

**Community Forum Meeting
Minutes
November 30, 2006
7:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers
Moderator, Ray Aten**

Moderator, Ray Aten began the meeting at 7:05 pm and took roll:

Emma Dickinson – Absent
Farviews/Pattee Canyon – Ray Aten (Rep)
Franklin to the Fort – Andrea Davis (Alt)
Grant Creek – Absent
Heart of Missoula – Ellie Hill (Rep)
Lewis & Clark – Greg Gullickson (Rep)
Lower Rattlesnake – Absent
Miller Creek – Absent
Moose Can Gully – Tom Theisen (Rep)
Northside – Absent
Riverfront – Absent
Rose Park – Absent
South 39th – Renee Mitchell (Rep)
Southgate Triangle – Hans Christiansen (Rep)
University District – John Snivley (Rep)
Upper Rattlesnake – Jan Hoem (Rep)
Westside – Nicole Newman (Rep)
City Council Liaison – Jon Wilkins
Neighborhood Liaison – Nick Roberts

Others Present

Norm Lavery and Judge Karen Orzech

Quorum

It was announced a quorum was present

Adoption of Agenda

Greg Gullickson moved to adopt the agenda. **Hans Christiansen** seconded the motion. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

None

Approval of Minutes

Hans Christiansen moved to accept the minutes for October 26, 2006 with the amendment that Katie Evans Upper Rattlesnake was present. **Greg Gullickson** seconded the motion. None opposed. Motion passed on a voice vote.

November 30, 2006

Special Orders

No report

Announcements

Nick Roberts stated there was an incident regarding the Neighborhood Project Fund Committee. **Mr. Aten** and **Mr. Christiansen** volunteered for the NPF committee at the September meeting and a person named John volunteered and cannot be located. **John Snivley** stated he was the original John and he is still interested in serving on the NPF committee.

Mr. Roberts stated the CFLT is interested in helping the CF to be expedient in delivering minutes, agendas, election results, attendance list and any other communication that needs to be on file as this is a requirement for the Office of Neighborhoods.

Jon Wilkins emphasized the importance of sending information to the Office of Neighborhoods. He stated there was a recent incident that happened with the Pineview Park SID and he searched for the previous minutes to review and there isn't any on file.

Mr. Roberts stated Charlie Mekeal resigned from Grant Creek as he is moving into the county. Grant Creek Neighborhood Council will be looking for a new representative. John Snivley has been the representative for the University District for two months.

The Neighborhood Project Fund grant applications are ready to be distributed. They can be requested by email or a hard copy can be provided from the Office of Neighborhoods. It will be posted on the website and will be in a press release.

He explained why the grant applications have been delayed and he stated in mid January there will be a workshop held to provide the applicants with information regarding their grants. The workshop will give the applicants a chance to revise their applications.

Presentations

Norm Lavery President of Community Circles Program and Karen Orzech Board member of Community Circles Program distributed a brochure containing Board member information. Mr. Lavery stated the Community Circles program focuses on families in communities deal with family and community issues and use the formal legal system as a back up. He stated there are two types of justice; retributive justice that focuses on punishment and the defender. He stated there is restorative justice that focuses on the victim and the community. The Community Circles program focuses on helping people who have strayed from the law. He stated they provide group sessions and uncover the reasons the offenders committed crimes. He stated it is confidential and nonjudgmental and the attendees feel safe. He stated it is a nonprofit unfunded program and is a volunteer basis to help people in communities. The program provides parents and children to communicate about sensitive issues and he read a few testimonials from people who have participated with the circle. He stated referrals come from the police, schools, victims and the formal legal system to attend the program.

Mr. Lavery stated the program is working with the 3:16 mission on Toole St. to keep peace in the neighborhood. The neighborhood is angry with the 3:16 mission joining their neighborhood.

Judge Karen Orzech stated most people that come through her court are not criminals; they are people who have made a mistake and needs a little guidance to get on the right path. She believes in helping people before they appear in her court; as consequences can be severe. She stated community issues start small and causes neighbors to start feuding for years. Small problems congest the court system. Therefore, the Community Circles program can intervene to help solve the problem. She stated she uses the Community Circles program in her court as it has helped many people grow and mature and it gets them out of the justice system. She stated the communities and neighborhoods need to get involved in justice. Many people go to jail for several months and many do not learn any lessons.

Mr. Lavery stated they have kept teenagers out of the system as many of them are not bad kids. He stated the Department of Corrections (DOC) would like to use the Community Circles program to reintegrate people back into the community. He stated people come out of the jail or prison and have a hard time fitting into the community and the Community Circles program could teach them to become law-abiding citizens. **Renee Mitchell** asked Judge Orzech if she refers second and third time offenders that key cars and vandalizes property (as example) to the Community Circles program. **Judge Orzech** stated three years ago when the program started; she was careful who she referred to the program as she wanted it to be a success. She stated she refers people to the program all the time and many people have turned their lives around after the third and fourth offense. She stated she leans toward giving people the opportunity to turn their lives around. There are people who were raised and live in difficult situations and jail is not effective for all people. She stated not all people are not appropriate for the Community Circles program. She refers as many people she can to the Community Circles program. **Tom Thiesen** asked if people admit and agree to pay restitution for there crime while they are attending the Community Circles program. **Judge Orzech** stated the program is not at that stage yet. Most offenders find it easier to stand in front of a judge and commit their crimes than it is to sit with the victims face to face and admit they committed the crime towards that person's property. **Mr. Lavery** asked Mr. Aten if there is someone that is the focus for the CF to talk and educate them with training. **Mr. Aten** suggested each neighborhood representative report to their Neighborhood Leadership Team and inform them of the Community Circles program to see if that neighborhood wishes to initiate a mediator process. **Jon Wilkins** stated if a neighborhood wishes to participate; they can contact Nick Roberts Office of Neighborhoods Liaison.

Committee Reports

Extraordinary Events Committee (Ogren Park at Allegiance Field): Ellie Hill

No Report

Mr. Roberts requested clarification from Ellie Hill to review the committee's purpose.

Ellie Hill explained the Extraordinary Events Committee was created as a liaison between the neighborhood and the play ball field and park; regarding parking issues, noise, concerts and any extraordinary events other than baseball games.

Neighborhood Council Boundary Change Committee: Hans Christiansen

Hans Christiansen stated a neighborhood asked to change their boundaries and there has been a lot of discussion. The 3030 by-laws do not have any provisions for boundary changes and there have been suggestions and ideas. A suggestion regarding the neighborhood affected is to have

the CF and the neighborhood meet and discuss their views. The CC and CF will meet to discuss formation of a new neighborhood. **Mr. Roberts** stated he and Marty Rehbein have been working together on reviewing and making suggestions for an ordinance change regarding boundary change issues and a set of procedural guidelines for Community Forum to utilize.

City Council Responsiveness Committee: Hans Christiansen

Mr. Christiansen stated the N.C's and the CF does not feel the City Council members listen to them. They suggested meeting with the CC to ask questions regarding the CF roles. Mr. Wilkins made a referral to the CC and Ed Childers is receptive to it. **Mr. Wilkins** asked when the committee is ready to speak with the CC it can be scheduled on a Monday night or Wednesday during the day. Ellie Hill, Greg Gullickson and Tom Thiesen volunteered to join Ray Aten and Hans Christiansen to serve on the committee.

CF Training Committee: Ray Aten

Mr. Aten stated there is a training committee that will help any neighborhood with issues regarding by-laws, minutes, reorganizing neighborhood meetings or website training.

Mr. Wilkins suggested training regarding the neighborhood websites as he noticed there are only two websites that are functioning. **Mr. Roberts** stated anyone can set up an appointment for training from 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm Monday through Friday. He stated the website is easy to maintain and the training will be approximately 15 minutes.

Unfinished Business

A call for each N.C. and the C.F. to create a list of accomplishments and activities: Renee Mitchell

Ms. Mitchell stated she received the Farview/Pattee Canyon accomplishments from Ray Aten. She asked neighborhoods to send her a brief list of accomplishments. She mentioned projects and accomplishments in other neighborhoods that she noticed from the bus tour. She would like to finish her responsibilities by the end of 2006. **Mr. Roberts** suggested presenting the neighborhood accomplishments at budget time in 2007 to show the CC of improvements in the city.

New Business

No report

Ongoing business

Monthly report to CC:

Mr. Christiansen suggested Community Circles program, the City Council Responsiveness Committee, report the boundary committee recommendations, neighborhood accomplishments, changes with the neighborhood grant process and the CF likes the new City Council Chambers.

Neighborhood Updates

Neighborhood updates were reported.

- Moose Can Gully – **Tom Thiesen** reported good attendance at the combined election official nominee forum with S. 39th N.C.

- Southgate Triangle - **Hans Christiansen** reported a representative from the Park & Rec. Dept will attend their next leadership team meeting to inform them on programs. He reported the meeting rooms that N.C.'s use for meetings is covered with insurance from the city.
- South 39th – **Renee Mitchell** reported the candidate forum was successful in conjunction with Moose Can Gully.
- Upper Rattlesnake – **Jan Hoem** reported their meeting held on Nov. 2nd elected officers. The meeting was successful and 20 people ended up on different committee's.
- Lewis & Clark – **Greg Gullickson** reported the UM is working on a master plan for the South campus and will meet in mid-December.
- Farviews/Pattee Canyon – **Ray Aten** reported their neighborhood will be affected by the master plan for UM South campus.
- University District – **John Snivley** reported they have not met for a couple of months.
- Franklin to Fort – **Andrea Davis** reported their last meeting consisted of an Open Space Presentation, zoning break out group, local elections group, neighborhood improvement district group and the Infrastructure Plan Committee meets regularly.
- Westside – **Nicole Newman** reported on Historic District overlay discussion and the West Broadway Steering Committee.
- City Council – **Jon Wilkins** reported he attends NC meetings and he stated he is impressed with what he is seeing. He stated the best one he has attended was the S. 39th and Moose Can Gully combined meeting. He suggested the NC's invite the Ward Council Representatives to your N.C. meetings and ask questions.

Tom Theisen will be the moderator for the C.F. meeting on December 21, 2006.

Adjournment

Ray Aten Adjourned the meeting at 9:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Elam

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Secretary

City Clerks Office