

East Lancaster Neighborhood Association

Minutes - June 3, 2021 - 7:00 pm - Combination Zoom & In-person Meeting
First Free Will Baptist Church, 1390 45th Avenue NE, Salem OR

Board Chairs/Members Present		Others Present	
x	Susann Kaltwasser, Chair - Zoom	x	Chris Hoy, Ward 6 City Councilor
x	Sue Fowler, Co-Chair	x	Sergeant Hill, City of Salem Police
x	Chesta Bauer, Secretary	x	Lynelle Wilcox, United Way
x	Terry Motte, Member-at-large	x	John & Patty Davenport, Habitat for Hope
x	Lynette Horton - Member-at-large	x	Joe Dabek, Habitat for Hope Board
x	Mary Sarabia, Vice-Chair	x	Jimmy Jones, MWV Community Action
x	Patricia Mick, Member-at-large		
x	Chuck Westbrook, Member-at-large		
x	Clark Hazlett, Member-at-large		Neighbors Present:
x	Mike Sim, Member-at-large		Beverly Quiring
	Vern Golden - Member-at-large - absent		Broc Thorud

Introductions: The meeting was opened by Co-chair Sue Fowler at 7:06 pm. A motion was made by Chesta Bauer and seconded by Mary Sarabia to approve the May 6 ELNA meeting minutes with the following correction: Mike Sim was not at the meeting as shown in the minutes. The motion was approved.

Police Report: Sgt. Hill discussed the police role in the end of City-sanctioned unsheltered camping in the Wallace Marine and Cascade Gateway parks on June 1. He mentioned that removing campers will be a gradual process over a period of time. Reverend Terry asked about increasing patrols on 45th Avenue in order to monitor street racing. Sgt. Hill said he will look into it and that citizens should continue to report such incidences so that it is easier to target services to where these activities are occurring. There was discussion about alternative ways of addressing the 45th Avenue situation such as putting up a speed trailer or having a citizen use a radar gun to monitor speeding. There was discussion about getting a radar gun and Chris Hoy said there was one available to loan to neighborhood associations. He said he would send an email to the Traffic Division. Chris also said he would discuss this issue with the Chief and the City Manager and look into developing a plan to address it. There was a question about the National Night Out and whether the City would be allowing this activity this year. Sgt. Hill said he hopes so. There was a question about the increased amount of shootings in Salem. Sgt. Hill said that the department was looking into shifting resources to address this.

Homelessness in Salem:

- **United Way, SafeSleep, Lynelle Wilcox, Manager:** Lynelle discussed the homeless centers in Salem and shared her experiences working with the unsheltered population. United Way SafeSleep manages an overnight shelter for homeless women in connection with a local church. She told stories of people who are homeless, many of whom are there due to some trauma in their life that has affected their brain and their ability to cope with necessities of life. She said there are services available but never enough, and there are never enough shelter options, either. How to donate to the homeless was discussed. Lynelle said that it is preferred that donations be made to

established homeless services organizations instead of giving things directly to people because if the item donated can't be used or is not wanted it ends up in the trash that accumulates at homeless sites. She also handed out a flyer that explains what should be considered if donations are given to people directly. The giving philosophy emphasizes that donations should be chosen to reflect respectfulness for and worthiness of our unsheltered neighbors. The types of organizations that accept and organize donations are places like United Way, Helping Hands, Kindness Closet, Arches, Church at the Park, etc. More information on SafeSleep can be accessed at: <https://www.unitedwaymwv.org/safesleep-united.html>.

- **Habitat for Hope, John & Patty Davenport:** This project was started by a group from the Salem Unitarian Universalist Church. The purpose of the project is to help unsheltered women who are able to work or working low wage jobs to transition to affordable, permanent housing through offering subsidized housing and support services. Support services will be coordinated with ARCHES. There will be a minimum/maximum time up to one year occupancy and it is expected that those who are served will be on the lower need scale and are able to quickly move into permanent housing and work. They are planning on building a facility on the church's property which will house five women. The project is being financed by grants, donations and the Amazon Smile program. More information can be accessed at: <http://habitatandhopevillage.org/>.
- **ARCHES, Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, Jimmy Jones, Executive Director:** The ARCHES Project is a division of the MWVCAA and provides services to the homeless/unsheltered population to address their basic needs, support services, coordinated entry, and housing programs. This program provides a variety of services such as coordinating over 15,000 bed nights for unsheltered people annually; mail service with over 900 boxes; emergency shelter; food services; a veteran's shelter; a motel project; and a mobile services project. They recently purchased the Super Eight motel to provide 80 rooms for homeless/unsheltered people. This facility is expected to be open by September or early October this year. MWVCAA also administers programs to provide emergency rental funds, energy assistance, and provides or coordinates services for mental and health services, and other services to prevent homelessness and to help people to manage the basic skills of living.
- **City Councilor:** Chris is Vice Chair of the Mid-Willamette Valley Homeless Alliance which provides coordination among providers to address homelessness and includes a variety of cities and organizations in the Mid-Willamette Valley area such as the cities of Salem, Keizer, Independence, and Monmouth, Marion County, Polk County, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Salem-Keizer School District, and various other agencies. The purpose of the alliance is to develop evidenced based strategies to address homelessness issues, getting people into housing, and ending homelessness. He reported several initiatives that will or are helping with homeless issues: a legislative bill that would provide \$5 million in funding for a navigation center in South Salem; a grant that will provide funds for several programs that work with the homeless; a City program for subsidized housing and relieving taxes for developers building low income housing. He mentioned that Salem has the most homeless people in the state with co-morbidity issues that require significant assistance. Chris also reviewed the efforts the City made during the pandemic to assist homeless individuals such as the use of the State Fairgrounds as shelter for 100 persons, allowing managed camping in two parks, and increased services for temporary housing. He also mentioned the shelter provided on Portland Road and the acquisition of the old Union Gospel Mission building to house the homeless. The City is working with ODOT to develop a solution for the removing the homeless from the Market Street underpass. The City is also moving several hundred homeless individuals from the two parks that were used during the pandemic shutdown. Chris said the City is doing this as a transition process that started on June 1 but will be an ongoing process not a total removal on the June 1st date.
- **First Free Will Baptist Church, Reverend Terry Motte:** Reverend Terry reported that the church will be holding a free clothing give-away on June 25.

Committee Reports:

Land Use:

- **Our Salem:** Susann Kaltwasser wrote out the comments gleaned from the May 26 special ELNA meeting held to discuss the land use zone changes for "middle housing" to be included in the Our Salem document, the city initiated process for updating the Salem Area Comprehensive Plan which guides development in the Salem area. These changes are being made to comply with the requirements of Oregon House Bill 2001 which was passed to help increase housing choices and housing supply in Oregon. These requirements will have a significant impact on Salem communities and the public has been asked to comment on how the City will implement them. Susann wrote up a summary of the concerns expressed at the meeting and asked that the Board consider them for submitting them to Eunice Kim, Lead Planner for the Our Salem project. A motion was made by Sue Fowler and seconded by Lynette Horton to approve the submittal to Eunice Kim of the comments in the document prepared by Susann. The motion was passed. Susann commented that the requirements contained in HB 2001 are very complicated and there will be more meetings to consider how to implement them in Salem and there will be more information to come. Some of the issues to be considered is how the requirements will mesh with City regulations and how much authority does the City have to apply them. We do not usually meet in July but Susann proposed we meet in July in order to respond to any new information we get on these issues. It was decided that we would meet on July 8 at 7:00 pm so we will have time to consider the additional information and develop responses.
- **Parks:** We are still waiting on the bench to be completed sometime in the fall.
- **Traffic:** No word on the issue of cars parking in the bike lanes on Market Street around Swegle School.

Election of ELNA Board Members: The following people were elected to the Board of the ELNA: Susann Kaltwasser, Sue Fowler, Mary Sarabia, Chesta Bauer, Vern Golden, Lynette Horton, Terry Motte, Mike Sim, Chuck Westbrook, Patricia Mick, Broc Thorud, Beverly Quiring. A motion was made by Mike Sim and seconded by Lynette Horton to approve the slate of officers proposed for election to the Board of Directors of ELNA. The motion passed. Officer elections will be held in the fall.

Other Business:

- **Expending funds for mailing:** Susann asked for a motion to approve funds used for mailings to residences near the areas in our NA which will be mostly affected by the HB 2001 middle housing requirements and Our Salem proposals in regard to them. A motion was made by Mike Sim and seconded by Mary Sarabia to approve the expenditure of \$100 for the subject mailing. The motion passed.
- **Annual Meeting Refreshments.** A motion was made by Chesta Bauer and seconded by Mike Sim to approve up to \$25.00 for reimbursement to Mary Sarabia for providing these refreshments. The motion passed.
- **Water Retention Pond Issue:** Broc Thorud asked the Board to consider his issues regarding his management of the water retention pond on his property. He has had several conversations with the City Public Works Department on the requirements for maintaining the water retention pond on his property. He feels like he has been given conflicting information and there have been several misunderstandings about what his rights and responsibilities are for this and what rights and responsibilities the city has. Susann said that he should contact Peter Fernandez, the Director of the Public Works Department, to get clarification on these issues. She also said that the Public Works Department needs to develop a document that clearly outlines how water retention ponds should be managed and what the requirements are for every entity involved.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:04 pm.