

## **Lansing Neighborhood Association Minutes January 28, 2020 Board Meeting**

Waldo Middle School Library, 2805 Lansing Avenue NE

17 present: Patty Tipton-Chair, Terry Pratt-Vice Chair, Dorothy Pedersen-Secretary, Gary Bogstad, Sharon Bogstad, Kimberly Carpenter, Mary Dodson, Sandi Hinshaw, Kayla Kalb, John Kalb, Frank Pack, Jeanne Pack, Claudine Shaw, Michelle Underwood, Officer A. Hodges (City of Salem Police Department), Nelson Morales (City of Salem Code Enforcement), Steve Powers (City of Salem City Manager)

Patty Tipton, Chair, called the meeting to order and introductions were made.

Terry moved to approve minutes of the November 28, 2019 meeting; seconded by Gary and carried.

### **POLICE REPORT: Officer A. Hodges**

Car thefts are up lately. 2005 or later models are difficult to steal if they are locked and the keys are not left in the car, but earlier models are easier to break into.

If you witness bad behavior of a person in a store, notify the manager.

Call the police non-emergency line (503-588-6123) if you see a car that has been broken into, or a suspicious person hanging around the neighborhood. If you need help immediately, or witness a problem that needs police response right away, call 911.

### **CODE OFFICER: Nelson Morales**

Officer Morales brought new "Who to Call" brochures and his business cards.

Productivity report for September-December, 2019:

- 91 cases were handled in this area (illegal parking, junk, solid waste, vehicles in yards, etc.)
- 0 stolen vehicles!

Suggestions:

- When you report a problem to the City, it is best to ask and take note of the name of the person you are talking with, in case you need to follow up.
- File reports via the web for fastest service.
- Call Public Works (503-588-6311 Hildebrandt) for sidewalk issues.
- Take photos of graffiti and report to Code Compliance (503-589-2070), who will forward on to the "graffiti team".

### **CITY COUNCILOR: Matt Ausec—Absent**

### **CITY OF SALEM: City Manager Steve Powers**

#### Homelessness

City Council is considering modifying the camping ban to allow camping in some commercial and industrial areas, since there are more people without shelter than can be housed in current shelters. The City is working with other agencies and non-profits and volunteers, to increase the shelter spots available. The City has declared an emergency, which will allow the Safe Sleep shelter to increase space for women from 10 to 19 beds. People living in their vehicles will now be allowed to park in up to 8 sites in non-residential areas with access to restrooms and garbage pickup.

The City investigated over a dozen potential sites for additional shelter without success due to price, inadequate building conditions, fire codes, landlords unwilling to lease space on a short-term basis, etc. For now, they will focus on readying new apartments on Fisher Road ready for occupancy. Arches is working to open a low barrier shelter at 22<sup>nd</sup> & Mission. The idea is to develop "navigation" centers that will have services for people who need them and will offer direction in accessing the services. Senator Peter Courtney is also supportive of efforts to reduce homelessness in Salem.

In addition to meeting needs of people who have already lost shelter, the City is focusing on prevention. The ideal is offering “housing first”, then assessing what additional services a person needs to help them retain housing. Salem Housing Authority offers vouchers to help with rent, and endeavors to increase the supply of low-rent housing. Recent code changes now allow more Auxiliary Dwelling Units to be built on existing lots. However, there are estimated to be 1,800 unhoused people in the Salem area, so it will take time for all the solutions to catch up with the extent of the problem.

### City Budget

For a number of years the City revenue has not kept up with the cost of services to the population. A task force recommended a combination of two measures to fairly make up the gap in funding:

- Adding an \$8.00 per month operation fee to utility bills for single family home accounts, \$6.40 for multi-family home accounts and \$38.56/month for public, commercial & institutional accounts (for emergency services, library, park maintenance, social services, etc.) This will go into effect in February, 2020.
- Instituting an employee payroll tax on employees who work in Salem and earn more than minimum wage (will fund public safety). This will be on the May ballot, and if approved, will go into effect in July, 2022.

### **NEIGHBORHOOD CONCERNS:**

- Panhandling—if the person is acting aggressively Police can ask them to leave the property if the property owner has given a trespassing letter of consent, however, there are limits on the penalties that can be given.
- 2425 Lansing—Call police if someone is trespassing (the owner has given trespass authority); call Code Enforcement if there is property damage, or regarding briars that are over sidewalks. Nelson Morales will follow up.
- Brooks & Hickory—the property has been sold and should be getting cleaned up soon.
- Evergreen demolished house—call Code Enforcement regarding transients.

### **CHAIR’S REPORT:**

- Patty attended N2 and CaPES meetings (11:00 on 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays at Goodwill on Lancaster).  
N2 gave toys to 22 families during the first two weeks of the month.
- Patty attended the Health Fair and gave away many of our green shopping bags.
- February 1 & 2-Homeless Connect will be at Parrish Middle School and needs volunteers and donations.
- United Way needs toiletry items for the women at the Safe Sleep shelter.

Claudine moved that Patty be authorized to talk the neighbors near Lansing Park to let them know about the recent damage and graffiti, and ask them to be watchful and report any suspicious activity or further damage. Frank seconded the motion and it passed.

### **FUND RAISING FOR MEMORIAL BENCH**

We currently have \$611.00 in funds for communication projects, and \$500.00 in our other fund which can go toward the \$2,500 cost of the bench. We have applied for a SPIF grant to cover some of the cost, and in April will file for a grant from the Parks Foundation.

### **FUTURE MEETINGS**

February 25<sup>th</sup> we will have a speaker from the Parks Foundation. Dorothy will ask Gregory Walsh to speak about emergency preparedness at the March 24<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Land Use: Frank Pack will be our representative.

Traffic: None

Salem Parks: None

Partnership Update: None

Neighborhood Watch: None

State Fair: None

Frank moved the meeting be adjourned. Terry seconded and motion carried. **The next meeting will be February 25th at Waldo Middle School.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Dorothy Pedersen, Secretary