

**Maplewood Neighborhood Association (MNA)**  
**Monday, May 14, 2007, 7 pm**  
**West Hills Friends School, 7426 SW 52<sup>nd</sup>**  
**Anne-Marie Fischer 503-452-4240**  
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How often have you told someone “I live in Maplewood” and the response has been “Where’s that?” We all need to have a “Sense of Place” and Maplewood is working towards that goal. Here’s the good news. Our small but active neighborhood is going to have sign caps just like Hillsdale and Multnomah. The Alliance of Portland Business Neighborhood Associations (APBNA) has awarded MNA a \$2,000 grant to place decorative sign caps on street name signs at the corners and key entry points into the neighborhood, and at key places in the interior of the neighborhood. The prime reason for giving us this grant was the significant number of letters of support that the small businesses, schools and churches in our neighborhood wrote.

Graphic artist, Cyndy Hall, is designing the sign caps and will present 3 variations at the May 14th meeting. So, come, help decide which design will represent Maplewood. We hope to have them fabricated and installed before our Second Annual Neighborhood Picnic on July 29.

Our April meeting was attended by 27 people. Two of the attendees were Portland police officers. The Portland Police Bureau has reinstated the Neighborhood Liaison Officer program. They will be attending neighborhood meetings when possible and reporting on what’s happening in the neighborhood. If you have a concern that you would like these officers to address let your MNA know and we’ll pass it along. Some neighbors were concerned about the speeding on SW 60<sup>th</sup> which is only going to get worse with people looking for ways to bypass the SW Oleson Rd. construction. We may be seeing police bike patrols or radar vans in our neighborhood soon if people don’t slow down. It seems to work well in controlling speeders.

Did you know that Maplewood has had 31 lots under development in the last 18 months? Previous to this time frame only 11 lots had been developed since the year 2000. Presently there are 20 developable lots. Also, there are 9 double lots that are considered demolition projects. (The value of the land exceeds the value of the house.) Maplewood has 11 acres of land for future development sites. These parcels are approximately one acre or more. There are 120 corner lots in our neighborhood. The corner lots can be subdivided into two lots with either duplexes or row houses on them as long as the units face opposite streets. These facts were provided by Vern Krist, Transportation Chair, and former Land Use Chair.

**So, what does this mean to our neighborhood the next time there’s a building boom? Think about it. Let’s work together NOW to figure out how to keep our neighborhood character and green spaces while welcoming responsible infill.**

Representatives Bob Cynkar and Dan Herbert of BES, looking very tired from the many community and neighborhood informational gatherings they’ve been going to, gave an extensive overview of the Multnomah Sewer Repair Project. Discussion included a question and answer period which could have gone on for a long, long time. Some Maplewood residents feel that it’s unfair that the ratepayers should have to pay for a re-do when it appears the contractors and the materials used were the cause of the failure. PVC used for sewer line? Ouch!

Maplewood now has two Co-Chairs. Anne-Marie Fischer and Jill Gaddis are sharing the job of Chair. A motion was passed to amend the bylaws to allow for this change.

The Maplewood Neighborhood Association supports SWNI's efforts to hold a conservation easement on the property at 4600 SW Maplewood Road. A motion was passed stating this.

Things are happening in our neighborhood. Jill is working on some big improvements in April Hill Park. Jim Batten reported that the goal for the new play equipment at the school is to break ground by the end of April. Fund raising to pay for it continues.

Our next meeting is Monday, May 14. Hope to see you there.