

Morningside Neighborhood Association

Annual Meeting

May 12, 2011

Painters Hall – Pringle Creek Community

The annual meeting of the Morningside Neighborhood Association was called to order by Chair Pamela Schmidling at 7:00 PM.

A quorum was declared. Approximately 30 neighbors were in attendance.

Chair Schmidling displayed the framed resolution saluting 35 years of continuous existence of the MNA. This resolution was approved by the Salem City Council at their last meeting.

Police Officer Jim Johnson gave a brief talk and discussed crime reports now being available up to date on the internet. <crimereports.com> He introduced Angie Hedrick, Community Relations specialist for the Crime Prevention Unit, who gave a complete rundown on policing services available to the public. She can be reached at [ahedrick@cityofsalem.net](mailto:ahedrick@cityofsalem.net). She discussed National Night Out on the first Tuesday in August. She said the theme this year was “Crime- make it rare on your street.” to tie in with planned bar-b ques that night. Chair Schmidling announced that some funds were available to help host such an event.

Teresa Amen, Code Compliance Officer, [tamen@cityofsalem.net](mailto:tamen@cityofsalem.net) gave an update on the abandoned house on 12<sup>th</sup> street. She said during her last inspection, she found a fire in the building. Said that litigation with the insurance company was near completion and funds were to be available to fix the house. She answered a number of questions about code enforcement concerning height of grass (10”), abandoned homes, abandoned vehicles and the new chicken ordinance.

Chair Schmidling announced the introduction of the MNA survey information questionnaire and said they would be soon available to business and to all home on a door to door distribution.

Brad Nanke, our city councilor for past 11 years, gave a brief review of the just completed budget committee process and felt confident that the City Council would adopt it. He discussed water and sewer franchise fees (paid by city) and the wisdom of the proposed banning of all smoking 24/7 in the city parks. He warned that this years budget was “flat” but that in three years there would be a need to make drastic cuts and that we should start preparing now to soften that blow.

Roger Stevenson, the Emergency Preparedness Manager for the Salem Fire Department gave a detailed discussion of the CERT program and the need for neighbors to have a plan, a kit and become involved in disaster readiness planning, especially on the neighborhood level. He indicated that it was just a matter of time until the “big one” hit Oregon. It will be 7.5 or higher in magnitude and because of our imported soils from eastern Washington and Montana, the effect will amplify the effect of the initial quake.

Jeff Kressner of American Red Cross demonstrated the latest battery and hand crank radio-flashlight unit that the ARC is selling for \$30.00. He also displayed a prepacked “Readiness Kit” to be used in

the first 72 hours following a disaster. He urged an out of state contact who could be reached by Twitter in the event of family notification during a disaster. He also asked for volunteers to bolster the South Salem volunteer pool of about 20 people. He also distributed an earthquake preparedness list of things to do in the event of an earthquake. He also urged blood donations.

Newly elected Mayor Anna Peterson gave a brief talk about the good cooperation that she found on the City Council. She expressed her appreciation for the many volunteers on committees, boards and commissions and urged neighbors to sign up for vacancies in those positions as they came open. She said that a City is only as strong as its' neighborhoods.

Nominations for board positions were announced. The current board members up for renewal all agreed to stay on for an additional two year term. In addition two new board members were nominated. They are Mike Mitchell and Tony Sorem. Upon a voice vote all members were approved by the meeting. Officers were to be elected by the board at the June meeting.

Jason Pulley, public works department and our liaison to the City introduced himself and briefly described his duties. Jason Richling of the Planning Department introduced himself and described the current progress of the "new" Morningside Neighborhood Long Range plan (10 years). He urged all neighbors to offer ideas for the plan. He described its importance to the City.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 8, 2011 at Painters Hall, Pringle Creek Community. It will start at 6:30 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 8:49 PM – Cookies and punch followed. All in attendance agreed that this was a lively, animated and enthusiastic annual meeting, thanks to leadership of Chair Schmidling.