

Morningside Neighborhood Association
May 11, 2022 Meeting
MINUTES

Call to Order – Chair Pamela Schmidling at 6:33PM

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

Minutes – Minutes to April 13, 2022 meeting were approved with correction: Parks “SPF” not SPIF.”

City Council – Councilor Phillips is not present, is attending annual City Budget Meeting.

Guest Speaker – Anthony Gamallo, City of Salem Senior Transportation Planner reported on approved Safe School Crossings project planned on Pringle Road SE at Hillendale. It will include a pedestrian refuge and side walk construction on the northwest and southwest corners of that intersection. Project is funded by ODOT grant. Original (un-granted) application was for \$750,000; cost expected to be much more. Questions and comments ensued about other traffic issues and necessary improvements, and of ongoing need for signal at Ratcliff Street (on the docket for installation by 2026, along with sidewalk construction near Vista in front of Fluffy Duck store.) Gamallo asked Board for letter(s) of support for the projects, and invited citizens to register traffic concerns and ideas on City Website. Alan M. will draft letter for Board approval and Chair Schmidling’s signature to send to City. Finally, mention was made to Camallo by Alan M. of serious problems with flashing light crossing on Commercial Street at Royvonne, and of need to relocate – especially in light of traffic increase due to nearby residential developments.

Committee Reports

Traffic – Alan Meyer – 1) Tractor trailer issue at Morningside Park has been amicably resolved – thanks to intervention by April meeting MNA guest John Lyons; 2) Barricades at south end of Old Strong Road have been replaced with more effective structures; 3) Kevin H. from City says portable speed radar traffic sign will soon be placed on Battle Creek Road southeast of Hillrose (in driveway apron to Simpson-Hill Fairview property, to avoid interference with bike lane; 4) Alan was unable to log-in late to recent City Council Meeting to represent MNA.

Land Use – Geoffrey James – 1) City Council rejected Planning Commission’s recommendation to approve the requested zone change to allow more commercial development at southeast corner of intersection of 27th and Kuebler; 2) Jackson Heights residential development proposal is in process of “administrative adjudication;” 3) Plan for a 29 unit residential development north of Morningstar Church is in review process; 4) Same for the residential development at Reed and Battle Creek Roads (we need to make sure necessary improvements are made to Reed Road and Battle Creek Road intersection before construction begins.)

Parks – Muriel Meyer – 1) Issues with grant-funded trail construction at Fairview Park are being satisfactorily addressed by City – recommends second of three options to provide side by side bark-surfaced walking path and gravel-surfaced biking path; 2) Learned that Fairview Dog Park would be funded by upcoming bond if the measure passes (first such funding of improvement to a not-yet-developed park!) Brief discussion ensued of main proposed uses for Bond funds.

CERT – Pamela Schmidling – Still no news of situation and plans for training, etc. “Sad.”

Liquor Licenses – Pamela Schmidling – reported no new applications.

Transit – No report.

Volunteer Hours: Muriel – 10; Alan - 2; Pamela – 24; Geoffrey – 2; Liz -2; = Total 40 hours

Open Issues:

Developer Marty Kehoe visited the meeting to hear concerns and answer questions about the controversial but recently-approved plan for development of the Meyer Farm property.

Board Member Elections: The terms for Pamela S., Al T., Geoffrey J., Alan M., Sue R. and Benny Y. are expiring. All agreed to stay on Board for next term; vote was taken and passed unanimously by Board.

Next Meeting: The June meeting will be held again at Morningside Methodist Church (Pamela unable to contact The Grove Apartments for permission to use their community hall as proposed last meeting; will try for July.) There was brief discussion of whether or not we would skip one or two summer months, and/or possibility of outdoor meeting.

Good of the Order:

Bob Krebs recommended Cherriots.org Website for information on Salem Transit.

Adjournment – Chair Pamela Schmidling adjourned meeting at 7:31 PM.