

**Community Forum Meeting
Amended Minutes
March 23, 2006
7:00 p.m.
Fire Station #4 Latimer St.
Moderator, Greg Gullickson**

Moderator, Greg Gullickson began the meeting at 7:00 P.M. and took roll:

Emma Dickinson – Mike Hathaway
Farviews/Pattee Canyon –Celeste River
Franklin to the Fort – Cryss Pinjuv
Grant Creek – Charlie Mekeal
Heart of Missoula–Lynn Redding (Alternate) arrived at 7:35
Lewis & Clark– Greg Gullickson
Lower Rattlesnake– Absent
Miller Creek– Absent
Moose Can Gully – Mark Fitzgerald
Northside – Absent
Westside – Absent
Riverfront – Sheila Mischke
Rose Park – Linn Smith (Alternate)
South 39th – Renee Mitchell
Southgate Triangle –Hans Christiansen
University District – Absent
Upper Rattlesnake – Absent
City Council Liaison – Absent
Neighborhood Liaison - Ruth Brennan Anderson

Others Present

Jim Hausauer, Frank Kleschen, Matt Boulanger, Mike Barton, Brian Walter, Marty Rehbein, Josh Slotnick

Quorum

It was announced that a quorum was present.

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda passed unanimously on a voice vote

Public Comment

None

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of January 26, 2006 *Hans Christiansen* made a motion to approve the minutes. *Sheila Mischke* seconds the motion. None opposed. Motion carries. The minutes passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Notes of February 23, 2006 **Mr. Christiansen** made a motion to approve the notes. Celeste River proposed amendments to the notes of February 23, 2006. (Notes were changed) **Mr. Christiansen** motioned to approve the notes as amended. **Ms. Mischke** seconds the motion. None opposed. Motion carries. The notes passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Special Orders

None

Announcements

Ruth Anderson: The Community Forum budget is \$200.00. The small project balance is \$1,916.00.

Local Government Study Commission:

The LGSC made preliminary recommendations including those regarding NCs. In looking to provide additional action items in their report and recommendations regarding the NCs, the LGSC will be organizing a charrette for Saturday, April 8th, to be held at the Blackfoot Communications building on North Russell. More charrette details are still in the works. For more information on LGSC preliminary recommendations please check their website at www.ci.missoula.mt.us/LGSC.

Several NC members have been attending the LGSC meetings that involved discussion of NCs, thank you to those people for taking that extra time.

Neighborhood Council Meetings:

Many of the NCs are scheduling or have scheduled their spring meetings. As you schedule your spring meetings please reference the NC meeting calendar to avoid double booking dates so that staff, CC reps, and/or citizens could attend more than one if they choose to.

Office of Neighborhoods:

It is City budget preparation time. You will see that an action item on tonight's agenda is for the Community Forum to make a formal proposal for Marty Rehbein, City Clerk to include in her department proposal.

Community Forum House Keeping:

Ruth asked for a moderator for April and future months.

The next CF meeting is April 27, 2006 at Fire Station #4, Latimer St. at 7:00 P.M.

Presentations

Mike Barton and Matt Boulanger from the Office of Planning and Grants spoke about the Growth Policy Update. He showed a power point presentation regarding areas with different plans combined together which developed the Growth Policy. The information he is presenting contains what the Growth Policy is, what the Growth Policy does, what the Growth Policy does not do, and the legal requirements of a Growth Policy. He stated all the information he is presenting can be found on the City website www.ci.missoula.mt.us. The City and County will hold a joint public hearing on Wednesday March 29, 2006 at 1:30 PM in room 201 at the County Courthouse. The purpose of the meeting is to educate citizens and address public comments about the Growth Policy.

Committee Reports

Extraordinary Events Committee: **Ms. Anderson** stated the new ball park has been named Ogren Park at Allegiance Field.

Training Committee: **Mr. Christiansen** is asking for volunteers for the Training Committee. If anyone is interested with working on the committee please contact Ruth Anderson or Hans Christiansen.

Bus Tour Committee: **Mr. Christiansen** stated there will be a bus tour on May 25, and he is asking for volunteers to help with the committee. **Ms. Anderson** stated there will have to be a quorum at the next meeting in order to vote on the recommendations that the committee makes. She stated they are hoping to make significant improvements and changes with a new committee and she asked for volunteers. The bus tour is divided into two intervals; one in the spring and the other in the fall, and two members of each neighborhood, CC, staff and the Mayor are invited.

Neighborhood Volunteer of the Year Award Committee:

Renee Mitchell explains the Neighborhood Volunteer of the Year Award. The CF forms a committee to advertise and accept nominations for outstanding neighborhood volunteers. The winner and nominees are recognized at the CC meeting and presented with a certificate. This committee meets for approximately three/four meetings and the award is given once a year. The CF asked Ruth questions concerning the award and she answered and stated she is asking for three members to serve on the committee. Renee Mitchell, Cryss Pinjuv, Mike Hathaway and Mark Fitzgerald volunteered.

Neighborhood Project Fund Committee: **Mr. Christiansen** stated the packet contains a list of the neighborhood projects that NPF committee recommended for funding. Hans read the list of projects that was recommended. **Ms. Anderson** stated there is \$18,000 annually for the committee to distribute based on applications and a ranking system, and there were 19 applications this year.

Brian Walters presented and read a signed letter by Charlie Mekeal regarding the Request *from the CF support for the Grant Creek NC I-90 Grant Creek Road improvement project*. The letter stated their objective to improve the I-90 Interchange and the immediate area to the North of Grant Creek Road to make this area an attractive entrance to the City of Missoula. He stated the issues and discussed a visual on a poster board that explained the improvement project.

Josh Slotnick representing *Garden City Harvest* stated there were two applications submitted; one for the Northside garden for working coffee to compost and the other in the Rattlesnake to glean apples to make apple cider and apple sauce and to distribute; otherwise the apples attracts black bears. He stated they will be involved with the Second St. Garden after it has been developed. They are involved with six other neighborhood gardens in the community. He is asking to give consideration to the Garden City Harvest project.

Don Nicholson stated he supports the Grant Creek I-90 Interchange project.

Mike Crowley stated he supports the Grant Creek I-90 Interchange project.

Linn Smith stated the Grant Creek NC I-90 Interchange Grant Creek Road Improvement project has a different nature to it. She stated it is a transportation project, whereas it is not a small neighborhood project that involves neighbors working together such as gardening and composting or something that brings people working together. She is uncomfortable with changing the committee's recommendation.

Mr. Gullickson asked Mr. Christiansen how the committee rationalized their decisions. Mr. Christiansen declined to answer and does not want the committee to be questioned. He asked if the money from the City of Missoula is available.

Mr. Walters stated there is a process that the City of Missoula goes through.

Marty Rehbein explained the process for the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) funding.

Ms. Mischke stated the businesses at the Grant Creek I-90 Interchange would benefit from the project, but the project is unordinary for the neighborhood project fund. She stated it is more of a commercial project than a neighborhood project. She suggested resubmitting the project in January 2007 to the Neighborhood Project Fund.

Mr. Gullickson asked how the committee is set up and how the recommendations are decided.

Ms. Anderson explained how the members on the committee are selected and how the recommendations are decided.

Celeste River stated the decisions were difficult and stated the Grant Creek I-90 project should be resubmitted next year. She suggests the CF write a letter of resolution to the CIP committee in support of the Grant Creek I-90 Interchange for funding.

Mr. Christiansen stated he supports Ms. River to voice the CF support in resolution for the Grant Creek project I-90 Interchange project to the CIP committee.

Mr. Christiansen moved to accept the grant as it has been recommended. **Ms. Mischke** second the motion. Motion carries. Motion passed on a voice vote. Grant Creek opposed.

Ms. Mischke moved to add a resolution of support for Grant Creek I-90 Interchange as an action item on the agenda next month. **Ms. Mitchell** seconds the motion. Motion passed on a voice vote. None opposed

New Business

Create a CF Committee charged with creating an educational program and a possible public relations campaign to address crime and violence in Missoula. **Mr. Gullickson** No report

Presentation of position in favor of Reserve Street Corridor Study for Reserve St. from Brooks to Interstate 90 **Jim Hausauer** from the Franklin to the Fort NC clarified there are two studies

being discussed. The Florence to Missoula study is funded and is in the process; it stops at the intersection of Brooks St. and Reserve St. There is an access study from Lolo to Missoula, and there is the Miller Creek project. Two of the six miles on Reserve St. runs through the Franklin to the Fort neighborhood. **Mr. Hausauer** stated the goal is to seek and develop political support for funding to conduct the Reserve St. Corridor Study. He mentioned the neighborhood has received support from several neighborhoods, City Public Works and the CC. **Mr. Hausauer** read a letter from his NC about the project, because it details the cause. The CC and Public Works Dept. supports this study, but funding is controlled by the Montana State Dept. of Transportation (DOT). The DOT claims they need political pressure to help this project. **Cryss Pinjuv** motioned for the CF to support the Reserve St. Corridor Study and encourage the DOT to fund it. **Mark Fitzgerald** seconds the motion. Motion passed on a voice vote. None opposed.

Discussion and vote on Neighborhood Project Fund small grant application by South 39th St. N.C. for new laminated meeting signs. **Mr. Christiansen** stated South 39th is applying for a small grant of \$180.00 to replace laminated signs for South 39th St. NC. Hans motioned to approve the small project grant. **Ms. Mischke** seconds the motion. Motion passed on a voice vote. None opposed.

South 39th St. NC seeks CF support of Tonkin Trail Project. **Ms. Mitchell** stated Pat Tonkin from the South Hills offered to donate a 12 ft. wide trail easement running East to West on her property boundary. It would connect Clearview Dr. to Hillview Way (Approx. 1500 ft.) for non motorized connection. Fish, Wildlife and Parks is seeking funds to construct the trail across the easement on Pat Tonkins donated land. The funding will go towards constructing the trail and the fence. The South 39th neighborhood is asking the CF for support and the City's consideration for this project to enhance the trail system that is already there. The money is available, and the neighborhood needs support. **Ms. Mischke** motioned the CF support and endorse the trail as proposed. **Mr. Fitzgerald** seconds the motion. Motion passed on voice vote. None opposed.

CF vote on budget proposal **Mr. Christiansen** stated he supports the Neighborhood Liaison position to become a full time position. He proposed to increase the NC funding because of the increased cost of mailings. **Ms. Pinjuv** stated some neighborhoods don't spend their allotted money and to transfer the unused funds to other neighborhoods. She also suggested the neighborhoods keep their \$800.00 per year and propose the City to pay the extra cost of the mailings; then the neighborhoods can conduct two meetings per year. **Ms. Rehbein** stated it is hard to ask an inactive NC to convene so the Leadership Team can transfer funds. Because, the Council has to adopt a resolution and then transfer the money. It is very time consuming. She suggested an idea to combine all the funds that the NC is given each year. Then the NC can draw it out as the meetings progress. The CF could administer the parameters' under which the NC could use those funds. **Mr. Fitzgerald** asked if the CC will add more funds to the neighborhoods. **Ms. Rehbein** stated it is a good idea to ask. **Ms. River** suggested asking the CC for extra funding for each NC (approx. \$1200.00 per NC.) Each NC can apply for a small project fund to pay for a small event or to help pay for the second mailing. She suggested leaving the funding the way it is now. **Mr. Christiansen** stated the CF objective is to have all neighborhoods active. He commented the NC's should be encouraged to use their funding. **Ms. Mischke** motioned CF support for the Liaison position to become full time, and the City of Missoula pay for two mailings a year per NC to report information about the NC meetings. All

unused funds by inactive NC's be transferred from their activity to the CF and be distributed by May of each year. **Mr. Fitzgerald** seconds the motion. Motion was to support the Neighborhood Liaison a full time position. The NC funding remains at \$800.00 a year per NC. The City funds the mailing cost two times per year and transfer funds not being used by inactive NC's to be distributed by May of each year. Motion was amended to change the transfer of funds not being used by inactive NC's by March 31, of each year. Motioned passed on a voice vote. None opposed.

ONGOING BUSINESS

Monthly report to CC: **Mr. Christiansen** reported the CF passed the Neighborhood Project Grant, and a committee is working on the Bus Tour Project and Volunteer of the year award. **Ms. Mischke** mentioned the Corridor Study, South 39th laminated signs and the Tonkin Trail Project. Mr. Christiansen motioned that Mr. Gullickson make the report that was mentioned. Mr. Fitzgerald seconds the motion. Motion passed on voice vote. None opposed.

Neighborhood Updates

Neighborhood updates were reported.

- Lewis and Clark – Mr. Gullickson reported their Leadership Team met on Wednesday March 1, 2006 and they are planning a NC meeting on April 6, 2006 located at Lewis and Clark grade school at 7:00 P.M. with a full agenda.
- Southgate Triangle – Mr. Christiansen stated they will have a general meeting on April 12, 2006 at 7:00 P.M. at Southgate Mall.
- Moose Can Gully – Mr. Fitzgerald reported their annual meeting was March 20, 2006 and Mr. Fitzgerald was elected. There were speakers from Lolo Peak, Search and Rescue, Tonkin Trail Project and Steve King from Public Works who spoke about various topics.
- Emma Dickinson – No report
- Franklin to the Fort – Ms. Pinjuv reported there is a housing project created by Missoula Housing Authority across the ditch from Franklin Park and the NC has been working on a bridge. The Missoula Housing Authority planned a Grand Opening for the bridge on April 5, 2006. Parks and Rec. is making trail improvements around Franklin Park and 10th St. to the bridge. The infrastructure draft is available through OPG or the Franklin to the Fort website and anyone can make comments on the website. Their NC meeting will be held April 20, 2006 at Pope John XXIII Church at 6:30 P.M. to discuss the infrastructure plan. The CC Administration Finance Committee is in full support of creating a new neighborhood South of 14th St.
- South 39th – Ms. Mitchell reported they will have a general meeting April 12, 2006 at 7:00 P.M. located at Meadow Hill school.
- Riverfront – Ms. Mischke reported they are applying for a small grant to help fund the party with the Natural History Museum and Waterfront Cleanup Project that will happen in May. BFI will help with the Waterfront cleanup. They ask all NC's to invite all citizens in your neighborhoods to submit any ballpark input about concerns or nice things that anyone has to say.
- Grant Creek – Charlie McKeal reported he was appointed to the Grant Creek NC in February and is catching up on happenings. No report
- Farview/Pattee Canyon – Ms. River reported the Leadership Team had a meeting March 22, 2006 and they are planning their agenda for the spring general meeting that is scheduled for April 19, 2006 at 7:00 P.M. located at UM's Lewis and Clark Village Community Room. The

city initiated the rezoning of the Farview's area and is in process of being discussed. The public hearing will be March 27, 2006.

- Rose Park – Ms. Smith reported their spring meeting will be held April 5, 2006 at 6:45 P.M. located at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. There is a design process for the area across from the Fire Station at Mount and Park. The traffic circles have been approved.
- Heart of Missoula – Lynn Redding reported their neighborhood has been inactive, but they are organizing a general meeting and they encourage everyone to attend.
- City Council – No report
- Ms. Anderson requested a volunteer to moderate April's CF meeting. Ms. Mitchell volunteered for April's meeting.

Adjournment

Mr. Gullickson: Adjourned the meeting at 10:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Elam

Kelly Elam
Secretary
City Clerks Office