

**Morningside Neighborhood Association
November 11, 2020 Board Meeting
MINUTES**

CALL TO OROADER – 6:32pm by Chair Pamela

INTRODUCTIONS – 13 persons present in the beginning, including 11 current MNA Board Members. 2 additional persons joined later.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – A Motion to approve the October Minutes passes, with no corrections.

POLICE REPORT

No police report.

Janet comments on the flashing light array in front of Leslie School, and lax enforcement of traffic laws in this area. Some discussion about the intent and use of the flashing lights. To be continued when an Officer is present.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

TRAFFIC – Alan

A document was circulated to the MNA Board about the Reed Road Presentation. The document shows there is serious discussion about Reed Road in the Planning Commission. Based on prior comments, there is also discussion about Reed Road in City Council.

REED ROAD – Curtis from City of Salem Public Works

Trevor invited City staff to be present at today's MNA Board Meeting.

Trevor says the development of Reed Road is on the Systems Plan. In order to move from the Systems Plan to the Capital Improvement Plant (CIP) requires funding. The only clear pathway to obtain funding is with a bond (or similar instrument).

Trevor asks Curtis to elaborate on the process of improving roads.

Geoff has two additional questions for Curtis. First, what is the timeline for improvements, bearing in mind five new developments along Reed Road, and second, can partial improvements be done to Reed Road before The Grove apartments are leased?

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Curtis says Reed Road improvements were not a condition of The Grove land use decision. The only other current project is Legacy Heights, which is on the Northwest portion of the site (not along Reed Road). Land use decisions have been finalized along Reed Road and Kuebler, but there are no construction/development plans available for those projects.

The CIP Review and Approval process could be utilized to accelerate Reed Road improvements. This would require a public hearing and review from the Director.

Alan comments on DDF Funds allocated to the park which could have been used for Reed Road. Curtis confirms a part of that DDF Fund was used for the park, but some DDF funds are still available. Brad asks if DDF funds are dependent on specific development projects (e.g., Simpson Hills) or if DDF funds come from a larger pool of developments. Chris says he is unsure.

The previously approved Simpson Hill plan included a half-street widening of Reed Road. Trevor says the Simpson Hill Plan has expired and will need to reapply.

There is concern Simpson Hill may not be developed. Chris says if we pursue the CIP option instead we should start the process now. Trevor suggests some type of bond unique to Reed Road. This bond will raise the required funds for a CIP. Brad says a similar funding method was successfully employed at Madrona & 25th Street.

LAND USE – Geoff

Nothing new for Land Use.

Geoff says there will be an extensive discussion about Reed Road with City staff at next month's MNA Board Meeting.

PARKS – Muriel

A Letter of Intent for Phase One of the future Fairview Park Project has been accepted at the City. We expect to have another update by January.

Some discussion about the hours of operation for neighborhood parks.

CERT TEAM/LIQUOR LICENSES – Pam

No meetings are currently being held by CERT.

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One (1) new liquor license application approved by the City at 3404 Commercial Street. The applicant is a 30-40 seat restaurant.

COMMUNICATION FUND HOURS

- Richard – 2 hours
- Muriel – 5 hours
- Dennis – 6 hours
- Alan – 5 hours

TRANSIT – Bob

5 electric zero emission battery powered buses will be deployed on Lancaster. These are the first electric buses in Salem.

A transit connection between Albany and Salem is being studied.

There is a vacancy on the budget committee for this District. It is a 3-year term starting January 31st. Interested persons should contact Bob.

Bob is in his last few months as the Director of Subdistrict 6. His position will become available after January 1. Interested persons should file an application with the appropriate office. Selections will be made in late March or early April.

COMMUNICATIONS – Richard

Richard would like to pursue grant money from South Salem Connect. South Salem Connect is our community partnership team. Richard would like to use these funds to establish contact in the Morningside Neighborhood. He suggests a brief survey to gather opinions and raise awareness. The cost of fliers and mailings is known based on recent experience with the MNA Open House. A ballpark figure of \$500 was mentioned.

Janet asks a question about addresses and mailing info. Brad asks about the level of detail we will have to go into on the grant application. Richard says outlining a basic plan should be sufficient.

Muriel suggest we can use Communication Funds as well. Richard says he does not know what the current balance is.

Motion to let Richard apply for grant money passes.

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CITY COUNCILOR REPORT – Brad

Brief commentary by Brad before handing off to Guest Councilor Trevor.

The biggest monetary item voted on by City Council was funding for addressing homelessness issues. \$1.2-\$1.4 million dollars was approved. Some of this money was left over from CARES. There was an Emergency Declaration to allow City Staff to look at different sheltering options.

Costco was voted on and passed. No sense on when construction might begin. Trevor vocalized his safety concerns about traffic but did not have a vote.

Trevor reminds City Council that Planning Committee Approval for developments near Reed Road was not unanimous due to safety concerns about Reed Road.

ADDITIONAL/MISC –

Per Pam, there will be a Chairs Meeting next Wednesday from 3:30-5 to discuss the homeless.

Trevor comments about exploding Covid-19 numbers in Oregon and urges everyone to continue wearing masks, washing hands, and social distancing.

Extended free-form discussion about Covid-19.

ADJOURN – Pam adjourned the meeting at 7:30pm