

Morningside Neighborhood Association
Wednesday, March 11
6:30 p.m.
Morningside Elementary School
3513 12th Street SE, media room
(Note the one-time location change.)

Agenda:

Call to Order and Introductions: Chair Larry George called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Members and guests introduced themselves.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes for the February meeting were approved as submitted.

Police Report: Officer Verhaar took questions from the audience. Among them were: School zone signs on Centennial and Pringle near the school. The officer said he would investigate this issue. Other issues were discussed.

Compliance Services Update--Brady Rogers, Administrator, and Sam Hall, Sustainable Fairview Representative: Compliance Services is facing many challenges in the coming year. Among these are shopping carts and old garage sale signs.

Sustainable Fairview was next discussed. Sam Hall said that most of the buildings on the site would have to be demolished, but some of them might be salvaged. Some of the property, 32 acres, has become Pringle Creek Community, but the future of the rest of the property is uncertain. Discussion followed.

Chickens in the Yard: This group is petitioning the City to pass an ordinance allowing residence to own chickens in their yard. These chickens could be a valuable part of the community because they could contribute to a sustainable lifestyle. The chickens could provide food to the community, which is why Marion Polk County Food Share is supporting the idea.

Several other cities, including Portland, are in favor of residents owning chickens. Complaints about chickens are relatively low in cities where they are allowed. Chickens do make noise when laying an egg, but the group felt this should not be a disturbance. The pros and cons of this issue were discussed.

A motion was made that the neighborhood association support Chickens in the Yard. The motion was carried with a vote of 6-5. . Larry volunteered to write a letter expressing Morningside's support to City Council.

Sign Code Amendments/New Technology--Amy Dixon, Associate Planner: The issue of sign codes is one that most citizens do not understand. Historically, the City's sign codes have not offered guidelines for the use of electronic reader boards using LED displays. These illuminated signs would be in schools, churches, and the like.

The proposed amendments regulate such things as the brightness of the signs and the dwell time of the messages, that is, how long these messages would be seen by the public.

The sign code can regulate the appearance of signs, but they cannot regulate the contents of messages on these signs. Questions were taken from the audience.

Committee Reports

Traffic: No report.

Land Use: Zoning near Edward Drive was discussed. Also, why was Doris Loop renamed Doris Avenue? There was some discussion about a street where there was a median in the middle of the intersection.

Neighborhood Watch: No report.

SNI: No report.

Parks: Why are there no lights in the proposed Hillficker Part? Larry learned that it was because there was no actual plan for how that park would be used. Randy Dixon will discuss this more at the annual meeting in May.

Pringle Creek Watershed Council:PCWC participated in a restoration effort near Middle Fork and Battle Creek. Also, there is a part-time coordinator for this watershed council.

The next event is a work party at the Fairview Wetland Trail cite on April 4.

South Salem Connectors: South Salem Connectors has been reviewing its budget for the coming year. They feel they will still exist in spite of the budget.

They are continuing the Family Activity Night at Capital Park Wesleyan Church.

SSC is focusing on bringing more books to several elementary schools, including Hoover and Richmond.

Airport Activity: The Noise Committee is meeting and they will be receiving a spreadsheet looking at the traffic noise in the area. Other topics were also discussed.

City Councilor Report: Brad thanked those who came to the Community Conversations about the City's budget. They will be using this data to put together a recommended budget that will be discussed starting April 15.

The City will receive \$3.5 million in federal economic stimulus funds to complete the lead paint abatement work on the Union Street Railroad Bridge.

City Council will be reducing its meeting schedule to the second and fourth Monday of the month.

The sign issue will be discussed in June.

Neighborhood Liaison Report: No report.

Announcements: Randy Dixon will speak at the annual meeting in May 20.

Neighborhood Issues and Concerns: None.

Open Issues: None.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Tina Hansen, secretary