

Morningside Neighborhood Association
March 9, 2022 Meeting
MINUTES

Call to Order – Chair Pamela Schmidling at 6:35 PM

Introductions - 10 of 11 Board members (quorum), and three guests (see attendance sheet.)

Minutes – Minutes to February 9, 2022 meeting were approved as written.

City Council – Ward 3 Councilor Trevor Phillips reports:

Homeless Issues - Councilors moving forward on budget for managed sheltering; addressing lack of land; Bill passed by recent Legislature allowing Capitol land parcels to be used for such; City investments in such now will have long-term savings; City looking to create 6 to 7 FTEs to rapidly respond to unsafe conditions; Staff doing better at communicating with Council on such issues; Smaller camps safer and easier to manage than large camps.

City Budget - Committee will meet in April; City finances OK to end of 2024.

Council Vacancy in Ward 8 – There are currently eight applicants for term starting in 2023.

Questions, Answers and Discussions concerning:

- Clean-up of Pioneer Park
- Pulling staff from other programs to help handle Homeless issues; are we improving the situation or making it worse by providing these services?
- Oregon White Oak (significant tree) removal at NE Corner of Kuebler and 27th – penalties too small to deter development code violations; what is done with money collected in associated permit fees and fines?
- Covid – Numbers of cases and hospitalizations is way-down; only about 3-1/2% tests are positive – down from 40% to 50% at height of Omicron Variant. Regarding lifting of Mask Requirements, Councilor Phillips asked continuing-maskers and non-maskers to be kind to one another.
- New Sign Ordinance – Packet mail-out is 97 pages long! Is this necessary?

Councilor Phillips left meeting at end of Q & A's.

Announcement and discussion of recent complaint about address on Aneka Loop – City unable to effectively deter problem due to unwillingness of landlord to control or evict tenant friends. Some complaints about physical code violations have been temporarily addressed. Problems persist, and one impacted neighbor is now moving due to such.

Committee Reports

Traffic – Alan Meyer will attend City meeting on Hilfiker and Commercial improvement plans. Work progressing on Reed Road. There was comment and discussion about whether City is pressing new residential construction to address housing shortage or just to increase property tax base. Also there is need for traffic counting and traffic calming device installations at Pringle-Battle Creek Roads transition (Hillrose intersection.)

Land Use –Geoffrey James (Announced Liz Backer has joined MNA Land Use Committee.)

- Meyer Farm Development - hoping that City Council will uphold Councilor Phillips' motion (which passed 5 to 2) to deny the permit
- Zone Change Application for Kuebler & 27th Development – Alan Meyer will attend and read our letter supporting South Gateway N.A. objection to the zone change which would allow more commercial development and exacerbate the traffic problems in the vicinity.
- Hillcrest Redevelopment – recommends MNA approve request to forego requirement for development repurposing to include walkways in vicinity.
- Property Partition – Application to divide one residential lot on Albert Drive into two parcels; we should have no objections to such.

Parks – Muriel Meyer –

- Morningside Park – SPIF Grant for \$2,400 has been awarded for new picnic tables.
- Fairview Park – Recent Trail construction (alternate of original grant application target along old Strong Road) surfacing with “hog fuel” is disappointment in light of \$5,800 grant – Muriel will be contacting City regarding concerns.
- ODOT “Paths Grant Program – Seminars are coming up. Board approved for Muriel to pursue grant to connect trails in the Neighborhood

CERT – Pamela Schmidling – Explained program and cache location and contents to new Board members. Sue Reid gave updated on new buildings and kitchen project church campus, and coordination with Family Building Blocks; also, she introduced Church Pastor Alyssa Baker. City is looking for site for another CERT cache to serve the west side of South Salem.

Liquor Licenses – Pamela Schmidling – reported no new applications.

Transit – Bob Krebs is on a committee looking at Street Car system for Salem and West Salem.

Volunteer Hours: Muriel – 7; Al – 3; Sue – 1; Pamela – 1; Liz 2; Jenny-2 = Total 16 hours

Open Issues – Liz Backer reported Litter problems on Hillrose – will call Code Enforcement

Adjournment – Chair Pamela Schmidling adjourned meeting at 8:05 PM.

