

Community Forum Meeting
Meeting Notes
June 28, 2007
7:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers
Moderator, Greg Gullickson

Moderator, Greg Gullickson began the meeting at 7:05pm and took role:

Emma Dickinson – Absent
Farviews/Pattee Canyon – Ray Aten (Rep)
Franklin to the Fort – Lewie Schneller (Alt)
Grant Creek – Absent
Heart of Missoula – Absent
Lewis & Clark – Greg Gullickson (Rep)
Lower Rattlesnake – Absent
Miller Creek – Absent
Moose Can Gully – Absent
Northside – Absent
Riverfront – Absent
Rose Park – Absent
South 39th – Renee Mitchell (Rep)
Southgate Triangle – Hans Christiansen (Rep)
University District – Fred Bodholt (Alt)
Upper Rattlesnake – Jan Hoem (Rep)
Westside – Absent
City Council Liaison – Absent
Neighborhood Liaison – Nick Roberts

Others Present

Doug Harrison, Arvid Hiller, Cat Claro

Quorum

No Quorum – cannot have official action

Adoption of Agenda

Ms. Hoem was added to agenda for a brief discussion on Lincoln School for about 10 -12 minutes. She will speak after Mountain Water during “presentations.”

Public Comment

Casey Richardson, newly appointed “Quality of Life” officer for the Missoula Police Dept, introduced himself. He did a brief overview the program. He is the person to contact if there are small things in your neighborhood that do not yet need urgent police attention.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Gullickson asked everyone to read over the minutes and they will be approved at the July meeting when a quorum is present.

Announcements

Neighborhood Liaison Report:

Mr. Roberts had several updates on meeting dates. There will be a couple meetings sponsored by the Univ. of Montana concerning the South Campus Master plan on July 10th at 7:00 pm at the U.C. Center Theatre 3rd floor and July 18th (same place and time). These are public meetings.

Mr. Gullickson stated that a plan has been drafted by the advisory committee, which he is a part of. The committee has been meeting since January. The committee has listened to all the current needs of the land users and future needs of the campus; it has a draft drawn up and wants comment from the neighborhood councils and the public at large before rolling out the plan.

Mr. Roberts stated there are a couple newly formed committees of interest. One new committee of City Council is called “Residential Standards and Safety sub-committee,” which was created to review how the city addresses or doesn’t address housing standards. This group will have its first official meeting on Monday July 9th at 2:00 pm in the City Council Conference Room. **Mr. Roberts** gave a quick update on neighborhood budgets. Each NC has been assessed \$30 for the June bus tour; these assessments will show as different vendors to each neighborhood. **Mr. Roberts** stated another committee has been formed to reconsider the OPG “transportation plan update.” **Mr. Aten** stated this plan has a scope is 10 to 20 years; the committee will reassess the current plan for potential funding allocations. The committee specifically invited the Community Forum to be represented. **Mr. Roberts** can give more detail after the meeting if CF members are interested.

Presentations

1. Bike/Ped Program presentation – **Cat Claro**

- Media Campaign
- Bike Safety improvements in neighborhoods
- Bike/Ped staff would like to attend NC meetings
- Involved in “Safe Routes to School” Program
- Ray Aten invited Cat to the Farviews Ice Cream Social in July
- Phil Smith is main contact: 552-6352 or psmith@ci.missoula.mt.us

Mr. Schneller asked if they currently have any programs in the schools. Ms. Claro stated that they do a “safe routes to school program” in 5 schools: Franklin, Paxson, Russell, Lewis & Clark and Rattlesnake. They encourage the kids to think of safe ways to get to school, along with parents, teachers and others. **Ms. Claro** will be leaving the program soon and the main contact will be Phil Smith.

2. Mountain Water – **Butch Hiller & Doug Harrison**

- 23,000 service connections, 60,000 people served
- Redistribution of fire hydrant fees is big current issue
- Flat rate increase could be 30%
- 1600 Hydrants

Mr. Hiller introduced the Mountain Water company. An annual \$450,000 cost of fire hydrants will be shifted from the City of Missoula to Mountain Water customers. There was a hearing last week to determine how the \$450,000 would be distributed to the rate payers of Mountain Water. The issue has been set before the County Commission. Mountain Water would like to meet with NC's for questions/answers. An interesting and informative presentation is ready to present.

3. Lincoln School update – Jan Hoem

- Over 300 people signed a petition to try to affect the future of Lincoln School
- There was a proposal to convert Lincoln School property to 13 lots
- Proper notification; no P.N.C.; protection of land (petitioners intent)
- Concerned about process used to make this decision
- Explained subdivision complexities
- Asks City Council to host a public hearing for questions

Ms. Hoem discussed Lincoln School, a National Historic Site. Jamie Hoffman an architect here in Missoula has drawn up plan for a 12 unit housing development. She presented a drawing of how it would look- the property would be chopped up with many setbacks on front yard, back yard, side yard, etc. A petition was created in opposition of neighborhood clusters and in support of more open land around the school to preserve the architectural integrity of this National Historic Place. The Petition is sitting in the OPG office. On the bus tour someone asked Mayor Engen about this, and he said he had no way to respond to the people. **Ms. Hoem** was concerned about the process used as she thought it kept the public out of the conversation. She wondered where the public voice was in a development of this size; she read a judicial statement. **Mr. Schneller** stated that the Franklin to Fort area is going to have some of the same issues on a future piece of land in that area.

Committee Reports

Extraordinary Events Committee

No Report

Neighborhood Volunteer of the Year Committee – Renee Mitchell

Ms. Mitchell will get with Nick and Mike Hathaway to distribute the volunteer nomination form. The committee still needs more CF reps to help review the completed forms in late July. The nominations generally come from the neighborhood residents. She encouraged CF members to nominate residents in their respective areas. She would like the committee to have at least 5 members to collect and review nominations, and select the recipient.

Bus Tour Committee – Greg Gullickson

Mr. Gullickson stated that the bus tour was a great success. It was on a Saturday which made it a unique event. There was a full bus, the Mayor attended, the sites were outstanding. He reminded everyone that the Fall bus tour will focus on the South half of Missoula. He invited members to participate in the planning of the Fall event. **Mr. Roberts** stated that the Fall bus tour could also be in conjunction with the Zoning Code Rewrite, as the Spring tour was. **Mr. Aten** also wanted to thank Nick for the organization of the tour.

Funds Allocation Committee – Greg Gullickson

Mr. Gullickson- this committee held a meeting on June 26th- **Mr. Gullickson, Ms. Schmitt, Mr. Aten, Mr. Christiansen, and Mr. Roberts** were in attendance. The goal of the meeting was to consider drafting a policy statement about annual Neighborhood Council budget distribution and usage. Such a policy would capture City Council directives and a Community Forum role in budgetary processes; currently, no guidelines exist which explain budgetary processes. **Mr. Aten** added that there are some current guidelines that break down appropriate Neighborhood Council spending into a few distinct categories: meeting expenses, communication to citizens, miscellaneous; inappropriate spending criteria is also included. This info comes from City Resolution 6601, passed in 2002. **Mr. Roberts** summarized Resolution 6601. He also discussed the new fiscal year budget process (which began on July 1st)- City Council will approve 18 separate appropriations, not one large chunk of money to be disbursed internally. The Funds Allocation Committee is considering several different approaches for bringing Community Forum into the budget allocation process. There should be more details in the July CF meeting. **Mr. Roberts** announced that on July 11th at 3pm City Council's Budget Committee of the Whole will be discussing the City Clerk's new fiscal year budget, possibly including Neighborhood Council appropriations. The final City Council budget approval vote will likely happen in the first or second week in August. **Mr. Gullickson** encouraged CF members to give the Funds Allocation Committee their ideas about funding process strategies and more efficient spending procedures. **Mr. Schneller** offered that Franklin to the Fort has a large density of residents- he and his NC leaders are concerned about current distribution methods. **Mr. Gullickson** explained current annual budget and mailing supplement appropriations as well as new committee considerations. A couple of new suggested approaches included a reduction of the base neighborhood appropriation so that a secondary pool of money would be left for Community Forum to distribute. The Funds Allocation committee is not looking to change appropriate spending criteria; the committee simply wants to simplify the process of reallocating funds. **Mr. Aten** clarified that the committee wants to make sure all neighborhoods have enough money for basic costs like meeting expenses, mailing expenses, and possibly trainings.

Unfinished Business

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

Ms. Mitchell thanked the Neighborhood Council members who have given her lists of accomplishments- she'll be contacting new representatives to get new information and updates.

Remaining supplemental mailing funds and NPF Small Grant Funds- **Nick Roberts**

Mr. Roberts displayed a chart noting remaining NC annual funds. Of the \$14,400 that was appropriated this year to 18 neighborhoods, there is still \$8,557.49 (as of June 28th). No neighborhoods have completely spent their budget. He noted that the Funds Allocation committee is extremely important as it continues to evaluate NC spending trends and strategies. There was discussion on the mailing funds allocation and what the City Council will do about this funding. *Mr. Roberts* stated that all NC spending needs to be reviewed and clarified such that CF can clearly articulate financial realities to Council because. *Mr. Roberts* briefly mentioned that remaining funds from the "small grants program" do carry over to the new fiscal year.

New Business

Nominations for one vacant Community Forum Leadership Team position- **Hans Christiansen**

- *Mr. Christiansen* doesn't know how to effectively recruit; he stated that this commitment does not take that much more time out of your schedule. He asked present CF members to please help him identify prospective LT members.

Discussion about City Council's upcoming public hearing to revise Ordinance 3335 (regarding NC boundary modifications)- **Ray Aten**

- *Mr. Aten* offered that this issue has been discussed at the City Council's Administration and Finance committee in the last couple of months. One notable change will be the requirement of City Council approval for all boundary changes. There will be a public hearing on July 23rd for public comment.

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Upcoming South Campus Master Plan meetings - **Greg Gullickson**

- *Mr. Gullickson* reminded everyone that an advisory committee will be holding a public meeting on July 10th and 18th in the University's U.C. Theater (3rd floor) at 7:00 pm for public comment on the South Campus Master Plan.

Ongoing business

Monthly report to CC: *Mr. Gullickson* announced that with no quorum he will simply summarize the agenda with everything that was discussed tonight (unofficial motion passed).

Neighborhood Updates

- Rose Park – No Report

- Lewis & Clark – **Mr. Gullickson:** NC was happy to be the host of the Splash/Playfair park celebration during bus tour. NC is planning an ice cream social- no date has been set.
- Emma Dickinson – No Report
- South 39th St.-- **Ms. Mitchell:** LT is meeting on a monthly basis; great usage of South hills trail system; ice cream social being planned soon.
- Moose Can Gully – No Report
- Farviews/Pattee Canyon – **Mr. Aten:** Just finished up the newsletter- it turned out great. It had a survey insert about Parks in the neighborhood; considering changing NC name from “Farviews” to “Far Views.” July 19th will be the NC ice cream social.
- Franklin to Fort—**Mr. Schneller:** F2F has regular LT meetings the first Tuesday of the month at Bethel Baptist (corner of 6th and Washburn); had an ice cream social a few weeks ago, which was great; just had general NC meeting with good turnout; committee being developed to address sidewalks/gutters/curbs. Recent NC bike tour covered the whole NC area.
- Riverfront – No Report
- Lower Rattlesnake – No Report
- Southgate Triangle – **Mr. Christiansen:** LT meets every month at the community room at the Southgate mall. Rob Thames of Parks and Rec. recently gave a report to the NC; happy with the cooperation of trail system and Paxson area that connects to South Hills trail.
- Upper Rattlesnake – **Ms. Hoem:** LT will now meet every 2nd Wednesday of the month @ 6:30pm at Rattlesnake Gardens. Rattlesnake Valley Comp Plan “study group” met tonight.
- Grant Creek – No report
- University District – **Mr. Bodholt:** recently held an ice cream social and meeting to discuss traffic calming circles. NC was supportive of the calming circles; could be voted on in fall. Casey Richardson introduced himself at the NC meeting- will be nice to have him around.

Mr. Gullickson stated that two current Community Forum reps will candidates for City Council: Lewie Schneller (Franklin to the Fort) and Renee Mitchell (S. 39th St.). **Ms. Mitchell** will run in Ward 5 and **Mr. Schneller** Ward 6.

- City Council Report – No Report
- **Mr. Theisen** will moderate the next meeting.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy DuBois

Tammy DuBois
Secretary
City Clerk’s Office