

Sunnyslope Neighborhood Association
Meeting Minutes
March 18, 2021
Meeting held via zoom

The meeting was called to order at 7PM by Chairman Alan Alexander.

He apologized for cancelling the February meeting. Power and internet outages caused the cancellation.

The January minutes were accepted as circulated.

Salem Police - Lt. VanMeter

He challenged neighbors to document valuable items including descriptions and serial numbers and putting the information in a safe place. If items are stolen, the information will be entered into a database. If an attempt is made to pawn an item, it will be flagged and the police will go out and attempt to make an arrest. Also, if a stash of stolen items are found, they will be able to return items directly to you!

Chairman Alexander shared a suggestion from his insurance agent that you also take pictures of items and include that with other information and put the information on a flash drive and store in a safe place.

Lt. VanMeter also suggested that if you are involved in a minor fender bender which would amount to less than \$2,500 damage that you should take pictures of the damage, drivers license and insurance card. The police do not need to be involved.

Councilor Nordyke

She shared a presentation that included information that the library will reopen during the summer of 2021. They are offering Take & Make craft kits and Operation Bookshelf. Check out the library website for details.

She shared her take-aways from the police audit which is available on the city website and is 75 pages long. The department needs a process to collect and analyze data. There needs to be an increased outreach to the BIPOC community and the department needs a strategic plan.

She reported that we have about 1,500 unsheltered in Salem and that there is about 16,000 state wide. She has been lobbying for funding from the state to provide a navigation center which is a need state wide. Salem would get 5 million to establish one. Redwood Crossing is on line with 37 supported housing units for the unsheltered. Sequoia Crossing will be coming on line in the future. The

city has a rental assistance program. She has visited the shelter at the fairgrounds several times and it is always spotless. (Fairgrounds shelter will be closing at the end of March) They have been able to transfer some to permanent housing. (The shelter on city owned property on Portland Road will expand with Pallet housing)

Our police chief supports a mobile response unit which is staffed with a mental health professional and a medic and would respond to those in a mental health crisis rather than a police officer. A police officer would be involved if there was a weapon. The state legislature is working on grant funding for these units.

The city is offering incentives for developers to include affordable housing units in their multi family developments.

The city Climate Action task force will have a final plan by the fall of 2021.

Posted speeds on Liberty Road South

A neighbor, who lives on Rock Creek, is seeking the support of the neighborhood association to have the speed limit of 35 MPH extended south to the Salem city limits on Liberty Road. He said that taking a left from Rock Creek to Liberty Road is dangerous with drivers not reducing their speed after the 45 MPH speed limit further south.

Because of speeding on Rock Creek, he looked into speed bumps, but found out they cost \$4,000 a piece and must be installed in pairs. He found out 51% of the neighbors must agree to have them installed and that the city has no funding for speed bumps. Tony Martin, assistant traffic engineer city of Salem, also said that another requirement is that 600 cars must use the street daily and one half of them must be traveling faster than the 25 MPH speed limit.

Chairman Alexander reported that he received a communication from Bruce Cameron, chairman of the Bella Cresta homeowners association, regarding issues of the one entrance/exit to the development and the potential construction traffic.

Tony Martin - City of Salem assistant traffic engineer

He reported that the Oregon Department of Transportation regulates speed limits state wide. General limits are 15 MPH for alleys and narrow residential

streets, 20 MPH for business districts and school zones, 25 MPH for residential streets, and 55 MPH for most rural highways and trucks on interstate freeways.

He said everyone speeds and speed signs do not change behaviors. The challenge is how do we compel drivers to slow down.

Davis Road was a two lane Marion County road that the city inherited. Davis is a collector road and does not qualify for speed bumps for public safety reasons.

The development south of Joynak Phase 1 will trigger a light at Davis and Liberty. Phase 2 of the development will trigger a light at Mildred and Liberty Road. These signals will help slow down traffic on Liberty Road. Joynak will extend through the development to Mildred.

Mildred will eventually extend to Skyline. They have a few hundred feet of right of way to acquire.

He reported that the standard alternate residential street width standard is 34 feet. The average car is 7 feet wide which allows for parking on both sides and 16 feet of roadway which allows 2 cars to pass each other slowly.

He indicated that parking is only allowed on one side of the street on Joynak and it is the only public street in the development.

It is illegal to park in front of your driveway.

The city requires 1 to 1.5 off street parking spaces in multi family unit developments depending on the size of the units and the number of the units. (Standards can be found on the city website under multi family design standards)

Tammi Starrs - City of Salem Coordinator Salem 5 year Capital Improvement Plan

This is the public works construction budget. Her presentation included the process of determining projects, and current projects where the money comes from other sources than the city budget. There is a place on the city website where requests for projects can be submitted. She will be notifying neighborhood associations about projects that will be happening in their area. Each year the budget and projects are extended out by a year.

Chairman Alexander reported that the metal sign at the Stockton Entrance to Secor Park is an art installation. He has asked the parks department to identify a spot at Secor that an information kiosk can be installed similar to the one at Sunnyslope Park which was an Eagle Scout Project. Once the spot has been located, an effort will be made to get one installed.

Chairman Alexander reported that he has spoken to the Urban Forester about the missing street trees along Croisan Scenic Way next to Schirle Elementary. He is interested in finding out about missing trees on city property. Right now he and his crew are busy dealing with trees damaged during the ice storm. The 1,200 trees damaged will take about 2 months to deal with.

Chairman Alexander reported that the city has identified lots around the city for multi family unit developments. The property at Kurth and Cunningham is one of them. It opens up the property for multi family/Commercial development. Neighbors believe they know the owner of the property and plan to make contact with them. There was a discussion about neighborhood hubs which the city wants to develop.

Chairman Alexander reported that the first phase of the development of the property south of Davis Road that will connect to Joynak has been approved. 66 units will be built.

Old Business

Chairman Alexander reported that the Salem Parks Improvement Grant for a grass volleyball court at Sunnyslope Park has been approved. The Salem Parks Foundation has some money targeted for Sunnyslope Park. He will apply for an additional grant from the foundation to fully fund the project.

A neighbor brought up concerns about investors purchasing homes to rent out. These homes would be affordable for first time home buyers. She was wondering if a tax or fee could be assessed on homes that are not owner occupied.

Chairman Alexander reported that Patricia Farr who is involved in parks planning and natural resources with the city will attend our April meeting. Police Chief Womack plans to attend our May meeting.

Land Use Sub Committee Kevin Willingham

He reported that they had a meeting and would like to see the neighborhood association develop a strategic plan. They would also like to see a review of the by laws and the neighborhood plan. They would like to see a subcommittee that would focus on reaching out to neighbors. They also want to figure out how to be proactive and not always reactive to land use issues.

The next meeting will be held Thursday, April 15th at 7PM via zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40PM.

**Respectfully submitted,
Linda Miller
Sunnyslope Neighborhood Association Secretary**

Those in attendance:

Alan & Judith Alexander

Bruce & Linda Miller

Bill Davis

Frank Howard

Jack Dalton

Karen Delsman

Henry Neugass

Evan White

Kathleen Hill

Tony Martin

Vanessa Nordyke

Andrew Cohen

Tammi Starrs

Elena Guevara

Julia Stewart

Kathy Martin- Willis

Amber Giddings

Lt VanMeter

Larry & Bonnie Dodds

Sally Cook

Kevin Willingham