

## **May 28, 2024 Marylhurst Neighborhood Association Minutes**

### **Draft**

President Karie Oakes called the meeting to order at 7:09pm, noted a quorum was present and members introduced themselves.

**Approve agenda** with addition of a Land Use Report moved by Cary Cummings, second by Christa Burk, vote was unanimously in favor.

**Approve minutes** of April 23, 2024 moved by Jim Koll, second by Cary, vote was unanimously in favor.

**Treasurer Report** Jim reported the balance \$8514.92, with monthly expense Zoom \$15.99.

**Neighborhood Association Presidents Report** City planning manager requested feedback from neighborhood associations on two potential code changes he proposed.

1) CDC 99.038- Currently a developer contacts the NA President and one designee to schedule a neighborhood meeting about the development proposal by certified mail. Shall it be amended to contact the NA by email to the NA city email address? Karie explained that she has been the designee for MNA as the Pre-application Conference/Land-use Representative for many years and that typically only the NA President has control of the NA email. Receipt of email would be confirmed when email is read. Members recognized the certainty of receipts of certified letters and thought if email were used, it would have to at least encompass more people. One person felt it should not be changed.

2) Currently the neighborhood meeting with the developer is audiotaped by the developer and submitted to the record with the land-use application. Shall this no longer be required? The planning manager said it is difficult storing the various audio formats and thought the NA minutes or summary by the developer could suffice. Consensus was an audio recording is absolutely necessary and the City could change the code to require a suitable format.

**Land Use Report for 2175 & 2000 Mt. View CT** An application was submitted to the City on 5/23/24 by developer Phil Gentemann, agent for the owner Robert Kao. The City has 30 days to determine if the application is complete. It proposes a 14-lot subdivision. Members recalled a neighborhood meeting about a year ago where a proposal was presented and questioned if there were changes, but Karie had not yet reviewed it to say. She suggested to see the project page for the application on the City website. She reminded that once the application is determined complete, the City will schedule a Planning Commission Hearing when people may testify or submit comments.

**Tree Removal Violation Update** The hearing was continued to July 18, 2024 at 10:30 at City Hall. Two MNA members attended the hearing on May 2 which was delayed one half hour by the late arrival of the defendant (property owner). The code enforcement officer reviewed the case and the code for the judge. The judge remarked that he thought the

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assessment of the tree value and estimated replacement costs by the independent arborist (hired by the City) was high and asked if the defendant would like to contest it. Members were concerned the judge would presume to know better than a professional arborist and felt it showed bias for the defendant. The total estimated cost is used to calculate the penalty for the intentional violation. Members want the code enforced to the fullest extent allowed as was previously communicated to the City Manager and Councilor Bryck. Members can attend the hearing to show interest in the outcome. It was questioned if the court has ever heard tree violations.

**Review existing sidewalks and discuss needs and priorities** Karie presented the neighborhood map with sidewalks marked (attached). Sidewalks on both sides of the street are on: Kapteyns ST, Valley CT, Woodhaven CT, and Suncrest DR between Valley View DR and Carriage Way, except for one county property. The remainder of sidewalks are on one side and partially cover the street: Carriage Way, Valley View DR, Mt. View CT, Marylwood CT, with one property on Marylhurst DR at Marylhurst Circle being a “sidewalk to nowhere.” Members noted the character of our neighborhood doesn’t involve sidewalks. The need is for a safe pedestrian path through our neighborhood that connects to adjacent neighborhoods, businesses and public transportation. This will be met when pertinent Pedestrian Plan Improvement Projects of the Transportation System Plan reviewed last meeting are funded and completed as prioritized. Need on Marylhurst DR is number one priority. This would accomplish City, County and Metro goal to shift away from automobile. Consensus was a neighborhood survey was not necessary to determine needs.

There is an immediate need for a safe path on Marylhurst DR that cannot wait until capital project funding is available. How can we partner with the City to make Marylhurst DR safe for pedestrians and bikes? City needs to maintain the dangerous Marylhurst DR ROW. MNA could send a letter of education regarding ROW maintenance to members and our goal for safe, walkable roadsides. Karie pointed out that the bike plan in the TSP has bike lanes on Marylhurst DR and a less costly interim plan for shared use road markings that may be more appropriate.

Teri Cummings moved to send a letter to the City Engineer inviting him to our July 22nd meeting to discuss pedestrian and bike plans and solutions to current conditions affecting pedestrian and bike safety on Marylhurst DR. Second by Rand New. A suggestion was made for the City Engineer to walk Marylhurst DR with some members in advance. Vote was unanimously in favor.

**Neighborhood Social** No one volunteered to lead. Consensus was to have an ice cream social and activities for kids. Teri and Rand volunteered to put up signs. Jim and Karie will purchase supplies. Karie will ask if Christine Blanche would design a postcard.

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**Items of Interest** Street sweepers came the week after our last meeting and again yesterday (Monday) when garbage and recycle bins were in the street for collection. City should be aware of this and schedule appropriately.

Karie will not attend the next meeting on June 25<sup>th</sup>. Vice President Diana Lipton will preside.

**Adjourned** meeting at 9:00 PM as moved by Jim, seconded by Cary and voted unanimously in favor.

Attachment: Existing sidewalks marked red for both sides of street and pink for one side.

