## Minutes of **GRANT NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

Board Meeting October 5, 2023 6:15 pm Broadway Commons and online via: Zoom video conference

#### **AGENDA ITEM**

## **#1** Introductions

BOARD MEMBERS: PRESENT – $P$ ABSENT – $A$ EXCUSED - $E$					
ELISA ANGUIANO	P	LOLA HACKETT	E	SUSAN NAPACK	E
JEANNE BOATWRIGHT	P	TINA HANSEN	P	SAM SKILLERN	P
MARK DECOURSEY	P	Laura Herrmann	P	AARON TERPENING	E
TIM FRANCE	P	TERESA JOSLIN	P	Marissa Theve	E
CHRISTOPHER HACKETT	P	NICK MASELLI	P		

Others present, or on Zoom: Lindy Beaver, Nick Beleiciks, Virginia Stapleton, Sadie Carney, Dan Sisken, Carol DeCoursey, Chris Wolfe, Scott Mumford, Carolin VanOrdin and one other neighbor.

Christopher moved that "We approve the September minutes with the corrections listed below." Nick seconded the motion. Vote was 9 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

#### Corrections:

**#5** Councilor Report

- CORRECT: She has contacted public works about the pedestrian safety **sings** on Market at Grant Community School.
- To READ: She has contacted public works about the pedestrian safety **signs** on Market at Grant Community School.

#6 GNA Bylaws Review – Article III

- CORRECT: Next moth we will address the membership Article.
- To READ: Next month we will address the membership Article.

#7 Indigenous Land Acknowledgement

- CORRECT: Two instances of "Calapooya"
- TO READ: Kalapuya
- CORRECT: "Salme is working with the tribes to replace the sign at Mill Creek . . . "
- To READ: "Salem is working with the tribes to replace the sign at Mill Creek . . . "

Sam noted that, sadly - for us, Paul has stepped off of the board to focus his family time. We will be looking for someone who might be interested in being our land use chair. Paul is willing to help guide and mentor you into the process.

### **#2** Great Story from Grant Neighborhood

- Laura told us about the Jog-a-Thon at Grant Community School and Park that will be held tomorrow, Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Teresa reminded all that the Volunteer Recognition event at the Salem Public Library will be held on October 16<sup>th</sup>. The reception starts at 5:00 and the presentations begin at 6:00 in the Loucks Auditorium.
- Nick Beleiciks said the annual citywide High School band fundraiser was a success for the North Salem High School students last month. The event was expanded to include the students in orchestra and choir. Lots of returnable cans and bottles were collected, along with monetary donations.

## **#3** Neighbor Concerns

- Mark reported on the slippery mess that the chestnut trees in the parking strips on his block are making. They fall to the asphalt and are crushed by traffic. Virginia said that she will try to get a city sweeper out to clean it up.

- Nick followed up on his information last month regarding people being told that they will lose their home insurance if they don't repair their roof within a limited time frame. He checked with the State of Oregon Insurance Commissioner and was told that it is an allowed practice and it is legal for the insurance companies to use drone and aerial photography to assess roofs. That is usually followed by an onsite visual inspection. Nick was told that, if your insurance is cancelled this way, you can appeal to the Insurance Commissioner's office to get the situation mitigated, especially if the roof is not very old and in relatively good condition.
- Elisa reported bags of pop cans stolen from her property. She filed a police report. She also commented about a neighbor who leaves their trash bins out for days at a time sometimes all week.
- Sam reported that he spoke with the Seed of Faith Church Pastor, Wade Harris, and he was interested in exploring the idea of parents being able to use the church parking lot at afternoon pickup time at Grant School. A neighbor said that there have been posts put up for chaining off the entrances. She said that there was a 3-car fender bender in the parking lot that ended up in a brawl. Evidently, the church's insurance company recommended blocking off the lot to stave off liability. The chains have not been put up yet.

# **#4** Officer Report

No Police Officer was in attendance.

Compliance Service Officer Chris Wolfe was asked about the home at 1290 Capitol Street. Last month it was taped off with caution tape. It was supposed to be reinspected on September 26<sup>th</sup>. Teresa wanted to know what the violation/condition was that prompted the enforcement and if the follow up inspection had occurred. Officer Wolfe said that he did not have information about the site – it is on Officer Hendricks' list. He will try to get information for us about it.

Sam brought up last month's issues about concerning activity at the house adjacent to the Seed of Faith Church parking lot. Officer Wolfe said he hadn't heard of any, or seen any, issues there. A neighbor in attendance said that she has not seen anything, either, and added that she has met and spoken with the residents and everything is fine.

Officer Wolfe stated that the houseless situation is really keeping staff busy. They recently cleared the ODOT owned Park-n-Ride lot at Hawthorne and Market streets. Cherriots is no longer running bus service to the lot. Teresa asked if those who were using the lots to park the cars that they lived in had been given a 72-hour notice. He said they were given a two-week notice. A neighbor asked if Salem has overnight parking available for those who have to live in their cars. He said yes, there are several lots in town that are available for that.

A neighbor asked if it is the property owner's responsibility to keep sidewalks clean of things like leaves. He said he wasn't sure if that was required.

# **#5** Councilor Report

Virginia reported:

- The City Council agenda for October 9<sup>th</sup> has nothing going on.
- She had a chance to go into the field with the SOS team, which consists of 2 police officers and 4 public works staff, all of whom are trained and have been responding and performing community policing activities for the past year. They visit camps and have very obvious relationships with the occupants and they know each other by name. They have only made one arrest over the course of the year. The team is professional and caring, treating those they meet with dignity. They will help clean up areas. They encountered a man whose wheelchair had been stolen. They made a few calls and found a replacement, picked it up, and delivered it to him. She learned about drug use and fentanyl affects and how the officers identify the symptoms and how to react. They visit with kids and get to know them. She was really impressed and feels we need to keep supporting this valuable program.
- She visited the Salem Free Clinic downstairs at Broadway Commons and learned about their services.

- She got an update on a city peer review from Moss Adams auditors. Salem and six other Oregon cities were compared. Like Salem, all of them are facing deficits. Salem's is at \$29-million. Cities are having to make lots of cuts. Mark asked if a study had been done to determine how the proposed city income tax would affect low-income households. She said they were conscious of that and omitted minimum wage earnings from the tax.
- She is running for re-election next year.

### #6 Salem Parks & Recreation Board

Debbie Miller was under the weather and unable to attend. We will reschedule her for November.

## **#7 GNA** Civic Involvement

## NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS CHAIRS' MEETING

- There was a presentation about the problem of human trafficking and the work being done by SPD in collaboration with Safety Compass to identify and assist victims. They are doing presentations to NA's we can consider inviting them.
- A project is starting that will be identifying and inventorying the riparian areas along waterways in Salem. There may be some changes in the distance that structures can be built from the edges of streams and creeks. There is an informational .pdf file about this on our website.
- The library now offers Transparent Language Learning software in many languages. The discovery room will be opening up soon with a dinosaurs theme. A book sale will run from Oct 6<sup>th</sup> thru the 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Many of the NA's are creating logos and doing street paintings. Highland suggested we collaborate on an event. Susan will be meeting with their communications person

## WILLAMETTE HERITAGE CENTER TRICK-OR-TREAT

- The cost for Halloween Cards from Pretty Good Printing is 9¢ per card, so 1000 cards will be \$90. We hand these out to wish Happy Halloween and to provide the link to the city's website where anyone can find their own neighborhood association. This is part of our public outreach commitments.
- Last year we spent \$66 from GNA funds for Halloween candy. This was in addition to candy donations from board members and neighbors. Christopher moved that "GNA will participate in the Willamette Heritage Center Drive-Thru Halloween event and to allocate no more than \$200 from our communications funds to pay for printing cards and purchasing candy." Tim seconded the motion. Vote was 10 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions. Anyone who would like to volunteer to help setup, take down, or pass out candy, please let Susan or Jeanne know. Nick and Teresa were interested.

### **BOYS & GIRLS CLUB CHRISTMAS**

The club has reached out to see if we will be donating again this year to their holiday fundraiser. We donated \$300 last year. Do we want to continue? There is a different contact at the Club from the one that came to our meeting last year. We will invite them to our November meeting for an update on the organization and a report on where the donation is best used before voting on an allocation.

#### **#8** Board Member Reports

- **CERT** Christopher reported that the current CERT training session started tonight. If you are interested, you can still join.
- Communications/Outreach Susan via Christopher

Our Current Communication Funds account has \$1023. We will probably be able to earn \$500 in matching funds by the end of the fiscal year.

A reminder that everyone needs to report their volunteer hours on behalf of GNA which are eligible to earn funds.

Our T&A funds account is at \$2295 (I think this includes the \$1000 from Travel Salem for our Street Painting.) An additional \$1000 is expected from Travel Salem for a future Block Party.

Our newsletter list is over 200 and about half of those opened the October newsletter. Yeah! The newsletter is now posted on our website. We got some new email sign-ups from the Family Bike Vision event.

At our November meeting, we should consider if we want to do another information and meeting calendar postcard for 2024 to the neighborhood? The cost would be approximately \$650.

- Land Use Updates Sam reported that the activity has picked up at the Evergreen Church project. The interior is mostly gutted and the work on the exterior will begin soon. The historic windows on the north side will be going to make way for required emergency egress ones. The rest of the building will retain its historic windows.
- North Neighborhoods CPT Sam reminded all that the CPT meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month. That will be on the 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 for lunch. Sam was asked how this organization is funded. He said it is all done by the Salem Leadership Foundation. Sam posted his email on the whiteboard in the room so anyone can contact SLF if they are interested in receiving an email invitation each month to attend the lunches.

## **#7 Other Business**

None was brought forth.

Meeting adjourned at 7:36 pm Respectfully submitted by: Jeanne Boatwright