

Morningside Neighborhood Association

MINUTES

January 11, 2023

Call to Order – 6:36 PM by Chair Pamela Schmidling.

Introductions – 10 people present, including 9 board members (quorum) and 1 SPD Officer.

Minutes – Minutes for December meeting approved.

Police Report – Officer Jason Donner – Outlined progress on SPD’s “Target Homelessness” campaign. City and SPD are using innovative approach for engaging with homeless persons. He cited difficulty in recruiting qualified dispatchers to staff the (non-SPD) central dispatch center. He talked (and fielded questions) about recent “pedestrian vs. vehicle accidents, and fielded questions about possible impacts of proposed new airline services on police staffing; policing cell phone using while driving, and possible analysis of vehicle speed data which may have been collected by the “monitor” that was temporarily placed on Hillrose Ave. at the transitions of Battle Creek Road to Pringle Ave.

City Council – Pamela Schmidling reported that Councilor Phillips was unable to attend meeting due to emergency meeting of City Council this evening; and that he asked her to pass along news of possible new airline service, and of election of Councilor Stapleton to Council President seat.

Committee Reports –

Traffic – Pamela reported for absent Alan Meyer that a letter stating MNA’s concerns about the Royvonne/Commercial intersection has sent to City. The letter suggests City prohibit left turns from Royvonne onto Commercial. City acknowledged receipt, and the measure might be implemented sooner if – after public announcement of such proposal – and there are no objections from the public. If objections registered, then matter will involve Council.

Land Use – Geoffrey James – Briefly explained the requirement for developer to send courtesy copies of site plan proposal to neighborhood associations at beginning of application process. He also mentioned application in the works by an international ministry organization for construction of a regional administrative facility at the northwest corner of new Strong Road and Lindberg Road (near The Grove apartment development. There was also a query from a party seeking to establish a facility in Morningside Neighborhood to serve women, but to also do things for the whole area –

including interpretation of the Fairview history. Pamela said she would invite them to the next MNA meeting to present their plan. Nathan asked if anything from Morningstar Church since they presented their proposal to MNA to develop their land for mixed use. Discussion progressed to Meyer Farm development issue, and Jenny Hiatt said, though LUBA upheld the development proposal, the Friends Group is appealing the matter to State Court of Appeals. Friends group is trying to raise \$6,000 for legal expenses surrounding the appeal. Meyer family trustees are still working out that aspect.

Parks – Reporting for the absent Muriel Meyer, Pamela said the City formally acknowledged receipt of Muriel’s Salem Parks Improvement Fund grant.

C.E.R.T. – Pamela Schmidling – Meeting to take place on 1/12. Training later this month. Program head Greg Walsh is leaving CERT to become County Emergency Service chief.

Liquor Licenses – Pamela Schmidling – Nothing new to report.

Transit – Bob Krebs briefly talked about progress on proposal for streetcar services between West Salem and Salem – connecting key transit points. Establishment will require special agreement between Transit and City.

Communications - Jennifer Hiatt – reported new guidelines for Neighborhood Association communications, including new logos and \$200 award for publication of quarterly newsletters (online and/or printed.) Also \$50 for having a social media presence. Jenny explained how to join MNA group on Next Door app. She is comfortable with publishing quarterly newsletters. Board approved a timeline that enables advance promotion of annual meeting.

Volunteer Hours –Jennifer Hiatt – 10; Pamela Schmidling – 8; = total of 18 hours.

Good of the Order – There was further discussion on content of the newsletter and of “Mail Chimp” software used to count readers and responses, also of alternatives to coverage limits of free service. Also, Pamela said we currently have about \$1,500 in MNA account which can help with communications expenses.

Adjourn – Chair Pamela Schmidling adjourned the meeting at 7:52 PM.