

East Lancaster Neighborhood Association
 Minutes - June 6, 2019, 7:00 pm
 Swegle Elementary School, 1751 Aguilas Ct NE, Salem

| Board Chairs/Members Present | | Others Present | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| x | Susann Kaltwasser, Chair | x | Norm Wright, Director, City of Salem Community Development |
| x | Sue Fowler, Co-Chair | | |
| x | Mary Sarabia, Vice-Chair | | Neighbors Present: |
| x | Chesta Bauer, Secretary | x | Lila Grinberg, Auburn Road |
| x | Dave Steiner, Member-at-large | x | Fred Wright, Weathers Street NE |
| x | Clark Hazlett, Member-at-large | | |
| | Mike Sim, Member-at-large | | |

Introductions/Approval of Minutes: The meeting was opened by Co-chair Sue Fowler at 7:00 pm. The minutes of the May 2 meeting were not available on the City's website for ELNA, however, Sue handed out printed minutes for Board members to read. A motion by was made by Mary and seconded by Sue to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was approved.

Police Officer Report: No police officer was present at the meeting.

Proclamation Presentation: A proclamation from the Salem City Council and signed by Mayor Chuck Bennett was presented to the East Lancaster Neighborhood Association by Norm Wright. The proclamation was issued to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the formation of ELNA by the Salem City Council. The Mayor invited "the entire community to join me in applauding the East Lancaster Neighborhood Association on this special occasion and wishing it continued success - not only in serving its neighbors, but in helping to make Salem a better place for all of its residents." We also noted that Susann and Sue joined ELNA in 1989 and had served on its Board for all the years since then. We also discussed the declining participation in our monthly meetings and other activities and how communication with the community could be improved.

Chris Hoy, Ward 6 City Councilor, was not able to attend the meeting, therefore, Norm was asked to give us a brief rundown on important issues with the City Council. Norm mentioned the continuing budget discussions at the Budget Committee and City Council meetings. The City is having to deal with a budget shortfall of an estimated four million dollars and they are discussing ways of reducing costs as well as increasing revenues. The current proposal is looking at eliminating five positions in the Community Development Department as well as positions in other departments. The Budget Committee wants to keep the Youth Development Coordinator in the budget rather than being eliminated, and also wants to restore the Long Range Planner position which is vacant at the moment and scheduled for elimination. They are proposing that \$50,000 be allocated for a climate action plan and improving greenhouse gas emissions. The Council will discuss the budget at its upcoming meetings and approve the budget at the June 24 meeting. Some of the revenue options include:

- Payroll tax. This tax would apply to Salem residents and to individuals who work in Salem but do not live in Salem.
- Gas tax dedicated to streets, roads and bridges.
- Operating fee to be applied to the Salem utility bill.

It was noted that additional taxes and fees are a burden for those individuals who are on a fixed budget. Susann mentioned that most of the Community Development Department was funded through fees, but the funding for other services such as police, fire, etc., depend on the general fund which has been diminished by the passage of Measures 5 and 50 which limited the amount of property taxes that are collected. She said that it's time to revisit how to get more revenues.

Committee Reports:

Land Use:

- Pictsweet (East Park Estates) application: The application has been submitted to the City Planners. It could be approved within a few days and then it would be open for public comments for two weeks. The application could be brought to the July 23 City Planning Commission meeting. Susann will work with the City Planners to arrange a joint meeting with ELNA and the East Salem Suburban Neighborhood Association (ESSNA) near the end of June to gather more information on the application and to receive comments from residents of those areas. It is planned that the site developers and the City Planner will be in attendance at this meeting. The City Planner will be able to tell us how the application process will be conducted and answer questions about what we can comment on. Another meeting of ELNA will be held in order to develop a formal response for the City Council from ELNA regarding its position on the application. If there is an appeal of the City Council's decision on the application, there could be another meeting scheduled. Susann will email the Board members about the date and location for the joint meeting with ESSNA and will include any documents she has from the City. There was concern about the storm water removal system and fire department issues. It was noted that these issues will be reviewed by the applicable City departments and the codes and requirements for storm water removal and fire department requirements will be their responsibility. It was noted that the trees along the Cordon Road side of the development will not be taken down. Also the oaks along Cordon Road will not be cut and will be part of the park in that location. There is a tree removal map that is part of the completed application and can be commented upon. According to this map there will be about 140 trees removed from the site, however, a lot of these trees are arborvitae and pine trees. It was noted that the trees are important but are not going to stop the development. Lila Grinberg, a resident of a home on Auburn Road, mentioned that she and her husband had sold their property to the East Park Estates developer. They were told that they could stay in their home for up to three years, as the construction of the East Park Estates will be done in phases.
- There is a petition to the City for the annexation of a property with a zone change at 592 Hile Lane. It is requested that the zone be changed to multifamily residences. The property is about five acres and it could be zoned RM1 which would allow about 12 to 18 units/acre or RM2 which allows for 18 to 30 units/acre. It is proposed to put about 85 to 90 two story units on the property. The annexation is probably being requested so that the developer has access to City water. There will be a hearing at the Planning Commission on this request. There was concern expressed about flooding on that property because of an underground water flow in the area. This flooding affected the Greencrest area and it should be communicated to the developer.

Transportation: No report.

Traffic: No report.

Parks: No report.

Neighborhood Concerns: Fred Wright discussed the RV parking situation along Weathers Street. There have been several RVs that park along the street for various lengths of time and are occupied by people who park there for several days, move on and then come back again. He also showed pictures of a large RV parked across the street from his house that extends over the sidewalk and obstructs the fire hydrant close by. He has submitted complaints to the City Compliance Office about the situation several times but the RV owner moves the RV around a lot so it's not easy to resolve it. He also showed pictures of the right-of-way alley from Weathers Street to 45th Street and they showed garbage, trash and grocery carts loaded with trash all along the alley. This has also been brought to the attention of the City Compliance Office but not action has been taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.