

# Sunnyslope Neighborhood Association

## Minutes

**February 21, 2019**

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 by Chairman, Alan Alexander.

Neighbors and guests introduced themselves.

The minutes were approved as circulated.

Alan mentioned that he and his wife attended the Breakfast with the Police Chief that is a fundraising event put on yearly by the Police foundation to raise money for items that there is no money in the budget for. About 500 people attended. He encouraged neighbors to attend next year. A neighbor mentioned that the event was featured on the KATU morning news.

### **Officer Moreno**

He encouraged neighbors to make sure they are locking their cars. There have been a rash of car clouts and stolen vehicles.

He also encouraged neighbors to report any suspicious people or vehicles in their neighborhood. Please use the non-emergency phone number 503.588.6123. If they are available, they will come out and check things out.

Councilor Cook mentioned the continued issues of speeding on Browning, Liberty and Cunningham. She also indicated that there are other streets in the neighborhood that have similar speeding issues.

A neighbor mentioned the "9PM Program" where neighbors are urged nightly to go out at 9PM or another regular time to check that their vehicles are locked and nothing attractive to a thief is visible and that their garage door is closed. If a neighbor's garage door is open, please contact them.

Chairman Alexander says he takes pictures of the license plate and a picture of the driver, if possible, of suspicious cars in his neighborhood.

A neighbor, as well as Councilor Cook, mentioned that when the police call, it shows up as an unknown caller. It would be nice if the phone number at least showed up as City of Salem. Officer Moreno indicated he would pass along the concern.

## **City Councilor – Sally Cook**

She indicated she did not have a report from the city manager to share.

She mentioned that someone knocked over the beehive in the Community Garden and the shed has been broken into a couple of times. She is wondering if these incidents are related to other issues in the neighborhood.

Saturday bus service will begin in approximately 6 months.

She discussed the bridge situation in Salem. Oregon Department of Transportation owns the two bridges that cross the Willamette River in Salem. There is a congestion relief task force. She indicated there is a trend nation wide to take freeways out of cities. She also gave some reasons for her no vote to move forward on the 3<sup>rd</sup> bridge including that city needs 2 million dollars to build sidewalks in the city to provide safe traveling while a new bridge would cost about 600 million dollars. Also, none of the neighboring communities offered to help provide funding for the 3<sup>rd</sup> bridge. The city is looking at options on how to deal with this issue.

Chairman Alexander shared that attended the South Salem Connect meeting and will act as a liaison and collect data regarding safe access to neighborhood schools.

## **Head of Code Compliance City of Salem – Brady Rogers**

He indicated he will be retiring early next year.

He mentioned the Problem Oriented Policing Team (POP team) that works in areas of town where there are issues that are not something the police can deal with and is not a code compliance violation. There is a gap and that is where the POP team comes in. One such issue, that will be in the news shortly, is a for profit methadone clinic, Acadia Healthcare, at 1160 Liberty Street SE Salem, 97302. They serve 300 to 500 clients daily and they start arriving at the clinic early. The clinic has a negative effect on the neighborhood. The POP team will be working on solutions.

A neighbor asked about the timeline for installation of the new crosswalk on Liberty Road across from the front door of Liberty Elementary. Sally Cook will find out and then let the neighborhood association know.

Sally Cook expressed concerns over safe routes to parks. There are no contiguous sidewalks along Davis Road or Liberty Road to connect neighbors to Secor Park

Sally also mentioned that she attended a school board session and commented how the school district never gives input on how potential developments could impact local schools.

### **Land Use – Evan White**

Evan shared a letter he wrote over concerns about the request of the owner of 5821 Liberty Road South to rezone 2 acres of his 2.6 acre property to RM 1 which would allow a maximum 14 units per acre. The owner came to our January meeting. Evan plans to attend and present the letter at the planning commission meeting.

Since these issues have been discussed at previous meetings so no board action is required to approve the letter. The lack of sidewalks along major portions of Liberty Road, Davis Road and Skyline which make it unsafe for those walking/biking in the area especially students at Crossler Middle School is a major concern. There is no crosswalk at Liberty Road and Davis Road. There are limited sight lines on Liberty as it curves downhill northward toward Crossler which is of concern. Although the owner submitted a traffic study that shows no problems, neighbors have complained about speeding on Davis Road. Also, Secor Park is an undeveloped park.

These same concerns will apply to any future proposed development in the area.

### **Costco Update – Chairman Alexander**

The city council voted against the project to build a Costco store and gas station on Kuebler Blvd. near the freeway. The developer has appealed the decision to the state land use board and feels that they will approve the Costco development. Alan reported that there is no timeline for the land use board to hear the appeal or make a decision. Alan apologized for not having more information about this issue.

### **Secor Park - Bill Kelly**

Bill reported that he and Alan met with the city parks planner regarding Secor Park which has been an undeveloped city park for 30 years. The city has hired a landscape architect and the plan is to have 2 public meetings at Crossler Middle School to discuss plans for the park. They hope to have meetings in March so that neighbors will have a chance to share ideas how the park could be developed. The neighborhood association is asked to have a presence at the meetings.

The city has money in this budget cycle for design. The neighborhood association will push for money in the next budget cycle for development of the park.

## **Neighborhood Communication Funds (provided by the city)**

Linda Miller moved and Evan White seconded a motion that we explore purchasing, locally if possible, shark, leopard and crocodile stickers to hand out at back to school nights. Motion carried.

Consideration will be given to using some of the funds to help with the expansion of the Sunnyslope Community Garden.

Our next meeting will be March 21<sup>st</sup> 7PM at Schirle Elementary.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:41 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Miller

Sunnyslope Neighborhood Association Secretary

Those in attendance:

Alan & Judith Alexander

Bruce & Linda Miller

Bill Kelly

Sally Cook

Evan White

Terry Witter

Officer Moreno

Officer Wolfhagen

Karen Delsman

Lily Carter

Henry Fuqua

Brady Rogers