

Salem State University Neighborhood Advisory Committee

April 5, 2017 – Minutes

Attendees: Chairman Dominick Pangallo, Adria Leach, Marcia Lambert, Ben Szalewicz, Councillor Josh Turiel, Captain Riggs, Polly Wilbert, Councillor Steve Dibble, Dana Lothrop

Absent: Jack Hoar

Guests: Nate Bryant from SSU, Councillor Furey

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Approval of March 1, 2017 Minutes

- Approved w/edits

3. Construction Updates

A. Sophia Gordon Center for the Creative & Performing Arts – *Ben Szalewicz, SSU*

- Construction is nearing completion
- Grand opening is on Thursday, April 20th
 - Show on opening night is free for Salem residents
- Marquee is currently not working due to software issues. Hope to have the issue resolved quickly.
- **Questions/Comments**
 - Dana complimented the theater sign.

B. 287 Lafayette Street

- Agenda item deferred to May 3 meeting, due to Historic Commission scheduling conflict

C. Old Business

A. Garage Update – *Ben Szalewicz, SSU*

- Lighting is now working as designed
 - Occupancy sensors have been replaced
- Researching having doors installed on the garage so the garage can be locked when it is not in use. This would allow the lights to be turned off during that time.

B. North Campus precinct study and Horace Mann Laboratory School relocation

- Working on cost estimate and final report
- Chairman Pangallo asked about the parking study they recommended
 - Ben advised they are looking into whether Sasaki will conduct the study or if they will put out a RFP.

C. Neighborhood Disturbances

- Polly shared with the group that a SSU student was hit by a car on Canal Street. The student was crossing from Loring Liquors parking lot to the CVS parking lot. The student was not in a crosswalk.
- The police report was passed around to the committee
- It was recommended signage be placed on the sidewalk reminding students to be careful. Crossing from central campus to CVS is becoming a problem.
- Adria advised that they can send out a message to students reminding them not to wear dark clothes, to push the walk button, and stay in the crosswalks.
- Councillor Turiel advised that a lot of measures have been taken to make crossing at Loring Ave safer. He suggested making some reasonable changes to prevent people

from making bad decisions when crossing Canal street. He added that is unlikely going to stop the problem all together, but can help the students make better choices where to cross the street.

- Councillor Dibble had a discussion with President Meservey about putting in a more permanent sign, the temporary one that was up was perfect – suggests that the same idea is used for this. Adria advised she will talk with Ben about it.
 - Councillor Dibble suggested a meeting with SPD, SSU police, and himself. Adria will look into coordinating.
- Councillor Turiel gave SSU credit for putting barriers up at the diner to stop cars from cutting through.
- Marcia suggested painting a sign on the sidewalk that has an arrow saying use the crosswalk – pointing to crosswalk.
- Neighbor suggested asking the students to come up with an idea of how they can become noticeable on the street – florescent glow bands, etc.
- Councillor Dibble shared that May 6 is the citywide cleanup day.
 - He would like to have a cleanup in Ward 7 along the bike path, and at Pickman park playground.
 - Adria will work on getting students to help
 - The clean-up is from 9:00am – 11:00am and pizza will be served on the common at 11:30.
- Marcia advised that the beautification committee will be doing islands this year
 - The specific islands have not been identified yet
- Councillor Dibble asked for an update on the central campus new parking map that he developed. Ben advised it will become part of the overall campus parking study. Ben said it will start in the summer and continue into the fall as they will need to see the campus with students in school. Councillor Dibble brought up that there is a need for a solution now. He asked if any spaces have been added on campus. Adria advised that they have added parking at the O’Keefe for resident students.
- Polly asked what the plan for parking is during the O’Keefe lot construction. Ben advised they are waiting for the final plans. Adria advised they are still waiting to find out how many parking spaces they’ll lose, and where the replacement parking will be.
- Adria advised it will be approximately 18Months of the parking loss.
- Chairman Pangallo added it will not be a 100% parking loss at O’Keefe.
- Polly advised that they need to make sure they have swing space available, and they need to identify it now.
- Councillor Dibble expressed his dissatisfaction that they are not adding parking at this point. He requested the university assist in help figuring out the parking issue on Loring Ave.
- Marcia asked about parking in other areas around the city and bussing them to the school.
 - Adria advised they have done that using Shetland park, and students were not utilizing that parking option.
 - Polly reminded the group that Salem already has parking issues in October.
- Councillor Dibble asked for Horace Mann update
 - Adria advised they are waiting on cost estimates from Sasaki
 - Dominick advised that they will be filed MSBA discussion will be taking place. Mayor approved statement of interest today.

- Councillor Dibble asked for an update at the next meeting. Chairman Pangallo advised that he is not sure he will have an updated timeline by the next meeting but he will reach out to MSBA and see what he can find out.

5. New Business

A. SSU Strategic Plan Update – *Nate Bryant, SSU*

- Went first on the agenda
- Strategic Planning – planning for 3 – 5 years' out
 - 13-member collaboration committee
 - President Meservey asked them in early 2016 to head up the Strategic planning, which they agreed to as long as they were able to plan from the bottom up.
 - Have been working on the plan since the summer of 2016
 - Goal
 - Look at where we are now
 - Where do we want to be in the future?
 - 6 overarching goals
 - Setting goals that can be measured
 - September – December
 - What phase/data gathering
 - January – March
 - How can we use the data we gathered?
 - April – August
 - How much & what first
 - Department of Higher Education needs to approve, after president & SSU board
 - Looking sometime mid to late fall for approval from Department of Education
 - DHE – Big 3
 - Boost college completion rates
 - Close achievement gaps
 - Attract and graduate more students from underserved populations
 - All state university strategic plans must meet the Big 3 goals
 - 6 Goals
 - Academic Excellence & Student Success
 - Civic Responsibility
 - Organizational Development
 - Reputation
 - Financial Strength & Sustainability
 - Modern, Safe & sustainable Campus Environment
 - All the 6 goals need to include
 - Student centeredness
 - Inclusivity
 - Fiscal viability
- Questions/Comments
 - Polly asked how the governor's community college plan will effect SSU. Nate advised that is a great program, but it will have an effect on SSU. For example,

some students who go to NSCC for one year will now more likely stay at NSCC for two years as they would be able to lock in their tuition rate.

- Adria advised that they are working closely with NSCC on the program to make sure it is an easy transition for those students.
- Councillor Turiel asked if they have identified ways to increase enrollment. Nate advised that Stamates will be coming in and looking at all the academic programs, and then will advise on what academic programs are growing and how they can keep growing them. They will identify which majors they should focus growth on.
- Councillor Dibble asked that the neighborhood be considered during the strategic planning.
- Polly asked how collaboration with Stamates is going to work. Nate advised academic programming is not part of the strategic planning. They will take the academic program recommendations from Stamates and include it in their strategic plan – as long as it meets their mission.

6. Adjourn

Next meeting: Wednesday, May 3, 7:00pm Enterprise Center