

October 17, 2020

ZOOM Meeting

7:00 PM Meeting called to order by Mike Beringer, NESCA Chair.

1. Welcome, Introductions, Announcements, Approval of Minutes: Mike Beringer

Mike introduced himself and the board and welcomed everyone to NESCA's ZOOM meeting. A motion to approve the October 20 meeting minutes was made and seconded. Motion carried.

2. Police Officer Report: No report

3. Code Enforcement: Officer Christi Wolfe

Officer Wolfe reported that it has been noticeably quiet in NESCA, with only six open cases. She let everyone know that the RV that has been camping on 23rd near the Dome Building was removed on Monday. The owners were contacted but it appeared they took a few things and a car and then abandoned the RV, leaving a lot of trash which has now been cleaned up by city staff.

There was question about cars parking in the yard, is it legal or is it not? The answer is usually that it is not legal. However, it needs to be reviewed on a case-by-case basis as some properties may be grandfathered to allow it. Trailers of all kinds are not allowed to be parked on the yard.

Officer Wolfe will provide information on code enforcement – what is and what is not legal – to be used in the NESCA NEWS.

4. Guest Speaker: Eunice Kim, City of Salem Planner, *Our Salem* Project

Eunice mentioned that this project is similar in nature to the NESCA/Lansing project of a couple of years ago only much larger. It will include not only the city but also unincorporated areas of Marion and Polk Counties. The project has taken over a year to understand the priorities and to set some goals. A major issue raised is the need for housing that is diverse and affordable. One of the ideas is to include "neighborhood hubs" that would be beneficial for the immediate surrounding communities. These hubs would include small commercial endeavors such as barber shops, small stores, coffee shops, etc. and would be throughout the city, encouraging people to walk within their communities and engage with their neighbors.

Everyone is encouraged to view the information and the interactive map on the website and take the survey. The *Our Salem* project will be very impactful as it will drive the city's growth for a long time to come. It is hoped that the adoption process for the project, including public hearings, can be accomplished by the end of next year. The *Our Salem* project is also working with local transit companies to see what may be needed for additional routes, buses, bike lanes, etc.

<https://www.cityofsalem.net/our-salem>

4. Guest Speaker: Irma Dowd, Neighborhood Association Coordinator, City of Salem

Irma introduced herself to those who may not know her and explained her function for the 18 neighborhood associations in Salem. She mentioned the Fall Leaf Haul that is coming up on November 21 and again on December 12. This is being coordinated by Public Works and fees have been waived. The flyer regarding the leaf haul is attached to the distribution of these minutes.

Also mentioned was a special Northgate Neighborhood Association meeting that is going to be held Thursday evening at 6 PM. Special guests will be the project managers for the Portland Road Homeless Shelter. Everyone is welcome to attend. <https://www.cityofsalem.net/meetingdocs/northgate-neighborhood-association-agenda-2020-11-19.pdf>

4. Guest Speaker: Evan Sekulic, Project Manager Jory Apartment

Evan said the neighbors might notice that the construction trailer is now on site and there are a lot of survey stakes. Work in process is going smoothly at this time. Due to a question raised about a car driving around the property at off hours, Evan said they periodically have security drive through to check on equipment, fencing, etc. He mentioned that he has been in contact with their marketing department and a billboard will be erected describing the property, likely in January sometime. It will include photos and renderings of the site, with updates made as the project progresses. The entire neighborhood has been named “**DELTA WINDS**” with the apartments named as Jory Apartments at Delta Winds.

Other Guest Speakers: Michael Gay, Salem Health, and Milan Davis, City Forester were listed on tonight’s Agenda but were unable to attend. They will be rescheduled for a later meeting.

5. City Councilors’ Report: Councilor Chris Hoy

Chris introduced Councilor-Elect Virginia Stapleton. Virginia will be filling the open Council position created by the resignation of Cara Kayser. Due to the council rules for vacancies, Virginia is currently acting as a “guest councilor” who has all the rights of participation as other council members except for being able to vote. She will be sworn in as a full-fledged councilor in January 2021.

Updates:

- NESCA Emergency Cache: Chris talked to Greg Walsh, City Emergency Manager, about the cache. Greg will inventory and replenish the cache and will be checking others to determine any others that also need to have new supplies.
- Chris reported at last meeting that two finalists had been named for the Chief of Police position. It has been announced that Trevor Womak, from Stockton, CA, will be our new Chief of Police.
- Salem Police Department Performance Audit: Currently in process on the city web site. Everyone is encouraged to go to the website read through this important information.
 - <https://www.cityofsalem.net/Pages/police-audit.aspx>
- Property Sale: The city has recently sold four small parcels on Gaffin Road, near the Amazon facility. It is expected that we will be seeing some development for light industrial use in the near future.
- Grand Opening: Don Froylan Creamery cheese factory, on Portland Road. Chris encouraged everyone to check out this new business. The cheeses being produced are handmade, artisanal authentic Mexican cheeses. The Don Froylan Creamery has been in business in Albany for some while but needed more space and was able to get a grant through the North Gateway Urban Renewal Area for the additional facility. The creamery will have a retail cheese shop as well as a small café offering quesadillas, grilled cheese sandwiches, and ice cream.
- Building permits: The City issues 50 new permits for single-family and duplex dwellings in October which is 20 more than a typical October. Even with the COVID-19 restrictions and issues, building seems to be doing well.
- Old Toys R Us Building: The building is being converted into the Willamette Career Academy working with Willamette ESD to provide trade career opportunities with the smaller districts in the area. The original curriculum will begin with Health Services, Diesel Mechanics, and Cosmetology. They hope to expand to include Manufacturing as well as IT Services.
- Boys & Girls Club: A new club is being built on the west side of north Lancaster near Chemeketa Community College.

Monday Council Meeting:

A \$1.2m grant has been received due to the COVID-19 crisis to help the city with homeless issues, including sheltering options and mitigating park damage, as well as to help small businesses. Salem currently has approximately 1,200 homeless on the streets, many with mental health issues. In response to a question about the homeless under the I-5 bridge at Market Street, Chris said that area is ODOT’s jurisdiction. Their current policy is to not move the people unless there is a public safety issue. Those who were camping on the ramp “islands” were moved as it was unsafe for them as well as vehicle traffic. ODOT recently did a camp clean up where trashed was removed and the area was washed down. To solve this on-going problem, it will require that all government entities, including city, county, state, and federal, work together.

6. Committee Reports

- a. Land Use Ian Johnson
 - Ian reported that no permits have been coming through and there is not much happening right now.
- b. Transportation Julie Redden (not in attendance; no report)
- c. Parks Eli Brody (not in attendance; no report)
- d. Hoover School Liaison Teri Lupoli
 - Teri was contacted by a local church who is helping with Thanksgiving meals to see if we knew of any needs in our area. As they are already working with the school, no additional referrals were made.
- e. Waterhed Gary Pullman (not in attendance; no report)
- f. Oregon State Hospital North Campus Ian Johnson
 - No additional report.

6. Other Business

- **Thorp Park Kiosk:** Marilyn and Teri met with Julio Gallardo of Marion County Alternative Services Program at the new kiosk last week for a photo-op and to post a flyer for the neighbors to let them know the kiosk is for their use and that it was provided by the Salem Parks Foundation, Marion County Alternative Services Program, City of Salem Parks, and NESCA.
- **D Street Park:** In response to the presentation and rendering of the new D Street Park provided by Rob Romanek and Gary Myzak at last month's meeting there were questions about the need to have the sidewalk on D Street set back 60' "to protect tree roots" when the remainder of the property would not be using that same set back. There was also concern expressed about the new curbs that are to be installed which are much closer to the trees and could easily do far more damage than the sidewalks. Ian recommended that questions be organized and only one person then present the questions/concerns to the city rather than having multiple questions coming in.
- **Revised By-Laws:**
The change that amended the By-Laws to allow the Board to allow email voting on issues between meetings has still not been formalized with the city. Irma Dowd resent the By-Law information to all Board members. This topic will be listed on the Agenda for the December 15 meeting at which time it will be discussed and voted on. If passed the information will be added to the meeting minutes from which Irma will then formalize and add them to the website.

There being no further business, Mike thanked everyone for their attendance at this long meeting and adjourned the meeting at 8:15 PM. **Our next scheduled meeting will be held via ZOOM on December 15, beginning at 7:00 PM.**

Submitted by: Teri Lupoli
Secretary/Treasurer
NESCA

Attending:

Mike Beringer*, Marilyn Moritz*, Teri Lupoli*, Lynn Cardiff*, Ian Johnson, Jim Lupoli, Lucy Beringer, Julie Frasier, Debra Shaffer, Christi Wolfe Code Enforcement Officer City of Salem, Chris Hoy City Councilor, Virginia Stapleton City Councilor-Elect, Eunice Kim City of Salem Planner "Our Salem" Project, Irma Dowd Neighborhood Association Coordinator City of Salem, Evan Sekulic Construction Manager Jory Apartments

*NESCA Board Members