



NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
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Meeting Minutes April 13, 2023
SOUTH GATEWAY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

SGNA met via Zoom due to Covid-19 pandemic.

Board Members

Present

Jackie Leung Chair
Dave McKenna Vice chair
Jerry Sachtjen Secretary
Mike Hughes Treasurer
John Ledger
Kathleen Lempka
Glenn Baly

Absent

Dynee Medlock

Community members:

John Miller
JanS
Becky
Charey Cook
Maria Moakri
Courtney Sanders
Jill
Bob Oblack
Marne Anderson
Lori Pearson
Tim Pierce
Kim D

Guests

Vanessa Nordyke, City Councilor, Ward 7
Tom Andersen, State Representative District 19
Drew Cohn, Ward 4 Budget Team

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Jackie Leung. Attendance taken, quorum declared present. Approved minutes for March meeting.

2. City Councilor Report

Vanessa gave report. She attended the Mahonia Crossing Low Income Housing Ground Breaking. Excited to see housing going in.

There will be a Light of Hope benefit concert at the Elsinore theater on April 20, 2023 at 6:00 PM starring country music artist Jimmy Wayne.

City Snapshot

Public Budget Meeting Coming

- April is Child Abuse Prevention Month
- Car Parade Friday, April 7 at 7:30 PM was held at Oregon State Fairgrounds Pavilion
- Code Amendments to Eliminate Minimum Parking Requirements Citywide
- Budget Committee meetings begin April 19
- Commercial Air Services preparations for July 2023 (tentative)
- City of Salem has ordered Fire engines and life-saving equipment with proceeds from voter-approved Safety and Livability Bond

Firefighting Trucks and Equipment with Bond Proceeds

Thank you for supporting the Bond Measure

\$19.89M in fire trucks and equipment, including:

- 16 fire engines
- 2 ladder trucks
- 1 heavy rescue vehicle
- 1 air rescue vehicle
- 2 wildland fire engines
- 2 ambulances
- 1 aircraft rescue and firefighting truck

The state eliminated parking mandates for Oregon cities. The parking reforms apply to 48 Oregon Cities in Oregon's eight metropolitan areas (Albany, Bend, Corvallis, Eugene/Springfield, Grants Pass, Portland Metro, Rogue Valley, Salem/Keizer) and counties in these areas with more than 5,000 people inside the urban growth boundary but outside city limits with urban sewer and water services (Clackamas, Marion, Washington)

Mos Adams did a study of Salem and other city budgets. Budgets are at a point of critical concern for trying to supply city services due to the repercussions from Measures 5 and 50 limiting the increase in property taxes to 3%/year. City looking at options for generating revenue to fund services. Salem's General Fund will be gone by June 2025.

They are looking at options with fees and an employee paid payroll tax to meet the costs of city services. If not implemented will need to cut City services. City will tax worker payrolls in Salem. Not sure yet how this will impact remote workers.

3. Police Officer Report

No police officer was present to give report.

4. Legislative Update

Tom Andersen gave a report on what is happening in the legislature.

Representative Andersen contact information:

<https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/andersen>

Capitol Phone: 503-986-1419

Capitol Address: 900 Court St. NE, H-479, Salem, Oregon 97301

Email: rep.TomAndersen@oregonlegislature.gov

Website: <https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/andersen>

Is on the following committees:

- Judiciary
- Climate, Energy and Environment
- Early Childhood and Human Services

Discussed what it was like working in the legislature.

Put forward a bill for a trolley from West Salem into the downtown that would eventually hook up with rail going up to Portland. Also has a bill for CTech (Career Technology) For drones and airplane engine repair at the local airport.

Legislation is being discussed to put a cap on yearly rental increases.

Involved with gun safety and reproductive rights legislation.

Supports Dolly Parton Imaginary Library legislation to get books to young people.

5. Neighborhood Park Grant Survey (Battlecreek Park)

SGNA applying for grant for upgrade to Battlecreek Park. Votes can be submitted over email to findthepattern@icloud.com if you are not on social media or on NextDoor. Option choices are: Park Bench, Bark dust path(s) and Woof Waste disposal station.

6. City Budget Update

The options for funding City Services that Vanessa mentioned earlier are outlined at this web page:

<https://saalem.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=6118974&GUID=751B1268-0E74-44DC-BC18-F9AED3487F96&Options=&Search=>

The 2024 Budget can be found at the following web page:

<https://www.cityofsalem.net/home/showpublisheddocument/19417/638175146197030000>

For the next 4-5 weeks the City budget committee will be meeting and reviewing the budget. Drew recommends getting involved. Meetings are Wednesdays at 6:00 PM If you want to comment or participate in upcoming budget meetings, follow link here:

<https://www.cityofsalem.net/government/city-council-mayor/about-city-council/comment-and-participate-in-a-city-council-meeting>

Drew Cohen email:

cityofsalemward4budget@gmail.com

Questions from neighbors on why fees are added on to water bill. It was said that these are some of the operational fees and that can be added by the city. Asked why the sewer fee is so high the reply was that sewer water treatment is not cheap.

7. New Business

The Night Sky Initiative would like to make a presentation to the neighborhood association.

8. Adjournment.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 11th at 6:45 PM.