

Sunnyslope Neighborhood Association

Minutes

November 18, 2021

Held via zoom

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 PM by Chairman, Alan Alexander.

Members and guests were welcomed.

Minutes were approved as circulated.

Sargent J Edmiston

He patrols the south end of town during the late swing shift

He reported that there were 480 responses to the police strategic plan The plan will go before council in December.

He reported that there have been a rash of stolen packages in the Browning Road area.

Neighbors are urged to register their outdoor surveillance cameras on the SCRAM (Surveillance Camera Registration and Mapping) on the city website

He also reminded neighbors to keep valuables out of your car when shopping and to shop in pairs.

He addressed the issue of the fight at Sprague High School and other violence in schools. He indicated that the common denominator is that people are unhappy. When resource officers were in schools they were able to react immediately rather than after the fact.

He was asked about an incident reported by the police in their #on patrol where a person was caught in a stolen vehicle with stolen mail and items and was cited rather than being arrested. The stolen items were returned to their owners. He explained that they can only arrest those involved in person to person crimes. For property and trespass crimes they can only cite because of Covid protocols

Urban Development Director - Kristen Rutherford

She explained her department deals with urban renewal areas, real estate, airport hangers and HUD (Housing and urban development)

She explained urban renewal districts including what money can be used for and what it cannot. She indicated there are grant programs available for projects;. She talked about the West Salem Urban renewal area. She said the Mill Creek Corporate district, which should be shut down soon because there are only a few parcels of property still available, was state land and needed millions of dollars of infrastructure to attract business. The North Gateway district focuses on affordable housing, property acquisition and infrastructure. The Downtown district has been involved with the new hotel, the development of the old Nordstrom building and streetscape. She mentioned the South Waterfront area across from city hall with a bike path under Commercial Street connecting to Riverfront Park, the McGilcrest area and the Fairview area which is getting ready to be closed down. Only 15% of city acreage can be involved in a renewal district. There is a Single Family renewal district which incentivizes affordable units within market rate complexes Her department is also involved in wetland restoration. She also explained why we see urban renewal areas are on our tax bills. The public can be involved by volunteering on one of the 3 urban renewal boards either West Salem, Downtown or North Salem You can tune into the meetings. Participants are the city council members and meetings are held before the city council meetings. Watch for and participate when public input is sought.

She reported that the airport is part of the Fairview urban renewal area. Jobs associated with the area are Garmin and aviation related jobs. There are many corporate jets that use the airport. It is rare for a city the size of Salem to not to have commercial airline service. There is increasing interest in establishing commercial airline service. The city cannot refuse commercial airline service, but they will not help with funding. The council supported a business establishing electric charging stations for airplanes,

Land Use

Evan White reported that the wireless company and Roths came to an agreement to move the cell tower 25 feet north rather in front of the Sunnyslope Shopping Center sign.

There was discussion about the safety along Liberty in the Davis Road and Mildred area. How can we get things moving with lights at Mildred and Liberty and Davis and Liberty? It is understood that enough system development fees have been collected to get the lights installed. Henry Neugass will send a letter to the city expressing concern about safety in the area and the traffic lights not being installed. (Secretary, Linda Miller, found minutes from April 2018 when city of Salem traffic engineer Toni Martin attended our meeting and the neighborhood association expressed concerns about safety in the area after the meeting) It was noted because of the lack of bike lanes, sidewalks and ditches alongside Davis Road you cannot walk from Skyline to Liberty. There has been lots of development along the road.

Chairman Alexander and Land Use Henry Neugass attended the Neighborhood Association Chairs meeting and reported that no notice will be given to neighborhood associations with developments built within the parameters of House Bill 2001 - Middle Housing. Neighborhood Associations will need to track building permits In areas zoned single family, duplexes, triplexes, quadplexes and cottage clusters will be allowed to be built In some instances, on site parking will not be required. Code amendments regarding House Bill 2001 are going to council soon.

The time for public comment on the Climate Action Plan has been extended. There are about 186 different plans.

Twenty Is Plenty Campaign Ray Quisenberry

He reported that the proposal to reduce speeds on neighborhood streets from 25MPH to 20 MPH would not impact school zones and collector streets. He reported that the purpose is to increase safety in neighborhoods. Reducing the speed limit by 5 MPH cuts fatalities in half. The city has the authority to reduce the speed. Seattle, Portland and Eugene have all reduced the speed in neighborhoods to 20MPH. A number of neighborhood associations have sent letters

to the city council supporting this plan. Sally Cook moved and Henry Neugass seconded a motion that the Sunnyslope Neighborhood Association send a letter to the Salem City Council supporting the Twenty is Plenty proposal Motion carried.

Communications Funds Chairman Alexander

He reported that the city is looking into the possibility of using communication funds for a communications board at Secor Park.

Alan reported that he submitted a Salem Parks Improvement Grant for the communications board at Secor Park. Henry Neugass moved and Bruce Miller seconded a motion ratifying the letter of intent for a grant from the SPIF fund for a communications board at Secor Park. Motion carried.

Henry Neugass reported the need to increase the outreach of the Sunnyslope Neighborhood Association and suggested a website and person to person outreach.

Sally Cook moved and Bruce Miller seconded a motion the current board members be approved for next year. Motion carried. Board members voted in: Alan Alexander, Judith Alexander, Bruce Miller, Linda Miller, Evan White, Henry Neugass, Bill Davis, Sally Cook, Gary Knighten, Julia Stewart, Karen Delsman, Ben Batson.

Voting on officers - Chairman, vice chairman, secretary, land use, parks is deferred until the January meeting. Chairman Alexander plans to step down as chairman. We need a new chairman. (Please let him if you know of someone who is willing to serve as chairman awa8025@aol.com) (Linda Miller found out after the meeting that the neighbor who had expressed interest in being secretary is not able to serve in that capacity)

The next meeting will be January 20, 2022 at 7PM

On the agenda will be goal setting for 2022 and potentially using funds for "Twenty is Plenty" signs which are available 3 for \$75

Meeting was adjourned at 9:09 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Miller
Secretary

Those in Attendance:

Alan & Judith Alexander

Bruce & Linda Miller

Evan White

Henry Neugass

Sally Cook

Officer J. Edmisten

Kristen Rutherford

Cathy

Karen Delsman

Ray Quisenberry

Julia Stewart

Gary Knighten