

**Faye Wright Neighborhood Association
Monthly Meeting
Zoom
6/9/22**

Attendees:

Bev Ecklund- Board Member, Secretary
Susan Hecox - Board Member, Land Use Chair
Blake Shelide- Board Member, Chair
Dr. Trevor Phillips- Salem City Council
Sally Cook- Board Member
Vanessa Nordyke- Salem City Council

Board Members Absent:

Shawn Range- Board Member, Vice-Chair
Mike Slater- Board Member

Call to Order

7:02 p.m.

Roll Call/Introductions

Approval of Previous Minutes

Approved

City/County Reports

Police- no officer present

City Councilors- Trevor Phillips

Budget meeting concluded. No changes made through that process. City staff recommended a status quo budget. City staffing is down to 308 full time employees. Fewer staff in 2022 than we had in 2007. There is no way the city can deliver the services expected at this level of staffing. Moving forward difficult decisions will have to be made on services. The plan to add 6 new full time sworn police officers was not approved. Councilor Phillips plans to make a motion to add funding through the discretionary fund for the officers as well as an additional managed micro-shelter.

Comprehensive Plan Update coming June 13 at Council Meeting- the rules and ordinances that make up the City of Salem. This is only done every 15 years (or so).

Finalists have been chosen for the new City Manager.

Many public hearings in the last month regarding land use issues.

Vanessa Nordyke-

Recapped staffing shortages & City Manager finalists will be announced tomorrow.

Public can ask questions of candidates on June 15th.

Vanessa shared information about campaign spending in the last local election.

Mental health- the city still has a need for more mental health care. The legislature has been responding to this need. Vanessa toured the PCC- Psychiatric Counseling Center. They shared that they operate on a very small budget. Until funded, people in our community will have unmet mental health needs.

Homelessness is a national issue. The research shows that the latest rise of homelessness is the lack of affordable housing. Church at the Park presented Humanity of Homelessness.

You can text 911. It is preferred to call, but if needed, people can text.

Sally Cook- Expressed thoughts on election spending and budget shortfalls. We must realize that services like the library and improved biking infrastructure are very important to the health of the community. Sally encourages everyone to look at the larger view of the issues and how all systems and departments work together in the city and rely on each other. These services also give the opportunity for people of all backgrounds and abilities the chance to commingle.

Bev Ecklund- Shared places like the library and parks can create places for shared experiences.

Trevor- if the Bond passes it will be for streets and sidewalks, two new branch library locations, affordable housing, funding for parks. Sally- please be sure that those new services will be served by public transportation. More long term planning is needed. The need to connect the community is very important.

Ideas shared about how to communicate to residents about the neighborhood association annual meeting. A mailer could be an option.

Trevor and Vanessa welcome questions and comments anytime.

Discussion around services and projects that would be funded by the passage of the bond. Next step will be to go to the public for input on priorities. Discussion about how we need to think carefully about long term planning.

Vanessa- would like to see the city revisit how they talk about the funding and have more input into the planning. Public Safety should be funded as a separate measure. There needs to be a way to move towards a more cooperative way to talk about funding projects.

Trevor- There must be community buy in- example is that the managed micro shelter was pushed back to the city after an adjacent property owner took them to court. In favor of 6 new officers because it can start to lead the way to community policing. Adding more officers can also help community members that may be concerned about having a micro-shelter near them.

New Business

Neighborhood Communications Funds – promotional ideas for next fiscal year

Tabled until next month. We have about \$1600 in our budget currently.

August 2 - Neighborhood Night Out Against Crime

Plan for some sort of 'swag' to hand out at various national night out events. Motion to approve up to \$200. Motion passed after discussion.

Would like to know how many night out events our area holds.

Park Walks

Parks Park-Gracemont Thursday, March 3, 2022 5:30pm- complete

Hillview Thursday, April 7, 2022 5:30pm- complete

Wendy Kroger Saturday, 2022 2:00pm planned- need new date. Plan is to have it coincide with our annual meeting.

Woodmansee Thursday, June 2, 2022 5:30pm- complete

Neighborhood issues/concerns/questions

None

Adjourn

8:49 p.m.

Next meeting: July 14, 2022