

East Lancaster Neighborhood Association  
Minutes  
December 3, 2020

Present: Sue Fowler, Mary Sarabia, Mike Sim, Pat Mick, Chris Hoy, Terry Mott, Vern Golden, Chuck Westbrook, and via Zoom, Susann Kaltwasser

Sue Fowler called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. This is ELNA's first meeting with a Zoom viewing option.

**Police Report**

Jason VanMeter participated via Zoom. There were questions about nuisance houses. One was on Market and the other on Swallow. He said that he would check on the status with the POP team.

**Councilor Report**

Councilor Hoy shared that the new police chief starts Monday. He is Trevor Womack and has 29 years in law enforcement and is from Stockton PD. Work has started on the performance audit of the Police Department. The consultants are conducting interviews this week. The steering committee provided helpful guidance on whom to interview. Hillard/Heintze will be meeting with members of the Police Department, mayor and councilors, City departments and community agencies that work with the Police Department, and community groups and organizations.

How to watch the Steering Committee meetings:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xpcf7O648wM>

Keep track of progress here:

<https://www.cityofsalem.net/Pages/police-audit.aspx>

Council participated in their first Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Training last night with department heads. They have another session scheduled coming up. First time Salem City Council has required this of its members.

COVID/Homelessness Update: ODOT has agreed to regular trash pick ups at Market & I-5 underpass. Council recently authorized some funding for helping with the unhoused citizens.

Sheltering Options - \$733,780

The City is exploring options for sheltering locations. Should workable sites be located, the City could enter into an agreement with nonprofit(s) for the management of a site(s) through June 2021. If a location and / or operator cannot be secured the funding would not be used.

Parks Mitigation - \$180,900

Wallace Marine Park and Cascades Gateway Park are being used as shelter locations during the pandemic.

Resolution No. 2020-47 adds \$180,900 for Parks Operations budget including:

- \$23,000 - Waterline installation for additional potable water.
- \$67,000 - Additional equipment purchases to maintain inaccessible areas.

- \$84,600 - Additional portable restrooms and hand-washing stations.
- \$6,300 - Additional garbage services.

#### Opportunity Funds - \$120,000

This is an emerging area of community priority. Innovation will be important and the ability to act quickly will be needed. These opportunity funds are sought to address any additional issues or opportunities related to homelessness for the current fiscal year.

#### Vehicle Camping - \$86,540

Council directed the creation of a pilot vehicle camping program. The program Safe Park was implemented in July in partnership with the Salem Leadership Foundation. The additional funding would continue and expand the program through June 2021. The current program serves 64 vehicles and this funding would increase the total to 104 vehicle and approximately 208 persons.

#### Cash for Trash - \$50,000

This pilot program sought to provide incentive and mechanism for keeping personal camp areas clean. Waste management is an important aspect of ensuring the health and sanitation of the camping areas. Nonprofit providers donate outreach time to conduct the program and supplement the incentives provided by the City. Although nicknamed “Cash for Trash,” a gift card is provided rather than cash. This additional funding continues the program through June 2021.

#### Salem Warming Network - \$30,000

Additional site locations are currently being sought to expand the reach of this program. If successful, new partners will receive site stipends to assist with increased costs at the locations, in alignment with what current partners receive. In addition, \$25,000 is needed for site improvements for a warming shelter on Portland Rd. NE.

#### Towing - \$14,000

The City seeks to ensure the Cascades Gateway and Wallace Marine developed park area and parking lots are available for all park users. Regular enforcement of code related to vehicles is underway. The City identifies inoperable vehicles used as primary residence and needs funding for towing fees to an approved camping location.

#### Supplies - \$3,000

Stock of weather-proof duct tape, sleeping bags, tents and other supplies to augment resources with the Salem Housing Authority navigator position.

#### Weather Protection Grant Program - \$200,000

The grant funds are proposed to be used to pay for related City permit fees, tent purchase or rental, tent poles and fasteners, as well as heaters in order to create useable outdoor spaces during the winter. The intent of the program is to allow businesses to continue to operate into the colder months while continuing to promote social distancing. The current program design would allow grants of \$5,000 for smaller businesses (restaurants, bars, and microbreweries) and \$10,000 grants for larger businesses.

**ELNA business cards and brochure** - Final recommendations were given for business cards for board members. It would include general information on meeting place, time and the chair's contact information. 250 cards will be ordered.

**Homeless Issues** - Susann said that she had been contacted by the chairperson of Northgate Neighborhood Association about asking the City Council to work with us to create and help implement a more comprehensive plan to address homelessness as it impacts neighborhoods. After some discussion it was decided by unanimous vote that Susann should be authorized to correspond with Council and staff regarding better communication and to ask for an overview of the efforts to provide services to the unhoused.

#### Committee Reports

**Land Use** - Susann reported that the only land use case was about a pump station for the PUD development East Side Estates. There are several actions needed to adjust for its location, but it is not significant to the overall design. The actual construction of streets will not happen until spring 2021 or later.

**Parks** - Susann will file the final SPIF grant application in January. She asked for confirmation of the amount the Board was willing to raise to match the grant. It was agreed to raise \$500. How to do this was not discussed. Funds would be needed in March, if we got the grant.

**January meeting** - It was decided that we would not meet in December unless there is an important issue that arises.

**Minutes** - The minutes of the November 2020 meeting were approved unanimously.

Pat said that it was hard to understand the reports that Susann was giving on Zoom. She asked if there could be visuals available to help with understanding. Pastor also said that he has a larger screen that we could use so that people could see better.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.