

**Morningside Neighborhood Association**  
**MINUTES**  
**September 14, 2022**

**Call to Order** – 6:33 PM by Chair Pamela Schmidling.

**Introductions** – 20 people present, including 10 board members (quorum.)

**Minutes** – Minutes for July and August meetings were approved as written.

**Police Report** – Officer Mark Jantz announced:

- 1) Community Citizen Police Academy has started (after the two-year Covid hiatus), with 20 citizens enrolled in one of two annual academies lasting 14 weeks each (including three Saturdays);
- 2) Halloween Safety – Annual “Dress Rehearsal” event focusing on safety also resuming after Covid hiatus;
- 3) Body-worn Cameras – After testing of equipment from three vendors, SPD selected Motorola “Watchguard”, with target of program up-and-running by end of year.
- 4) Back To School – We need to plan for slower traffic during commute hours and to pay attention to signs; also mentioned his weekly radio spot on Radio Station KBZY.

Questions, Comments and Issues:

- 1) Speeding on Battle Creek and Pringle Roads - Alan Meyer – asked about status of radar speed sign trailer MNA requested for Battle Creek – Pringle Roads section. Only four (refurbished) trailers available for city; however, newer and more portable units may soon be available.
- 2) Alan Meyer – Told officer Jantz about a problem with increasing property theft and threats from resumed homeless camping on new City property called “The Woods” located on east side of Pringle Road between Strong Road and Battle Creek Road. Jantz said that Police can’t do anything about the criminal activity, unless it is witnessed and immediately reported. Otherwise report on non-emergency line or online.
- 3) Muriel Meyer – expressed frustration with getting feedback from SPD and City on such reports. Officer Jantz said a lot of such problems is the manner in which incidents are reported to the dispatcher.
- 4) Jenny Hiatt – reported that there have been homeless campers on the Meyer Farm property who may not be associated with the church at Battle Creek and Hillrose. They have been using campfires during the high fire danger periods.

- 5) Benny Yows – expressed concern about the traffic from Salem Mission Church trying to turn left onto Pringle from Hillrose. Jenny Hiatt added that this has been a long going situation, and frustration with lack of response to complaints about it from City; same for complaints about speeding in the area – both on and off Pringle/Battle Creek Roads. Guest Wayne Banks (sp.) suggested the matter should be referred to the City (Traffic) Engineer to come up with long-term solutions. Mayor-Elect Chris Hoy suggested we work toward that through Councilor Phillips to make sure the matter comes to the attention of the Council. Hoy explained that ODOT is the final authority on speed limits in the city. Also, City is researching speed humps.

**Guest Speaker** – Ruth Snyder, Salem Fire – gave a presentation on wildfire in the urban setting and gave tips on how we can harden our homes and community against spread of fire. Senate Bill 762 provides grants for creation and maintenance of “Defensible Space” and for provision of access for emergency equipment in design and maintenance. Neighborhood Associations can be of great help in this endeavor.

**City Council** – Councilor Trevor Phillips - announced that he will invite the new City Manager to MNA meeting. Nothing new to report on the Reed Road improvement project – supposed to be completed by October.

**Guest Speaker** – Mayor-elect Chris Hoy – Introduced himself and gave an overview and breakdown of funding proposals for proceeds from the proposed City Infrastructure bond which will go before the voters in the November election. He also fielded questions and comments on various topics.

### **Committee Reports –**

Traffic – Alan Meyer - reported slower than anticipated progress on Reed Road, and on getting radar speed sign on Battle Creek – Pringle Road transition.

Land Use – Geoffrey James – Reported council approved development of a low income apartment complex near intersection of 27<sup>th</sup> and Marietta; also that Marietta will be extended to connect with Reed Road per MNA’s plan.

Parks – Muriel Meyer – Reported she wants to submit application for SPIF grant to repair and improve trail damaged by tree roots and fallen tree. Motion to do so was passed by unanimous vote of Board.

C.E.R.T. – Pamela Schmidling – nothing new to report. Discussion ensued about the location, function and contents of the CERT Cache located on Morningside Methodist Church property; what people need to do on their own to prepare for the next emergency. Also, suggestion was made that MNA should be promoting and facilitating. Mention was made of a Web site “Surviving Cascadia.com” that people should refer to.

Liquor Licenses – Pamela Schmidling – reported that City approved new application by Creative Studios for “Painting and Wine” establishment on Fairview Industrial Drive. Discussion ensued on the appearance that OLCC does not have rules for Marijuana dispensaries that are as restrictive as for alcohol.

**Volunteer Hours** – Muriel Meyer – 15 hours; Pamela Schmidling – 16 hours = total 31 hours.

**Open Issues and Good of the Order –**

MNA Annual Meeting – Conflict with City Council Budget meeting. Suggestion was made to move MNA Annual Meeting to June, and this will be topic of near-future meeting.

**Adjourn** – Chair Pamela Schmidling adjourned the meeting at 8:43 PM.