

FINAL Meeting Minutes – WSNA – 2019-03-18

Jim Allhiser called the meeting to order at 7PM. 27 members were present for various periods of time, 22 signed the attendance roster. EM Easterly moves to approve minutes – second by Micki Varney. Vote unanimous approval.

Presentation – Dr. Satya Chandragiri – SKSD Board Candidate

Psychiatrist at Salem Hospital and private practice. Serves in Lane County, Douglas County, and Harney County. Ages served from 12 to 100. See website at SatyaforOregon.com

Presentation – “The Stables”

Marie Bradford Blevins – Come by the carousel during spring break to see the plans we have here (elevations and concept designs) and ask any further questions you might have. Read more at:

<http://saalemcarousel.wixsite.com/saalemcarousel>

Question – is this in the Riverfront Park master plan update? Yes, it is.

EM Easterly motion for WSNA to support this project. Second Ron Cooper. Unanimous approval. WSNA will send letter of support.

Reports:

Salem Police – Officer Guajardo – Nothing specific to report, but I’m here to answer your questions. Question – Do you watch the Nextdoor app? Yes, we do. We live here too, and we participate. Question – Ride-alongs with Behavioral / Mental Health? Still Monday-Thursday? Yes, at this time, but we might get a chance to expand that.

City Councilor Cara Kaser – Absent

City Councilor Jim Lewis – Next Monday the 25th City Council meeting. A report will be brought forward by staff called “2018 Tree Report” and another subdivision in the Southeast part of town, 2 acres → 12 lots. No public hearings yet for next Monday. Tuesday April 9th – Our Salem committee meeting, updating the comprehensive plan. If you care about where Salem is headed in the next 20 years, you should come out and participate. Also, upcoming are the budget discussions. We will be looking at additional sources of revenue, and budget reductions in some areas. The police station continues its progress, and it is visible. Drive by to see. Also, the Salem library renovation plan is moving forward. A tentative timeline has been published. More information forthcoming on what and where the library will be during renovations. Lastly, clear direction and action on the congestion relief task force recommendations. Council needs to know the specific costs and what each action will and will not do, and the staff is working to provide that.

Land Use – We need a new chair. Contact Jim Allhiser if you are interested.

Traffic & Infrastructure – Nick Fortey

Comment - 7th & McNary (signage on 7th/School Crossing?) – will look into it.

Transit – Steve Evans

Entering a budget cycle that will contain Saturday and Sunday service. Service in “lower parts” of west Salem every ½ hour. Service will run until 11pm as well. Expected to start in September time frame.

Parks – Micki Varney & Watershed – E.M. Easterly

Parks proposals due April 30th.

EM w/ Glen Gibson watershed council, put in a butterfly garden at Eola Ridge park. We’re working with parks to see if there are other park sites that would work for additional butterfly gardens.

Chandler natural area, at end of Ptarmigan. Watershed council proposes that the NA apply for a grant to organize and motivate people to remove invasive plant species, such as English ivy. Salem Parks Foundation to help fund the effort of challenging ivy in the Chandler natural area. (on agenda for next Month for vote). Keep an eye on the WSNA Facebook page for drafts of the grant application. Motion to support WSNA's effort to apply for a grant for this purpose made by EM Easterly, seconded by Craig Evans. Unanimous vote approval.

Edgewater – Jessica Preis

6th year with Edgewater partners, doing a lot of work with neighborhood pride and engaging the community members. Sunday (monthly walking cruise) 24th, 3PM – “little free library” tour. 5 cabinet sized libraries within a mile and ½ loop. Saturday market starting up on May 2nd, and every Thursday through September 12th. June 7th – bike rodeo at Harritt Elementary School, teaching kids bike safety. June 15th – 6th annual Super Saturday at Boys & Girls Club – 40 information tables. Free tables, no sales, family friendly activities. DJ & Food is planned.

Chair Announcements – Jim Allhiser

Sponsor grocery bags. More to come.

Old Business –

Chris Wilhelm moves that the WSNA send a letter of support for the Polk County Levy.

Second – EM Easterly

Discussion: Comments in support of Polk County public safety.

Unanimous vote approval.

Rich Fry suggests that the WSNA send a letter in support of a no parking zone on the west side of River Valley Dr. between Eola and Valley. So moved by EM Easterly. Seconded by Carla Ferrole.

Discussion: Where would people park? In the apartment complex; there's more than enough spots for residents and visitors. Why do people park on the street? It's easier to be on the same level. If you park in the complex parking lot, you must walk up a set of stairs.

Unanimous vote approval.

New Business –

Questions on sidewalks / crosswalks near Orchard Heights park? Jim Lewis did get some quotes working with Public Works. Jim is still working on it.

Question about crosswalk across Orchard Heights at Parkway. Response usually is “it sounds perfect for a bond measure.” Nick Fortey said he can raise it via traffic chair of the NA, and shall. Will vote on it, pending info from Nick.

Meeting ended at 8:20PM

Respectfully submitted – Chris Wilhelm – WSNA Secretary