

**Sunnyslope Neighborhood Association**  
**January 20, 2022**  
**Minutes**  
**Meeting Held Via Zoom**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01PM by Chairman Alan Alexander.

Neighbors and guests were welcomed.

Minutes were approved as circulated.

Officer Edmiston

He reported that catalytic converters are being stolen. Neighbors are encouraged to park cars in a garage if possible, If not, make sure cars are parked in well lit areas. Cameras are helpful..

He encouraged neighbors if they see something, say something. They want to come out and engage with people.

He is asking neighbors to review the city council meeting on November 22, 2021 at about 1 hour 52 minutes where Police Chief Womack talks about the police department staffing survey. They would like input from neighbors. You can email Officer Edmiston at [JEdmiston@cityofsalem.net](mailto:JEdmiston@cityofsalem.net)

He was asked about mailbox break ins. He indicated if neighbors can, they need to get a license plate and a description of the suspect{s}.

A neighbor reported he was contacted by a neighbor who found a needle at Kurth and Warren. He put it in a bottle and disposed of it. He is concerned that this will not become a common occurrence especially because he has children. Officer Edmiston indicated that using tongs to pick up needles, put them in a container and dispose of them in the garbage is the best way to handle them.. He also indicated there are challenges police officers face since people are allowed, by law, to possess a certain amount of drugs.

Chairman Alexander recommended Breakfast with the Chief, which is a fundraiser for the Police Association, that will be held February 17th 8AM - 9AM at the Salem Convention Center. The breakfast is free. Alan indicated that there is usually a police officer at each table and highly recommends the event.

Councilor Nordyke

She shared a powerpoint about 2021 in review. You can view the powerpoint on her Facebook page in three posts. She included things that have been done regarding the homeless, the new water treatment facility, the police audit and other work. The council has asked city staff for a report on establishing a mobile crisis unit for Salem. The city will be looking to hire a new

librarian, a new CFO and a new city manager. She reported that the city library is not yet fully open because of covid protocols. The city authorized 3 free hours of parking in the library parking structure. Part of her presentation included that progress the city has made in housing the unsheltered including Redwood Crossing, the navigation center which is partially open, and the Arches Inn which will house fire victims and will eventually house the unsheltered. She reported that Marion and Polk counties have the highest number of chronically unsheltered compared to other areas in our state. The city has some challenges including mental health issues among the sheltered, the lack of support by Marion County, lack of affordable housing and the attitude of neighbors "Not In My Neighborhood". The Climate Action task force is ongoing. Salem hosted an Ironman competition last year. There is a new hotel being built downtown. The old Nordstrom building will be turned into housing and retail space. The old JCPenney building will be turned into smaller retail spaces. She is looking forward to the new professional basketball team - The Salem Capitals that will play games in the Armory with affordable tickets. The Rotary Amphitheater is complete. The police budget has been increased including the officers that served as resource officers (the school district ended the program) being added to the force.

Councilor Leung.

She also shared a powerpoint that included concerns about swollen creeks and flooding.

The new Costco will open on March 10th with new stock.

She heard about concerns about speeding at the top of the hill at Mildred & Lone Oak. She observed the speeding and has arranged for a speed reader board to be placed in the area.

She addressed the point in time homeless count that is happening on January 25, 26 & 27. At this time they are cleaning, but not moving any camps.

Neighbors asked if the city would be applying for any Safe Route to Schools grants.

Councilors were not familiar with the program. They learned that the crosswalk with refuge island in front of Liberty Elementary was financed by such a grant.

Infrastructure Bond Measure - Trevor Smith city of Salem public works information officer

The bond measure will appear on the November 2022 ballot and will finance 300 million dollars over 10 years. With city bonds being paid off, property taxes will not be raised. This amount does not cover all the infrastructure needs of the city. He shared a powerpoint presentation that includes the areas where the money would be spent. The first priority would be replacement of the Fire trucks which are 15 years old with over 400,000 miles on them. Although well maintained, they need to be replaced. There is also money allocated for new fire stations (money for staffing the stations would come from the city budget). There is also money for park upgrades including restrooms, renovations for the civic center (city hall) to retrofit for earthquake safety. The parking structure at city hall is not safe. There is money allocated for technology and cyber security upgrades and acquiring sites for affordable housing and shelters.

A large percentage is set aside for bridges and street improvements The public input is desired. <https://www.cityofsalem.net/Pages/City-Seeks-Your-Ideas-for-Improvements.aspx>

Glen Davis & Tony Martin city of Salem Davis Road

They reported the city requires a small widening of Davis Road from the developer from Bella Cresta to Red Leaf There will be no sidewalks or bike lanes because there is no right of way. Work will happen this spring and summer.

They reported that for a traffic signal to be installed there must be a regional traffic analysis

Regarding the signal on Liberty Road at Davis, there have been 3 payments by developers toward the signal A traffic signal costs between \$600,000 - \$650,000. There will be fiber optics installed to connect the signal to the signal at Liberty and Kuebler Blvd that signal engineers will time depending on traffic volume to help traffic flow smoothly They believe the developer is working on plans for the signal on Liberty Road at Davis that the city will review and then materials will be ordered which could be impacted by supply chain issues. They are hoping the signal will be installed during the summer of 2023

They want to do a speed zone investigation along Liberty Road South. The investigation is probably a year out.

When asked about applying for a Safe Route to School grants to help in the area of Crossler Middle School , they indicated Julie Warneke is the go to person in the city regarding the program

Neighbors expressed concerns about the lack of sidewalks and bike lanes along Davis Road. You cannot walk from Skyline to Liberty on Davis Road without walking in the lane of traffic.. Glen and Tony indicated that there are parcels of land along Davis Road that are in the county and hence if they choose to develop while in the county the city cannot require them to do street improvements including sidewalks.

Chairman Alexander indicated this area has been a concern of the neighborhood association for about 10 years and that 4 years ago it was reported safety improvements were much closer than they have been. Tony attended our meeting in April 2018 He said the recession was to blame for the delay in safety improvements.

Asked about infrastructure money from the federal government, it was reported that the city council is not aware of the dollar amount or how the money can be used.

#### Land Use

It was reported that the new building at the Sunnyslope Shopping Center across the entrance from Subway will be a Sherwin Williams Paint Store. It is between USPS and the owners of the shopping center concerning what will happen with the mail boxes that are in that area. The driveway by Roth's off Cunningham will need to be upgraded to ADA standards with the addition of this new building.

Chairman Alexander reported that the empty lot adjacent to the Lockwood Apartments that is zoned RM2 will have 8 apartments built on it.

The antenna project at the Sunnyslope Center has been resolved between Roths and the cell company by moving the tower 25 ft north.

Mr Remington contacted the neighborhood association saying that he is applying to annex his property at 5534 - 5536 Skyline Road into the city,

Rob Romenek, city of Salem Parks Department, will attend the next meeting regarding the realignment of the Skyline Park Trail.

Chairman Alexander reported that the grant for a communications board at Secor Park from Salem Park Improvement Funds was accepted as an appropriate project. The city will provide a cost estimate. The Salem Parks foundation has some money designated for Secor Park if matching funds are needed.

Sally Cook has agreed to add serving as co-chair for the neighborhood association to her busy schedule with Alan Alexander. Henry Neugass moved with Evan White seconding a motion to have Sally Cook and Alan Alexander serve as co chairs of the Sunnyslope Neighborhood Association.

Motion carried,

Henry Neugass mentioned that about one half of the neighborhood associations have websites. The idea of a Sunnyslope Neighborhood Association webpage is tabled until the next meeting Irma Dowd will be contacted regarding the webpage and if communication funds can be used for the website.

Sunnyslope Neighborhood Association has a Facebook page. Henry Neugass will follow the procedures to become administrator of the page. The page has 209 members.

Linda Miller will continue to use the app NextDoor to post minutes and information about meetings etc on the app including on the Sunnyslope Neighborhood Association News group that has 113 members.

Discussion occurred on how best to use these online communications tools.

Evan White moved and Henry Neugass seconded a motion for adjournment. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 9:03PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Miller

Sunnyslope Neighborhood Association Secretary

Those Attending:

Alan & Judith Alexander  
Bruce & Linda Miller  
Evan White  
Henry Neugass  
Karen Delsman  
Gary Knighten  
Sally Cook  
Councilor Vanessa Nordyke  
Councilor Jacki Leung  
Julie Hoy  
Tony Martin City of Salem  
Glen Davis City of Salem  
Officer J Edmiston  
Trevor Smith - city of Salem