

Morningside Neighborhood Association  
November 14, 2018 Meeting  
At Painters Hall in Pringle Creek Community

**MINUTES**

Call to Order – 6:30 PM – Chair Pamela Schmidling

Self-Introductions – 17 persons in attendance, including 12 Board Members – enough for a quorum

Police Report – Officer Joe Scott

Reported recent spate of auto thefts while owners leave them running to warm up  
Reminded us of Holiday trend for increased package thefts from front porches and parked cars  
Announced warming shelters are now available for homeless as weather turns colder  
Reported that “ground breaking” for new police headquarters took place last week  
Reported he had been checking the traffic in the vicinity of Wickshire as requested by Dan Reid and others in attendance at October meeting

Minutes to October Meeting – Geoffrey James moved and Larry George seconded for approval of the minutes; motion passed with no objections or abstentions

Compliance – Officer Debora Romano

Reported there have been 77 new cases since June – 30 of which are still open  
Reported there are currently no known derelict buildings/properties in our Neighborhood  
Asked us to be vigilant for vacant houses being occupied by unauthorized persons (midnight move-ins)  
Warned us not to put leaves into the street for City to clean up; emphasized taking advantage of the annual leaf haul program where we can bag the leaves and take them to the designated disposal site at Browns Island (event scheduled for the next Saturday, and one Saturday in December)  
Announce the annual Open House – tour of historic houses around town on December 9<sup>th</sup>, 1PM to 4PM  
Answered a question from Janet Bubl regarding who to contact to report a problem where tree growth is blocking view of street signs and interfering with traffic; Officer Romano recommended contacting her office to report the problem (Direct line number is 503-540-2488.)

Presentation –

Steven Ward of Wes-Tech Engineering showed plans for a new 145 unit town-home development in part of Sustainable Fairview area. These will be fee-ownership properties and will be mostly three bedrooms. He explained the lay-out and most-likely order of development to coordinate with other developments in the area, including new Strong Road. There were some questions from Board members regarding parking space. He introduced Randy Meyer representing Brownstone

Development which is also involved in the project, who filled us in on more details. Discussion also included the amount of time it takes for such plans to come to fruition “Salem is not the worst!”

Committee Reports – began with Chair Pamela S. suggesting we add “Communication” to the standard committee report agenda.

Traffic – Alan Meyer - three items to report:

- 1) He is on a city-wide committee called “Safer Crossings” which is intended to develop a method of taking input from public concerning street crossings, and ranking and processing the input;
- 2) Entrance to new Strong Road off of Pringle has a sight distance problem due to the hilly gradient of Pringle – may require some additional traffic warning signs;
- 3) Sidewalks on Pringle – a long-time need from Morningside Court – northward (lots of school-age children in area.

While on subject of traffic – Chair Pamela S. asked Board Member/City Councilor Brad Nanke if there has been any progress on the South Commercial Corridor Project; he said that a cross walk with flashing light will soon be installed where most of the crossings occur between Madrona and Ratcliff; Alan reminded us that we had opposed the plan to put another Commercial Street crossing near Crowley. There was some discussion of the location being necessary to accommodate pedestrian crossings at the mid-block bus stops.

Land Use – Geoffrey James – had five items to report

- 1) Partition application for dividing a five acre lot on Madrona into two lots;
- 2) Steve Ward of Westech will be talking to us about their application for a townhouse subdivision at Fairview (see “presentation.”)
- 3) He reminded us that this is different from the proposed apartment development at Fairview presented to us at the October meeting by Richard Berger of Mountain West.
- 4) Costco Report had been formally appealed by our neighboring neighborhood – no time set yet for hearing
- 5) He is serving on a 15 person committee including the Mayor, three neighborhood reps, two county commissioners, Chamber Reps. The committee is charged with reviewing the Comprehensive Plan. There will also be a technical committee on the task which will be formed entirely of Staff. A public Workshop meeting is scheduled for December 5, at Court Street Christian Church

On the subject of Land Use – Richard Berger of Mountain West Investments announced they will be going back to the Planning Commission to make a minor change in driveway location for their development in Fairview which is necessary to avoid conflict with Heritage School’s access.

Janet Buble also asked about other new development on Ratcliff at the intersection with Bluff; it is previously approved lot improvement.

Parks – Muriel Meyer – Nothing new; we are still waiting for grant application approval.

Pringle Creek Watershed – No report.

CERT – Pamela Schmidling – No report because there is no meeting scheduled for this month.

Liquor License Applications - Pamela S. – No new applications. Former gas station and convenience market at corner of Pringle and Madrona is now being used as a base for Willamette Valley Transport. liquor license at site cancelled.

Transit – Bob Krebs – 12 new busses are being put into service. There will be no service on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year holidays. Transit has filed to get funds allocated for Marion and Polk Counties. If approved, Saturday and evening service will start the day after Labor Day holiday in 2019.

Communication Committee – Richard Reid – Explained the committee's understood mandate, and set out to explain for Board's approval five separate initiatives intended to improve communications both between MNA and City, other Neighborhoods, and within MNA itself. The proposed procedure draft had been sent to Board members prior to the meeting.

Unfortunately, the presentation got interrupted and derailed by objections from a few board members, who felt the existing procedure worked fine – just needed to be followed more carefully. One Board member challenged the proposal to require email or other online communicability between all board members; another thought the committee was trying to make the process too complicated. (This all before the matter was fully presented. Discussion devolved into stating how this task and committee was called for (misdirected communication to Mayor regarding MNA's stance on the Costco issue.) Another of the five proposals was for City staffers to auto-reply to our communiques with City. Committee member Alan Meyer suggested that the committee go back and try to simplify the proposal with diagrams (flow charts) to help explain this proposal to the Board at a later meeting. The list of proposals included making board minutes more compact – include only the materials voted on, and referring to secretary's notes as addendum to the minutes. On the email or online communication issue, committee member Joshua Kay asked if some of the funds available for MNA communications could be used to provide a website-based mail box, so all Board members would not actually need email to stay in full contact. Richard Reid said that he would schedule another committee meeting to act on the objections and recommendations put forth at this meeting.

Adjournment – There being no items put forth for Good of the Order, Chair Pamela Schmidling adjourned the meeting at 8:10 PM.