

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

CALL TO ORDER - 6:34pm by Chair Pamela

INTRODUCTIONS – 21 persons present including 14 current MNA Board Members (enough for a quorum). Brief round of introductions and Attendance Sheet completed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Motion to approve March 12, 2020 Minutes by Janet. Motion passes, Minutes approved as written.

POLICE REPORT – Officer Tillman, Salem Police Department (SPD)

Captain Tillman is a School Resource Officer.

Pam asks about the Gladiator Program. The Gladiator Program is where Police Officers are working out with downtown kids. Officer Tillman says the program is a success and kids love it. Pam suggests extending the downtown workouts to Middle School and High School kids citywide.

Tillman says the Gang Enforcement Program no longer exists. There has been an uptick in gang-related shooting since then. On a personal note, he would like to see the Gang Enforcement Unit continue.

Muriel and Barbara ask about the recent lockdown at Leslie School. Tillman says it was a misunderstanding/speculation. Through rumors and misunderstandings a “school ditching” turned into “school shooting”. Officer Tillman says the responsible students turned themselves in and were appropriately reprimanded.

Coffee with a Cop is Monday 3/16 at Lancaster Starbucks.

PAROLE & PROBATION – Officer Thompson & Officer McNeil

Officer Thompson says there are 3212 persons on supervision, 675 are women, 2537 are men, the recidivism rate in Marion County as of February 2020 is 31%. The goal is to get down under 30%. Dennis asks what the recidivism rate here compares to the national average. Officer Thompson says she does not know about the national recidivism rate, however, Marion County’s recidivism rates are somewhat better compared to the rest of the state. Janet asks what are the driving factors for recidivism. Officer Thompson says it is different for men and women. For men, family relationships and substance abuse are driving factors. For women, it is past traumas and relationships, substance abuse is secondary. Noel asks if there is any

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correlation w/ the incidence of recidivism and the length of time post release. Officer Thompson says any arrest post release within 3 years, be it misdemeanors or felonies counts towards those statistics.

Officer McNeil says there are about 40 Parole Officers in Marion County. There are over 3000 people on supervision. The PO's are divided into different specialized units, e.g., drug endangered children, sex offenders unit, thefts, drugs, among others.

The Special Services unit is comprised of 3 PO's dedicated to extreme high risk cases (psychopaths, gangs). Until recently The Special Services unit was working closely with Salem Police Department, but Officer McNeil did not elaborate why this ended.

The Mental Health Unit PO's are specialized to get the resources to the parolees with mental health issues, depending on their needs.

The Transition Services Unit preps adults who are getting ready to release, helping to confirm housing arrangements, and other services, in order to increase the likelihood that the parolees will report.

On April 9 there is a release orientation at Chemeketa where the families of people in custody can learn what to expect while their loved ones are on supervision. This is a good opportunity to learn more about Parole and Probation.

**SALEM PUBLIC WORKS – Will**

Will spoke about the Multi-Level Safety Crossings Program, the purpose of which is to improve safety for cyclists and pedestrians. There are currently 5 locations, Jones Rd SE at Judson Middle School, Fairgrounds at Norway, Pine and Maple, Sunnyview at Scotsman Ln NE, and Pringle at Copper Glenn, which will include a pedestrian island in the middle, with ADA access, and a couple of trees. The island is shown to have a "traffic calming" effect. There will also be signage installed. Alan says he is surprised the Pringle/Copper Glenn crossing rated so high, because there is no real foot traffic there outside of school events and ballgames. Trevor asks about the time frame for installation. Will says construction will begin this summer. Dennis asks about legality of driving through crosswalks with flashing lights. Aaron (Salem Public Works) says it is the same as making a right turn, once the pedestrian clears the next lane over, you can drive through. Janet asks if the speed limit will change, Will says no. Officer Tillman says in general, the more houses on either side the more they lower the speed limit.

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TRAFFIC – Alan

Alan says the Reed Road letter was sent to the City.

LAND USE – Geoff

Geoff was out last month. There was a brief review of Steve Ward's development (43 lots). Alan says Steve Ward suggested DDF funds be used to develop Reed Road.

Alan asks for a Costco update. Brad says there has been a "remand" for Costco. Geoff clarifies that a "remand" means the Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA) has sent the plan back to City for review. Brad says Costco will probably come up as a public hearing. Geoff says The Mayor implied there is some interest in persuading Costco to go further east, on the other side of I-5. Brad says he does not recall this, nor does Pam.

Geoff says Fairview Woods was appealed to LUBA and this has been remanded to the City.

Janet asks about the corner of 12<sup>th</sup> and Fairview. Geoff says they plan to cut the corner off to make an extra lane for traffic, and the residual piece will become a plaza. The City now owns the building and they want to sell the building with no parking. The Code currently states there are to be 5 parking spaces per 1000 square feet. The City is asking if it can remain a retail outlet, or if the store should be torn down. There is some opinion the building should be torn down and the plaza increased in size.

PARKS – Muriel

Salem Park Improvement Fund awarded MNA a Grant for \$17,000. The total cost of proposed park improvements is \$23,000. Muriel wants permission from the MNA Board to apply to the Salem Park Foundation (not the city) for \$7500, including moneys for hardscape and picnic table. Brief discussion re: hardscape area costs. Pam: Motion to allow Muriel to apply for the \$7500 for hardscape and picnic table with Salem Park Foundation. Barbara asks if the moneys allow for both hardscape and picnic table or just a spot to put a picnic table. Muriel says the grant application will be worded to include a picnic table. Motion is approved.

Richard asks if MNA is a Not-for-Profit Organization. The answer is MNA is not. Brad clarifies, the City is a Not-for-Profit organization. Money can be donated to the City in the name of a specific park. MNA does not need to be not for profit.

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CERT TEAM/LIQUOR LICENSES - Pam

Brad says due to Coronavirus, he now has the ability to send out a poll, to ask members what time works best for them to do CERT training remotely, with potential for weekends.

Overall CERT is going well. Pam was downtown today for CERT. There is a new CERT class starting tonight, with a citywide meeting tomorrow night. Participation and volunteerism has increased. Classes are now good for 5 years. The training is 21 hours within that time. The class does run a criminal background check.

CERT is under Fire and Emergency Management in the City website.

Pam says no new liquor licenses

TRANSIT – Bob

Sunday Service starts May 3<sup>rd</sup>, and service will then run every day except Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day.

South Salem routes are being re-worked to get better coverage. This includes Aumsville Highway to Commercial, which will better serve Amazon workers, among others.

COMMUNICATION – Richard

Richard asks if there is a link to CERT on our website.

Richard asks Geoff about the letter that was recently sent to the City. Geoff says he received an immediate acknowledgment from the City. The acknowledgment is a sign that communication with the City may be improving.

HOURS TO CITY Communication Fund - Pam

Pam reminds us to report volunteer hours to the City in the monthly Minutes. The hours count as money for MNA. Pam asks who else, in MNA has any hours to report? Janet suggested the best way to report hours might be to add a column to the attendance list to record the hours. Alan asks if writing of the minutes or grants count as money towards the Communication Fund.

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Trevor asks what the maximum hours per person are. Richard says it is \$24/hr. and \$250 max, unclear if this is per person or total for MNA.

Communication Fund Hours since 2/12/20

- Muriel hours for grant writing 10 hours
- Pam had 10 hours working under CERT
- Alan spent ½ hour writing the letter.
- Dennis spent 3 hours writing/editing minutes

MAY OPEN HOUSE – Pam

Sue suggests we cancel/postpone the Open House due to uncertainty about Coronavirus. Muriel proposes moving the Open House to fall. Trevor is asked for his opinion re: Coronavirus. Trevor says he is not an epidemiologist, and that there is not enough information available (yet). Trevor also adds that Salem Hospital has excellent resources. Brad says Friday there is a conference call of city leaders, re: social distancing, etc. Geoff suggests we go directly to the CDC for information about Coronavirus.

Pam nominates Richard (Communication Chair) to work with Noel to move the April MNA meeting to virtual, using Zoom, or some other similar software.

Discussion re: technical aspects of Zoom software.

Brad concludes we will know a lot more about Coronavirus in the next two weeks.

CITY COUNCILOR REPORT – Brad

Brad spoke to the City about the Commercial Street Corridor and also Reed Road.

Re: Reed Road, Sustainable Fairview DDF Project List, the funds are available. However, the City will wait for developers to get their portion started and the City will fill in the gaps as they go. Everything will be done at the same time, inasmuch as possible.

Discussion re: Commercial Street & Radcliffe. Construction anticipated in 2026.

Brad announces he has changed his mind and will run for City Council again. He has gathered the necessary signatures and submitted his application.

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GOOD OF THE ORDER – Pam

Richard and Pam attended Neighborhood Quarterly Chairs Meeting. Pam has two handouts about Park Reservations and Valued City Services promoting the new City Tax.

There are fees and insurance for reserving a park. You may have to provide security as well.

Bob says there is an open spot on the transportation board for NE Salem

*ADJOURN – Pam adjourned the meeting on 8:07PM*