

MORNINGSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Wednesday, October 10, 2012 6:30 p.m. Pringle Creek Community Painters Hall 3911
Village Center Drive SE

This is an open meeting. The public is invited. For more information, call: Pamela Schmidling, Chair, 503-585-6641

MORNINGSIDE Civic Involvement Goals

- To reinvigorate the Neighborhood Association through outreach and education.
- To revise and adopt the Morningside Neighborhood Association Neighborhood Plan.

AGENDA

Call to Order and Introductions: Chair Pamela Schmidling called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Board members and guests introduced themselves. Board members present were Pamela, Geoffrey, Mike, Larry, Chap, Lloyd, Tina, and McKenzie. A quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes for the September meeting were approved as amended. Minutes for the July meeting were approved as amended.

Police Report: Officer Smith took questions from those in attendance at this meeting. DJ Vincent said that Heather Lane and streets around the US Market continue to be magnets for crime. Anyone who sees a crime in this area was encouraged to call the police department and report it.

Utility Billing Presentation--Public Works Staff: The new utility bills will begin arriving in February of 2013. This new bill will not include additional charges. Instead, the bill will include additional information about the charges citizens are already paying. This is being done in response to the lack of information about how the costs are determined

The bill will have additional line items that will show not only water and sewer, but separate costs for storm water. Franchise fees will also be shown as a line item, as will irrigation systems and fire systems. The rationale behind this thinking is that the public should see where the money is going and what they are paying for.

The City Council will be looking at water and storm rates again this November. Public Works staff thinks there will be another increase.

There was discussion about how the storm water payments are decided. Board members wondered if there was a standard fee for all residences, or if it was based on the amount of impervious surface. How is the storm water fee calculated?

City Council has decided that a base fee would be paid by all residents, and the balance would be based on impervious surface. This is a benefit to larger organizations, such as the school districts, churches, and stores. As a result, the storm water bills would decrease by \$2 per month. However, this will likely not happen again.

Chap asked: What is going on with the missing sidewalk on Marshall Drive? Marshall Drive is due to be completed in 2013.

Development at 4250 Commercial Street SE – Monet Ragsdale: The new development on this property will be a specialty retail store of some kind.

The developer showed everyone the development plan, including parking and the lack of access from Albert to Commercial Street. There was much discussion about the access by the neighbors to the driveway of the former Mongolian Grill restaurant off Albert Drive. They want this access to the light at Commercial restored because it is safe and convenient. However, as of this meeting, restoring the access is not in the plan.

Various suggestions were made, but the developer explained why they felt none of them would be practical.

Geoffrey moved to appoint someone to draft a letter expressing our view that access off of Albert Drive should be retained, and that when the City reviews this in its site plan review, that they allow a reduction in the number of parking spaces to facilitate insertion of the driveway. Lloyd seconded the motion, and it passed.

Committee Reports

Traffic: No report.

Land Use: The land use network is meeting in Pringle Creek Community, Painter's Hall.

There is a hearing on the Unified Development Code on October 16.

Geoffrey and Larry have had differing opinions on the new variance adjustment process. Geoffrey feels that the City has not lived up to its own rules, citing as an example the car dealership that does not have landscaping. Larry is not as concerned about this issue.

Parks: The Salem Park Improvement Fund has received and is reviewing the application for Hillficker.

Pringle Creek Watershed Council (PCWC): Chap is considering covering this position.

South Salem Connect: Recently, this team has been sponsoring family nights at Bush Elementary, Richmond Elementary, and Leslie Middle School. They are also sponsoring a poverty awareness training at Leslie Middle School.

The team is hoping to sponsor a family pumpkin carving night for families at Leslie Middle School.

Airport: There is a public hearing for adoption of the master plan on Tuesday, November 6.

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) The cache has been placed at Morningside United Methodist Church. The church is sponsoring disaster preparedness

fair at the church on October 27 from 10 AM to 1 PM. The school, the Red Cross and the Neighborhood Association will be there.

Morningside 360: The plan is not completed, but a draft should be ready by the end of the month. Two public information meetings will then be held at Painter's Hall.

Lloyd suggested that the Land Use committee should look at the plan before it is presented to the neighborhood. Therefore, it will be discussed at the November 14 board meeting.

Liquor Licenses: Two stores want liquor licenses granted. One is Gilgamesh Brewing Company on Madrona, and the other is Highlands Quick Mart on 1130 Royvonne. These two stores wish to sell beer and wine. The City has expressed interest in granting the license to both stores.

There was opposition to granting a liquor license to the Highland Quick Mart. Tina moved that because of the existing crime problems in that area, the neighborhood association oppose granting the liquor license to Highland Quick Mart. Chap seconded, and the motion passed. Pamela will check with the City Manager.

City Councilor Report: There will be a public hearing on November 5 concerning the third bridge across the Willamette river.

The downgrading on Hillficker from a minor arterial to a collector is progressing, and should be done within a couple of months.

Announcements: There is a forum on October 25 at the South Bellevue Community Center about cell tower permissions.

Police Department Transparency has been an issue brought up by Rick Scott. He is asking for reports from the Police Department, and the City is requiring a fee. He has asked that the neighborhood associations to ask that the public have free access to the information. He is also asking for a detailed breakdown of how many citations are written up. Pamela is not sure where this is going, but Rick Scott believes this could help residents do better tracking of crime in the neighborhood.

Neighborhood Issues and Concerns--Communications: DJ voiced a concern he's had about sewer line repairs. Because his sewer line was blocked, he called a plumber. The plumber felt that the blockage was under the road. When he called the City he was told that he was responsible for the pipe in his house all the way to the main line in the street. It was still not draining out, so he called another plumber. This plumber told him that the pipe was blown out. A second call to the City still told him that it was his problem, so he needed to call a contractor.

Board members suggested that he call City Councilor Brad Nanke and explain the situation.

Open Issues: None.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Tina Hansen, secretary