

Salem State University Neighborhood Advisory Committee

October 4, 2017 – Minutes

Attendees: Chairman Dominick Pangallo, Adria Leach, Ben Szalewicz, Councillor Josh Turiel, Polly Wilbert, Councillor Steve Dibble, Dana Lothrop, Captain Richard Riggs, Jack Hoar, Marica Lambert, Marlin Nabors

Absent:

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Introduction of Marlin Nabors, new Associate Dean of Students at SSU.

2. Approval of September 6, 2017 Minutes

- Approved

3. Construction Updates

A. 287 Lafayette – Ben Szalewicz, SSU

- Lower screening has been installed.
- Upper screening has been ordered & will be installed upon delivery. No time frame known for deliver.

4. Old Business

A. North Campus precinct study, Parking Study – Andrew McClurg, Sasaki & Associates

- Parking needs and supply & demand across whole campus need to be evaluated. Need to address how to service campus while minimizing parking in surrounding neighborhoods.
- Purpose – assess SSU current & future parking supply & needs now and the in the future.
 - Need to manage parking demand
 - SSU is a commuter college
 - Try to keep need of parking on campus and not spilling into neighborhoods
 - Study is taking into consideration neighborhood concerns
- Schedule
 - Plan to get study done within 5 months
 - A team has been sent out to count cars in every space and lot, every hour until 8pm.
 - Will have comprehensive data on what cars are doing
 - In October, will look at projections of future parking needs
 - Evaluate SSU parking impact on the surrounding neighborhood
 - Will review plans w/Neighborhood Liaison Committee
 - Will present to the external community by middle of January
- Research & Analysis
 - Will take into account all relevant information, including:
 - SSU Campus Master Vision Plan
 - North Campus Precinct Study
 - Determinants of current and projected parking needs based on enrollment, class schedules, resident population, etc.
 - Current inventory of spaces
 - Current parking occupancy data
 - Input & recommendations from internal & external communities
 - Neighborhood survey data

- Using a mapping survey that would allow neighbors to document concerns by pinning on the map where they've had issues "blocking driveways, fire hydrants, etc"
- **Questions/Comments**
- Councillor Turiel asked how they would be promoting the online survey tool as it was not accessed a lot during the North Campus precinct study. Adria advised that she is going to rely on Councillor Dibble, Councillor Turiel and Polly to push the link out to residents.
- Chairman Pangallo suggested that SSU connect with the Salem Police Department to get data on parking citations to use for their study. Adria advised they will follow up on that.
- The committee addressed current issues with parking in the neighborhoods:
 - Party Houses are in an issue because students are driving to them.
 - Students are parking on the street because they don't to pay for parking passes.
 - Students that have parking passes are parking in resident spaces
 - State denied resident only parking on Loring Ave.
 - Will be adding in a parking restriction of 4-hour parking 8-8pm (Mon -Fri)
 - Student parking: more students want passes then are available.
 - Need to evaluate occupancy on shuttle buses
 - Evaluate the number of students on waiting list vs. number of cars on resident streets
 - Suggest charging one fee for a parking pass instead of tiered pricing
 - Look at expired student parking stickers that are parked on Loring Ave.
- Jack asked about the possibility of using Forest River for parking. Councillor Turiel advised that during construction it is on the table but not as a permanent solution. Adria advised they get complaints from neighbors when students park at Forest River.
- Councillor Dibble addressed that after 8pm dorm resident students are leaving SSU lots and parking on Loring Ave and new this year parking on both sides of Harrison Road making it difficult for residents to get into their driveways and difficult for emergency vehicles to get down Harrison Road. Captain Riggs advised these students should be referred to student conduct.
- Polly handed out a document with a parked car count from Loring Ave.
- Councillor Dibble asked for a contact for who students can call once Harrison Road & Loring Ave parking restrictions take place to assist them in where they should park going forward. Adria advised as there are no permits for these students, there is no one that they are able to call.
 - Councillor Dibble stated he will work with these students to let them know ahead of time about the changes, and will provide them with date of when these restrictions will take place. Adria asked that the Councillor also let her know about the date.
- Polly expressed concerns that once the parking restriction takes place, the students will find other places throughout the neighborhood to park.
- Councillor Dibble asked for a status update on the 160 car parking lot expansion plan he developed and provided to SSU. Adria advised that the design has been shared with Sasaki and President Keenan.
- Councillor Dibble – asked Chairman Pangallo to get city parking enforcement out on Loring Ave for multiple days. He requested that they check the cars that are there, go back three days later, and ticket the cars that are still there, as parking for three days is a violation. Dominick will follow up.

- A neighbor asked why freshman and sophomores are allowed cars on campus. Adria advised freshman are not allowed to have cars unless there is a special circumstance.
- A Wisteria Lane resident asked that Sasaki look into what the Salem Police can do to help the problem of students parking in the neighborhood.
- A neighbor spoke out against allowing students to park at Forest River. He stated it's a city park, and the parking issue is the University's issue, not the city's.
- Jack suggested that Sasaki take Councillor Dibble's parking development design into consideration. He also stated that the South Salem commuter rail stop needs to happen. Jack stated the University needs to look how to get less cars coming to campus.
- Councillor Turiel stated that while parking enforcement has become better, it still needs to improve and be consistent.
- Polly agreed that the police could be doing more to enforce parking restrictions.
- A neighbor suggested that parking fines be increased.
- Polly suggests connecting with students who are on the waitlist for parking passes and who are parking in the street not buying permits. Ben is working with student life to have an open forum meeting on this topic.
- Councillor Dibble asked for the number of students that were denied parking passes this year. Captain Riggs advised they have about 100 students on the wait list.

B. Horace Mann Laboratory School relocation

- Councillor Dibble asked for a timeline on the move.

C. Neighborhood Disturbances

- Dana referred to a memo of understanding in regards to the baseball field.
 - The memo states that the PA system will only be used to announce games, however, there is music being played out of it all day.
 - Dana stated the agreement with the neighbors was that the field would not be used on Sundays. However, there are loud crowds on Sundays at the field.
 - A neighbor stated she called the police recently due to the noise.
 - A neighbor stated that the athletes on the field are using foul language.
 - Councillor Dibble requested a meeting with the athletic director and Adria ASAP to address this issue.
- Letters will be going out to residents in the area on how to report disorderly conduct, and what the discipline process is. Councillors will be receiving a report from police when these calls come in.
 - There were 2 reports from 12 Hazel Street, and an arrest was made on one of the evenings.
 - At a Saturday night party, it was reported there were 150 people leaving the house.
- There have been citations issued at 21 Wisteria Lane to both the landlord and tenants. The house has been named a "disorderly house."
 - The third floor is being illegally used as an apartment.
 - Marlen spoke to SSU's process for handling students who have been reported for disorderly conduct. He sees a change in behavior once the students have been confronted with SSU's expectations. He agrees that the University needs to get better at letting students know ahead of time what the sanctions are for this type of behavior, instead of after the policies have already been violated.
- **Questions/Comments**
- Polly would like to know what weekend activities the school offers that keeps students on campus. She would like further detail from SSU at the next meeting.

- A neighbor expressed that this is the worst year of student behavior she has experienced.
- Polly requested that Adria consider making it mandatory that all students not living on campus be required to provide a local address.
- Polly also requested the police relay all names of students who get in trouble are reported to SSU.

D. Follow Up Items from Sept 2017: Request for schedule & routes for civilian parking enforcement staff

- Dominick advised weekdays 11am-1pm for most streets in South Salem.
- Polly expressed concerns that it's not enough. She requested schedule be shared at the next meeting.
 - Jack asked for confirmation on what streets the parking enforcement officer is walking during the two-hour period.
 - Councillor Dibble asked for confirmation that Loring Ave is included.

5. New Business

- A neighbor asked what is going on around 121 Loring Ave. Ben advised that landscaping and improvements to pedestrian safety. Ben confirmed a light will be there.
- Councillor Dibble requested assistance from SSU about the trash along Loring Ave.

6. Deferred Items

- Canal Street drainage project (no update)

7. Adjourn

Next meeting: Wednesday, November 1, 7:00pm Enterprise Center

Items for follow up for November meeting

- Weekend activities hosted at SSU for students.
- List of streets in South Salem that the parking enforcement officer is walking.