

**Morningside Neighborhood Association**  
**February 8, 2017 Board Meeting**  
MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 6:35 PM by Chair Pamela Schmidling

Sign-in sheet passed around – Boar members present at beginning of meeting: Pamela Schmidling; Sue Reid; Bob Krebs; Dan Reid; Geoffrey James; Janet Bubl; Brad Nanke; Lloyd Chapman; Chap Milbank; Scott Schaeffer; Alan Meyer; Muriel Meyer; Al Tocchini; Larry George

Police Report

The police officer (didn't get his name) announced the upcoming event "Breakfast with the Chief" to be held on February 22 at Roth's West Salem – beginning at 7:00 AM. Details are available at [salempolicefoundation.org](http://salempolicefoundation.org). He also said they recently had another successful "Coffee with a Cop" event, and are looking in or near our neighborhood for a site for the next one – which is planned for early March.

He reported there have been two or three recent reports of thefts from automobiles in our neighborhood. Board member Sue Reid announced that there is a crime report map page on the SPD website, and she has been unable to download and print it; officer said he would check and see if there is a way for those who want to print the map. Pamela asked if he could check on Clark Creek Park to see why there is so much traffic in and out of the parking lot – leaving a lot of debris - after closing hours; Brad mentioned it has been one of the sites that Poke-man Go directs players to. Sue Reid mentioned that Morningside United Methodist Church was having the same issue on their property, and it took several tries (contacts with the game administrators) for them to finally stop using the site for their game.

Code Compliance Report

City Compliance Officer Teresa Amen announced that since the last time she reported, the City had hired two new Code enforcers – one concentrating on abandoned vehicles, the other on derelict properties and other issues.

Teresa said there are still five houses in the neighborhood on their caseload – some are in various stages of the process which would allow the banks and old or new owners to begin repairing them. They are located on Bluff Ave., Pringle Road, Morningside Ave.; Hulsey Ave; and Battle Creek Rd.. Significant progress is being made on the Pringle Road property. There is also interest in one of the other homes which currently has a serious Black Mold problem.

Lloyd Chapman asked Teresa if there is a Website people can go to find out about such properties (i.e. foreclosures, and ones up for short-sale. Teresa said she is not aware of such. Pamela said that during the real-estate bubble crash of a few years back, a local realtor was

providing such information to anyone interested. Janet Bubl asked Teresa if the Black Mold problem would preclude sale of that property, and she said it would not (people looking at the properties are told to look in the basement, so they are aware of the condition.)

### Parole & Probation Report

Tyler Nelson and Keith Jarman from Marion County Sherriff's Parole and Probation Unit announced they are currently trying to apprehend six criminal offenders who have failed to comply with the conditions of their parole or probation. They handed out flyers with pictures and information on these individuals, and asked us to notify MCSO if we see any of them (Do not try to confront or apprehend them.) They said we can also contact MCSO through their Website address shown on the handout.

### Salem Parks Foundation

Pat Norman of the Salem Parks Foundation announced "It is that time of the year again" when they are accepting grant applications for improvements to the City's park system. She encouraged us to think about what improvements we see needed in our Neighborhood parks and consider writing up a request. She said that the City will look at the requests before grant decisions are made by the Foundation.

She said that there are some improvements underway at Cascade Gateway Park, including a new dog park and some cement work. There is also a need there to fill-in some enormous pot-hole puddles in the park road and parking lot.

### Committee Reports

Traffic – Alan Meyer said there is nothing new to report, except that the projects that had Kuebler/I-5, Kuebler/Commercial and Madrona/25<sup>th</sup> tied up are now done, and appear to be working quite well. There was some discussion of whether or not the improvements (divider) at the Madrona Street railroad crossing have reduced noise from the railroad (less horn sounding necessary.) There is still a lot of horn noise because of the unimproved other crossings at McGilchrist and Hines.

Land Use – Geoffrey James said that (City?) Council voted to make some changes to expand Industrial Commercial (IC) in previous Industrial Zones. There were nine or ten parcels city-wide – about half in Morningside Neighborhood (Fairview area – including one or two north of Madrona – and past the end of Salishan, east of Edward Dr. and near Morrow Crane which will be a hemp-oil extraction plant.

Other than that, there was one partition discussed – "nothing controversial." Alan Meyer asked if there was any news on what is happening around here (Fairview/Simpson Hill). Geoffrey misunderstood the question and mentioned that there may be a change in plans for

some of the land near the proposed shopping center development on 27<sup>th</sup> and Kuebler – this change to allow some multi-family housing development where it was previously zoned for commercial/industrial. Regarding Simpson Hill – there was a two year extension granted for that project, and we’re about mid-way through that - - nothing new on that.

Parks – Muriel Meyer said she had inquired about the status of tennis and basketball courts use (primarily at Morningside Park; the court is/are being used, but in need of re-surfacing.

Pringle Creek Watershed – Chap Milbank said (“because of high water” ;-/ ) the meeting of PCW Council was cancelled; actually it was because the Chair had a schedule conflict. There were some comments and discussion about the sewage system overflows into the Neighborhood creeks during the high water episodes.

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) – Pamela Schmidling said the next meeting was coming up; they are trying to stay on a “3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday” schedule. There have been some scheduling conflicts at Morningside Methodist Church where the meetings are normally held. Geoffrey James re-mentioned his wife’s attempts to connect with the Morningside CERT program (she has gone through the training in another neighborhood organization.) Again – communications have been hampered by the fore-mentioned scheduling conflicts, and this should be taken care of this month.

Liquor Licenses – Pamela Schmidling said there have been no new applications in the last several months.

Transit – Bob Krebs reported that the Transit system got through the bad weather periods very well. Bob passed out new bus route maps, announcing some changes due to traffic tie-ups at Keizer Station that impacted passengers meeting transfer schedules. Bob said that Routes 8 and 8A which are through our Neighborhood ((12<sup>th</sup> St., Madrona Ave. and Liberty St.) are now called routes 8 and 18.

Bob announced that Salem Transit has a new logo – modernized, but no longer has the cherry in the design.

He announced there is a fund raising opportunity facilitated by Salem Transit which is a day trip to Portland Metro area that hooks up with Metro transit and allows riders from Salem to have a three hour free time to shop and attend events in the Convention Center area of Portland. Price is \$20 for age 65 plus, and \$26 for younger riders. A good portion of the fare goes to the sponsoring organization.

## Transit Report (continued)

There was some discussion of (lack of) bus service in parts of our neighborhood. For example discontinuance of routes on Pringle, Battle Creek and Reed Roads; one of the problems is that Reed Road currently is too narrow to accommodate bus service, but eventually will get service when it is improved with planned Fairview developments. Bob also announced there is a new “connector” service for light traffic areas such as parts of West Salem. The goal is to provide bus service within five minute walk of residences in the area, and it replaces the former two hour cycle in service to that area. He talked about the differences between Salem and Portland and Eugene transit services being largely due to differences in funding: our service comes from property taxes. Transit service in Salem and other cities is not coming back until we can get more money for it (through the Legislature, if not local governments.) Finally, he reported that many busses are coming up for replacement, and the plan is to replace them with larger capacity units.

## Neighborhood Issues and Concerns –

Marc Rocque (Webster Dr. SE) announced he is attending this meeting seeking to find out about what is going on concerning short-term rentals and micro-housing issues recently brought to public’s attention. Brad Nanke said that the City is currently collecting info and input around town, and the issue will be on the Council agenda in the next few months. The big impact is the time around August 21, 2017 when Salem will be a gathering place of people wanting to witness the total solar eclipse – all lodging in the area is booked-solid, and folks may be trying to rent out their homes to the visitors. There is a concern about what will precipitate after that – possible impacts on neighborhoods. Marc said he has left phone messages with Bryce Bishop at City Planning, but has not gotten a reply on his query. Brad said that he should try contacting Kim - - - ? with City for an answer on this.

This progressed to discussion of possible inclusion of accessory housing units and short term rentals at one of our future meetings’ agenda. Pamela S. said she would try to remember to make sure that is on the agenda.

Next Month’s Meeting – Pamela S. said that someone will be here to talk about the Commercial Street Corridor Plan (This has been in limbo since one of the key persons on this project left the City.)

City Council Report – Brad Nanke announced that – other than the April budget meeting – there will be no more conflicts between Council and MNA meeting schedules. He said there are several new councilors. There is one open seat (Ward 6) with four people running – two seriously (Chris H. who is the Clackamas Co. Sherriff, and \_\_\_\_ Beyer with some Keizer connection.)

City Councilor report (continued)

Brad said that the Police facility will be on the May ballot. It is on the Council agenda, with a work session scheduled for February 21<sup>st</sup> for final decision by February 27<sup>th</sup>.

Brad went on to mention there are three ways to handle city transit problems: busses, taxis and Uber/Lift. He said one of the issues City can best deal with is the need for background checks on the prospective drivers (Police can do this more thoroughly than cab/ride providers. There were a few more comments on the subject, and a mention that Uber and Lift are both less expensive than taxi service. Bob Krebs added that Salem Transit is not opposed to Lift or Uber as long as they are required to meet the same rules (standards) as Taxi, but they a(and Taxi) are way more expensive than Transit service. Someone mentioned that possible unionization may have some impact as well. There were some comments on relative safety of Uber and Lift vs. Taxi and Transit.

Brad mentioned that City has a lot of “irons in the fire” needing strategy to make bonding success more likely. Geoffrey James complimented Council (through Brad) on the conduct of the most recent session – seemed more accommodating to Public who wanted to make comment.

Brad closed by saying in addition to the Police facility, there will be more Council discussion seismic repair of City Hall and Library.

#### Announcements –

Lloyd Chapman announced (regarding schools) he is on a citizens’ schools task force that is looking for a bond measure to fund system expansion to cover anticipated increases in enrollment. He said that one new elementary school is needed; middle school capacity is OK for now; and several High Schools will need enlarging – the equivalent of one new High School will be needed.

Pamela Schmidling asked if there were any concerns or preferences for this year’s annual meeting – shall we hold it on the second Wednesday of May, now that City Council’s budget meeting will not conflict. People present generally agreed with that, and thought the format of last year’s meeting was a good one for this year’s. Pamela asked Sue Reid if she’d be interested in Chairing that event again this year.

Along those lines, someone announced that on (May?) 21<sup>st</sup> there will be a special proclamation regarding the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of neighborhood associations in Salem.

Back to the MNA Annual Meeting – someone spoke up to remind us that Roth’s markets would likely partake in our celebration if we give them enough advance notice; also that we start thinking about making contacts with Neighborhood merchants, etc. to solicit prizes to give away at the Annual Meeting.

There was brief discussion of the timing of our meeting with the May election. Also, it was suggested we invite someone from the School District to attend the Annual Meeting.

There being no further announcements – nothing for “The Good of the Order:” The Meeting was adjourned at 7:54 PM.

# ATTENDANCE

GROUP: MVA

DATE: 2-8-17

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	NAME	STREET ADDRESS & ZIP	PHONE	E-MAIL
1	Ronnie Schmidt			
2	Muriel Meyer			
3	Alan Meyer			
4	Lloyd Chopman			
5	Sue Reid			
6	Scott Scharfer			
7	Deb Vaughn			
8	Al Tocchini			
9	BOB KREBS			
10	DAN REID			
11	LARRY GEORGE			
12	PAT NORMAN			
13	Geoffrey James			
14	Janet Bubl			
15	Chap. Milburn			
16	Brad Nance			
17	MARC ROCQUE			
18	Rene Salstrom			
19	Jason Conwell			

	NAME	STREET ADDRESS & ZIP	PHONE	E-MAIL
1	Jun Ho Kim			
2	TYLER NELSON			
3	Keith Jarman			
4	TERESA AMEN			
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