

Lansing

Neighborhood Association

555 Liberty Street SE Room 305 Salem, Oregon 97301 503-588-6207

January 25, 2022 meeting minutes, 7 pm.

Per the agenda, we reviewed the meeting minutes and they were approved. Next we heard from Officer Tony Foltz.

- The new law regarding the sale of catalytic converters when into effect Jan 1, 2022 so he expects that these types of thefts will decline, if not stop all together.
- There hasn't been a recent problem with this type of thefts in Lansing NA area.
- In the Q&A session:
 - Will SROs be returning to the schools? That is up to the school district superintendent and school board.
 - Has the new community policing model been implemented yet? Not yet. (I believe there was some discussion including Councilman Hoy about the need to get the necessary funding. Please verify that with Patty.)
 - When asked about recent problems, Ofc. Foltz reported that there have been no recent burglaries but there have been car thefts and vehicles broken into.
- The new and extensive graffiti along the walking paths between Kathleen and Livingston along the line of Byram St was brought up and Ofc Foltz will notify the appropriate team. Ofc. Foltz could not say if this is due to an increase in gang activity in the area or maybe just bored teens.
- When questioned about gang activity in the wider area, Ofc. Foltz reported that there have been shooting that might be gang related in East Salem. He couldn't say for sure, but said none were in the LNA area.
- Someone asked about patrol cars roaming slowly through the neighborhood a little while back making short blips of their sirens. Ofc Foltz had no idea why.

Next we heard from Counselman Chris Hoy. He reiterated that we now have two city counsellors and that his share of LNA is from Market to Sunnyview. The Casino was brought up and he said that it was on tribal land so, while the city would provide services, it has no role in the determination. The City has requested 120 day extension to submit comment on the Environmental Impact statement, which is thus still open to public comment as well as comments from the City which should go to the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Counsellor Hoy gave us an update on the homeless crisis: There are several more manned shelters (most or all pallet houses). The shelter where the DMV was at Silverton and Portland Rd has shut down due to environmental concerns but Church of the Park will continue to provide other services from that location. There is a family shelter behind the Catholic Charities building on Portland Rd, a pallet community at 2410 Turner Rd S, and a site near Front & Hood streets north of Truitt Bros. One of the new shelters will be on Center Street NE.

A fund for towing off derelict vehicles and RVs has been set up in the amount of \$200,000 but there are very few places to dispose of these RVs as they contain hazardous waste and most scrap and junk yards are full.

This summer there will be a Navigation Center that is a low barrier shelter with services to help transition to permanent shelter.

State Rep for district 21 left and Counsellor Hoy is now Representative Hoy. He introduced a bill to use state lands in Salem for homeless & other projects. H also introduced a bill to have the State pay fees for the city services they use since they do not pay property taxes. They would pay .1% of the property value.

Low income housing: The city bought Yaquina Hall from Willamette U to house the homeless with serious and persistent mental illness. The groundbreaking was Feb 2. The state to provide \$ to help pay for 48 units.

The apartments being built on the grounds of the old secure mental health facility received a 15% tax abatement in exchange for making available 15% of units as affordable housing.

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North of the State Office Bldg on Broadway near Fred Meyers will be a low-income housing community with a community center, park area, and swimming pool.

On 27th St by the new Costco will be a private affordable housing complex.

The Nordstrom building will be torn down and a 1 & 2 bed apartment complex will be put up there for low income tenants.

We briefly discussed using Zombie houses for the homeless but since they are privately owned the City would need to condemn them under eminent domain, which is very unlikely to happen.

The Mayor is leaving Dec 31, 2022. Chris Hoy is going to run for that office. The election is this May. Whether he is elected or not, his council seat will be opening as he will either be Mayor and/or a state representative.

He told us he may not make it to the Feb meeting. Patty said she would try to get the mayor to come for Feb.

Patty said that the church will be doing the landscaping around the new building soon and has agreed to allow us to dedicate the gazebo to Virginia. We voted to use LNA funds to purchase 4 rose plants to have planted next to the gazebo (\$80 of the \$303.64 in the fund) and Patty will purchase the dedication plaque out of her own pocket or we may vote to fund that later in the year, as they won't be able to be installed until May or June.

I brought up the city climate map and Councilor Hoy stated that it is just now coming in for discussion a few of the 120 recommendations at each meeting so there is plenty of time for the public to get involved.

Thanks,

Michelle Underwood, Lansing Board Member