fircrest Park. Please contact Ted for more information if interested.

Committee Updates

Parks – Pat requested that a motion to approve \$98.94 from SWAN funds be used to pay the 6 month fee to Meet Ups that communicates the Just Walk program. Motion approved and seconded.
 Candalaria Park follow-up – Pat is working with Irma on how best to communicate to the membership in order to get their input.

SPIFF update – Fircrest Park fountain request is one of 8 requests brought forward to be considered for funding. The application is due by the end of January but she noted that the Salem Parks Foundation also has funds available for certain parks should this request fall through.

Watershed – Carol had no information to report at this time.

CERT – Currently seeking volunteers and developing a workshop on Resilience in response to the pandemic.

Neighborhood Concerns and Closing

Jeanine referenced neighborhood hubs as a part of the Salem Vision planning process. Neighborhood hubs, as defined in the current planning proposal, are properties that would not be required to be redeveloped into business or other nonresidential use and could remain single family homes. However, in the future these hubs would be allowed to be reused or redeveloped into business or nonresidential use limited to retail shops, small cafes and restaurants, personal services, day care centers and other neighborhood service uses. Contact Eunice Kim with City Planning for more information or visit website at www.cityofsalem.net, Neighborhood Hubs Zone Overview.

Request was made to provide police report and a public works representative at our next meeting

Next meeting will return to the first Tuesday of the month, December 1st via Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:45pm