



**NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**  
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Meeting Minutes May 9, 2024  
**SOUTH GATEWAY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

*SGNA met via Zoom.*

**Board Members**

Present \_\_\_\_\_ Absent

Dynee Medlock Chair  
Jackie Leung Vice chair  
Dave McKenna Secretary  
Kathleen Lempka Treasurer  
Mike Hughes  
John Ledger  
Glenn Baly  
Gregg Macdonald

**Community members:**

John Miller Wildwood(Mahonia)  
Charey Cooke  
John Morgan  
Amy Teagarden  
Andrew Cohen  
Becky  
Deb Cozzie  
iPhone 11 Pro (2)

**Guests**

Deanna Gwyn, City Councilor, Ward 4  
Officer Ben Morgan, Salem Police Department  
Juli Foscoli, Sumpter Annual Garage Sale  
Jim Scheppke, Quiet Clean Salem

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Dynee Medlock. A roll call of Board members was performed. A quorum was declared. Approved minutes from April meeting with some corrections.

## **2. Treasurer Report**

Kathleen Said that Irma was to supply her with the info on the Engagement fund and the communication funds, but she has not done so.

There was a question as to whether the billing for the Zoom software had been taken out of the funds. It was not clear whether that had been taken into account. Irma did say that they are glad that we are having hybrid meetings because it helps to reach more people.

## **3. Deanna Gwyn Councilor Update**

Deanna said the last City Council meeting was the final budget meeting. She said that the SGNA Budget Representative, Andrew Cohen, was instrumental in keeping the City's Movies and Concerts in the Park and Splash pads in the current budget.

## **4. Officer Ben Morgan with Salem Police Update**

Will be having more Community Discussions on Gun Violence in June and August. If anyone is interested he can send them out an email on attending the meeting.

Crime Data is available on the City's website using the LexisNexis Community Crime Map to see where crimes are reported in the community.

There will be a Procedural Justice meeting on how the police handle their business on Saturday May 18th from 8 am to 5 pm. It is free. Four pillars of how police handle their work: 1) Want to be sure that people are given a voice; 2) Want to be neutral; 3) Want to show dignity and respect; and 4) Want to be trustworthy.

They are still hiring, but have eliminated four open vacancies from the budget. Will need to eliminate ten open positions next July due to budget shortfalls.

There was a question about the Graffiti Abatement Program. Kathleen said that people in the Terrace Lake Community are interested in assisting the program. Said to send an email out to [graffitti@cityofsalem.net](mailto:graffitti@cityofsalem.net) to find out how to assist with volunteers.

## **5. Sumpter Annual Garage Sale**

Juli Foscoli discussed the Sumpter Annual Garage Sale occurring on June 21st -23rd from Liberty to Sunnyside and from Kuebler to Mildred Lane. A map of the locations of home participating in the sale and more info can be found on their Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/sumpterannualgaragesale/>

## **6. Quiet Clean Salem**

Jim Schepekke spoke for this group that is working to eliminate gas-powered leaf blowers due to their noise and pollution in the Salem area. Blowers have a sound level of 110 decibels and one hour worth of blowing produces the same pollution as 1,100 car miles of emissions. They would like to replace them with electric units using batteries. To go to electric will provide a return on investment within 9.7 months. Both Portland and Seattle are already doing this. Portland with a gradual turnover plans to eliminate all gas blowers by 2028.

Both Oregon State Parks and Salem Public works are in the process of phasing out gas blowers and replacing them with electric units. Each electric blower requires 5-6 batteries per unit for daily use. Consumer Reports now rates electric blowers as good as gas blowers on power.

He presented a statement of support to be endorsed by SGNA for submission to the city (see attached).

Jim said that the Dolly Parton Imagination Library is now a statewide program in Oregon.

## 7. Engagement Funds

The Engagement Funds (\$1500) were a grant from the City of Salem. During the April meeting \$450 was allocated to sponsor the Salem Seekers. The remaining \$1050 needs to be allocated by the end of June.

The Billboard sign on Kuebler and Commercial was reduced from \$375/wk. to \$300/wk. or pro-rated at \$172/wk. since the sign would only be used Monday thru Thursday on the week of the meetings.

Several options were discussed as follows :

### Option 1

Run Billboard June thru November (no meetings in August and December)	\$860
Printed Media	\$190

### Option 2

Run Billboard June thru September (no meeting in August)	\$516
Printed Media	\$534

### Option 3

Run Billboard June thru September (no meeting in August)	\$516
Hire Salem Seekers for next year	\$450
Printed Media	\$84

It was decided that we would hold off on voting for this until we know the options and costs available for the printed matter; and, would be checking with Salem Seekers to see the cost for doing the glass ducks in the park next year.

## 8. New Business

Motion to approve the new SGNA logo was done by Board email. The voting was completed on May 4, 2024.

A motion to modify the logo so that the trees were green. Glenn asked to amend the motion that all black areas be made green. The amended motion did not pass, The original motion to just make the trees green passed with Glenn being the only "Nay" vote.

## 9. Adjournment

*The next meeting is scheduled for June 13th at 6:30 PM at Baxter Hill Community Hall and will be a hybrid meeting with Zoom.*