

Lansing Neighborhood Association Minutes October 23, 2018 Board Meeting

Waldo Middle School, 2805 Lansing Ave NE

8 present: Dorothy Pedersen-Secretary, Wesley Cruickshank, Mary Dodson, Terry Pratt, Claudine Shaw, Sarah Shepherd, Jeff Keniston (Salem Police Department), Matt Ausec (City Councilor, Ward 5).

Mary Dodson called the meeting to order, in the absence of Chair Patty Tipton, and introductions were made. We met in the library, after calling the school security officer to open the door for us.

Terry moved to approve minutes of the September 25, 2018 meeting; seconded by Claudine and carried.

POLICE REPORT: Officer Jeff Keniston

- 2425 Lansing—a neighbor observed a person jump over the fence, which seemed odd behavior, and asked whether such an incident should be reported. Officer Keniston replied that yes, it is worth calling in, so there is a record of the incident. However, what action, if any will be taken, depends on the legal status of the property. This property is owned by a bank, and that status can change at any time. It was also noted that a white Cadillac is there a lot of the time.
- The area at Hawthorne and Sunnyview was cleared out recently, in response to the “squeaky wheel” of multiple reports leading to action.

CITY COUNCILOR: Matt Ausec

- The proposed ban on plastic shopping bags advanced after first reading. It has been clarified to define the bag types and to include food retail businesses and food service to go. Customers not bringing own bags will be charged 5 cents per paper bag. The second reading will be in 2 weeks. It is expected to implement the measure, and the make adjustments to the provisions later, if needed.
- A measure to speed up the process for declaring a property to be “nuisance housing” by lowering the hurdles to 3 incidents in 30 days, with 90 days to wrap up the process is up for first reading. Penalties of \$500 per day could be charged for code non-compliance. Definitions of the actions that are considered “nuisance” are being looked into. Check the City of Salem website to track progress.
- A committee is looking at traffic and bridge solutions and will be reporting to City Council.
- The Police building project is coming along, with groundbreaking November 9 at noon.
- The Revenue Committee for the Strategic Plan had its first meeting. It will develop a plan for the City to avoid running out of reserve funds, which have been dipped into in recent years. One possibility is to add a registration fee for businesses in the city.
- October 24th the public is invited to an open house at 6:30 at Broadway Commons, to learn about the Strategic Plan and have opportunity to weigh in.
- Homeless Rental Assistance Program now has housed 87 formerly hardest-to-house homeless people. Two properties being refurbished for the Housing Authority are on schedule with 40 and 70 units. Another 180 affordable housing units are slated to open next year.
- Downtown Homeless Task Force is partnering with Arches and others to include showers for homeless in the downtown area. Other needs had been identified; however, most needs will require significant resources—therefore will take a long-term fix.
- Virginia Barker of Lansing NA is now on the City Budget Committee.

NEIGHBORHOOD CONCERNS:

Lack of sidewalks is a safety concern. We should call Public Works, or come to City Hall to get a particular location added to the list of potential areas to get sidewalks. There are not adequate funds to build sidewalks everywhere, so potential sites are prioritized based on a number of factors, including traffic volume and speed, ADA access to needed facilities, nearness to schools, etc.

CHAIR'S REPORT:

- The All Neighborhood Chairs meeting was attended by Patty, Virginia and Dorothy. The sidewalk repair prioritizing and budget situation were explained. Call Brandon Klukis 503-589-2164 for more information.
- September 28th was Swegle School's Day of Play. Patty set up a table to talk with parents and give out information about Lansing Neighborhood Association. Irma helped out with Spanish translation. Patty had a map and pictures of the neighborhood, and bubbles and food for the children. She actually spent more than the \$30 the Neighborhood Association had approved, but is willing to absorb the difference herself. She recommends participating in this event again next year. Patty would like to talk during the November NA meeting about getting new bags with the Lansing NA name on them.
- Patty attended the October 11th Parks Board meeting and met the new members: Mickie and Diana Dicky. New master plans for Riverfront Park and Brown Road Park were approved, as well as new art and pavers near the Art Barn in Bush Park. Pictures and information about all these were available for us to see at our Lansing meeting. At the Parks Board meeting, it was reported that \$92,000 has been raised for McKay Park, which is 1/3 of the amount needed to build the park.
- CAPES meeting October 18th was attended by Patty and Virginia. The following events are coming up in our area:
 - Washington School has family movie nights to raise money for field trips. The next one is November 8, 6:00 PM.
 - Capital Baptist Church will have "Trunk and Treat" in the church parking lot, 5:00-7:00 Halloween night.
 - Boundaries meeting will be Oct. 23rd, 5:00-7:00 at C-Tech School, 3105 Portland Rd. NE.
 - Washington School gives out Thanksgiving dinners to families in November. To help, bring \$50 gift cards for Safeway, Fred Meyer or Walmart to the school by November 17th. Ask for Rosalba.
 - McKay needs funding for Halloween candy.
 - The Toy Drive in December needs toys for 8-12 year olds, wrapping paper and tape. You may bring these items to the Lansing NA meeting on November 27th, and Patty will take them to the CAPES meeting.
 - Next CAPES meeting will be November 15th, 11:00 AM at Goodwill on Lancaster Drive.
- Terry Pratt and Virginia Barker will represent Lansing NA at the October 25th NA Training: Q & A with Salem Parks Department.
- Handouts for Our Salem Today Project, October 24 Town Hall Meeting, Salem Police Department's Oct. 27 Halloween Dress Rehearsal, and Fall Leaf Haul Nov. 17 & Dec. 8 were available.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY:

Saturday, October 27th is national "Make A Difference Day", when everyone is encouraged to take actions to improve or clean up our neighborhood. Some years in the past, we have planted trees in our parks, but no group project had been planned this year. It was suggested that this year we individually pick up litter near our homes. Since we don't have to limit our efforts to make a difference, to just one day a year, we could bring ideas to the November meeting for potential projects we could do together some time later.

MIDDLE SCHOOL SERVICE:

Lloyd Phillips (phillips_loyd@salkeiz.k12.or.us) contacted Patty Tipton, indicating he was putting together after-school volunteer activities for students, to help out in our community. He asked for ideas. We came up with the following suggested projects: raking leaves out of gutters, yards and storm drains, helping with graffiti removal, offering to trim bushes that overhang sidewalks or hamper view of traffic at intersections (with approval of property owners), and visiting elderly people in the care homes on Evergreen (4 Seasons, 2850 Evergreen Ave.) Dorothy will respond to Mr. Phillips.

DECEMBER MEETING:

Terry moved to cancel the Lansing NA meeting in December, since the 4th Tuesday is December 25th. Claudine seconded the motion and it carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Land Use: None

Traffic: None

Neighborhood Watch: None

Salem Parks:

State Fair: None

Partnership Update: None

Terry moved the meeting be adjourned. Claudine seconded and motion carried. The next meeting will be November 27th at Waldo Middle School library.

Respectfully submitted,
Dorothy Pedersen, Secretary