

**Community Forum Meeting
Minutes
March 22, 2007
7:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers
Moderator, Andrea Davis**

Moderator, Andrea Davis began the meeting at 7:06 pm and took roll:

Emma Dickinson – Mike Hathaway (Rep)
Farviews/Pattee Canyon – Celeste River (Alt)
Franklin to the Fort – Andrea Davis (Alt)
Grant Creek – Brian Walter (Rep)
Heart of Missoula – Absent
Lewis & Clark – Greg Gullickson (Rep)
Lower Rattlesnake – Absent
Miller Creek – Absent
Moose Can Gully – Tom Theisen (Rep)
Northside – Absent
Riverfront – Melissa Schmidt (Rep)
Rose Park – Alexandra Gorman (Rep)
South 39th – Renee Mitchell (Rep)
Southgate Triangle – Hans Christiansen (Rep)
University District – Absent
Upper Rattlesnake – Jan Hoem (Rep)
Westside – Absent
City Council Liaison – Jon Wilkins
Neighborhood Liaison – Nick Roberts

Others Present

Lora O'Connor, Cherie Russell, Gail Miller, Warren Hardan, Lewie Schneller, Quincie Albrecht, Fred Bodholt (University District)

Quorum

It was announced a quorum was present

Adoption of Agenda

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

Public Comment

No public comment

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Christiansen moved to accept the minutes for February 22, 2007. *Mr. Theisen* seconded the motion. None opposed. Motion passed on a voice vote.

March 22, 2007

Announcements

Neighborhood Liaison report: Mr. Roberts briefly described everyone's hand-outs: February CF minutes; \$10,000 supplemental mailing money chart; small grant applications; presentation request descriptions. He mentioned some exciting new updates to the Office of Neighborhoods Website. In response to City Council comment and after meeting with Marty Rehbein, Ginny Merriam, and Bob Jaffe, Mr. Roberts is working on a new interactive survey tool. He noted that the intent is to have a section for public issues like an "issue of the month" that will be posted and will likely be centered on citywide issues and agenda items. Issues will be summarized and connected to a survey tool hosted by an online survey engine where the public will be asked specific questions; answers will be forwarded on to City Council and posted as a report on the Office of Neighborhoods website as well. The first topic will be City Council's consideration of switching to a mail ballot election format: submitting ballots through the mail as opposed to going to the polling stations. There is a public hearing in April for this issue; Mr. Roberts is working on having the survey tool ready in time

Mr. Roberts noted that the six Neighborhood Project Fund contracts are almost finalized and hopefully will be approved by City Council in the next week or two. He also noted that the Office of Neighborhoods recently sent out its new version of the monthly neighborhood newsletter. It has a section focused on communication with the Mayor. Lastly, the Mayor invited Mr. Roberts to the monthly ALT meeting (Administrative Leadership Team) rather than a specific meeting with him. The ALT meeting includes all the dept heads in the city- This opportunity can be used to communicate info back and forth. He's open to suggestions about this format.

Presentations

1. "National Public Lands Day" Parks and Recreation – Warren Harden
Sept 29th 2007
 - Nation's largest volunteer effort to clean up public lands – photo contest
 - Website: www.publiclandsday.org more information
 - Need to identify sites for clean up, minor improvements, sites along with mangers would be great, number of sites we are looking is about 8 to 10 parks and trails
 - Jason Pignanelli (sp) is the main contact
 - Need to know sites by 60 days ahead of the event around July early August
 - Parks and Rec. is supplying garbage bags and would like sites and volunteers in the neighborhoods
 - The focus will be on parks and trials (public lands) 8 to 10 sitesContact: jpignanelli@ci.missoula.mt.us 552-6271

2. Humane Society – Lora O'Connor, Outreach coordinator "Cat Overpopulation"
 - Northside/Westside is a particular problem

- Animal control has always euthanized the feral cats; this is not the answer. TNR uses humane methods to Trap, Neuter and Return the animals and you trap the whole colony and they are neutered, given shots and checked out by a vet and returned to the area
- Need care takers for the various areas
- Mobile home courts huge problem focusing on Northside/Westside
- Looking for public support- if you like cats or not this will help with over population of cats it is very cost effective also, not asking for money have grants and fund raisers. Humane Society 549-4796 outreach@myhswm.org
- Animeals and Humane Society do supply food for the feral cat caretakers

Committee Reports

Extraordinary Events Committee

No Report

Neighborhood Council Boundary Change Committee: Hans Christiansen

Mr. Christiansen gave a little background ~~the~~ on the subdivision of their neighborhood **that he** found out that the city ordinance did not have any advice on changing a neighborhood. We will be voting on it next month at CF. **Mr. Roberts** talked about the ordinance and what the role of CF is in the boundary changes.

City Council Communications Committee: Greg Gullickson

Mr. Gullickson CF recently met with City Council's Committee of the Whole to discuss some concerns about how the two groups can better communicate. A few of the items discussed included: Mr. Roberts' full time position, a monthly meeting with the Mayor, keeping both parties informed of what each other is doing. **Mr. Roberts** said his position being full time and the Mayor being on board to a new degree shows things are changing for the better. Council members would like to be invited to NC meetings.

Mr. Wilkins stated referrals should come from the CF, **Mr. Roberts** stated this is really important and needs to be talked about further.

Unfinished Business

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

Ms. Mitchell reminded everyone that she needs neighborhood accomplishments as soon as possible. She does not know what else to do to motivate people on this issue. **Mr. Roberts** announced that everyone had a hand-out for listing all neighborhood leadership team members and members. He needs those to be completed and returned so he can update the contact database.

Ms. Rivers suggested that the bus tour would be a good start to see what zoning has worked; it shows the good and the bad and what has already been done in the neighborhoods.

Remaining \$2,156 of Neighborhood Project Funds

Mr. Roberts said that there were 6 applicants for the neighborhood project fund grants: one applicant asked for \$844 and each of the remaining applicants requested \$3,000, making the

grand total \$ 15,844. When City Council was approving these funds, Mr. Wilkins made a motion to designate the remaining funds (\$2,156) to the neighborhood small grants fund. Currently, there is \$4,256 in the small grant funds. He thinks the money will carry over into the next fiscal year.

Ms. Davis asked about remaining funds rolling over to next year. *Mr. Wilkins* will check on that for sure. *Mr. Roberts* got a confirmation from Brentt Ramharter that there is an ability to carry over funds, but the exact procedure is unclear.

Distribution plan for \$10,000 (N.C. mailings from City Council) Mike Hathaway

Mr. Hathaway made a proposal to use a portion for mailings to use a private contractor and or public contractor for mailing lists. *Mr. Wilkins* said the biggest thing is getting a mailing list in your area; not all houses are in your neighborhood boundaries, you have to pick out the address of residences in your area to make your list (Lewis & Clark did this). Post office charges around \$80 or so to do this

Ms. Rivers Farviews/Pattee Canyon has been doing this for years. It is complicated and you need to keep a filing system to pass to new team members to keep it updated.

Mr. Christiansen asked Mr. Wilkins how much time he thinks is spent on such tasks.

Mr. Wilkins said it was trial and error- they would put out a letter and then find out they missed a block of residences. The important thing is to not look for the names. Instead, find the address and put "to resident". *Mr. Theisen* said this was a good idea considering there's significant money to spend and only 3 months to use it. Having a private contractor make the lists is a good idea. Mr. Theisen also noted that there is all this money between all the councils and that it might be good to send out a newsletter simply directing people to the city website, Missoula-neighborhood.org and highlighting the neighborhood council map, etc. *Mr. Hathaway* said that no action was needed tonight- it's just an item of discussion.

Mr. Wilkins said that neighborhoods are not allowed to use the supplemental mailing money as a universal mailing- he thinks the ordinance says that an NC must use it in its own neighborhoods.

Mr. Roberts will check this out.

New Business

Pending NPF Small grant applications – Hans Christiansen

Mr. Christiansen announced that there are two small grant applications to vote on: one from South 39th street (Jeff Stevens) for more color maps of the South Hills trail system and one from Garden City Harvest for publicity materials for the "community gardens" program..

Ms. Davis moved to approve small grant for Garden City Harvest. *Mr. Hathaway* seconded. There was a call for discussion. *Mr. Gullickson* offered his concern of the appropriateness of the request and said we would not support it. *Mr. Roberts* said that this request came directly to his office he reminded everyone that requests do not have to be submitted by an NC or CF, or any organized body; they just have to benefit city residents. *Mr. Hathaway* said he supports this request: it is a city wide project/program and it reaches a number of neighborhoods. *Ms. River* offered that community gardens are community building they are wonderful places for people to meet each other there and bring their children. *Ms. Mitchell* said that gardening is very therapeutic and that gardens are beneficial to communities.

*Vote 9 for 2 against

*Small grant application from South 39th Street:

Mr. Christiansen explained that the application is to print colored maps for the trail system-they have some private funds but are requesting an additional \$200. **Mr. Christiansen** made a *motion* that CF accept this grant. The motion was **seconded** by **Mr. Gullickson**

*Vote (approved unanimously)

2007 Bus Tour

Mr. Gullickson announced that the Bus Tour Committee needs volunteers from CF to help organize the tour, plan stops, map, anticipate dialogue, and decide on food. **Mr. Roberts** reiterated that the committee needs to begin work immediately. The following CF members volunteered for the committee: **Mr. Gullickson, Mr. Christiansen, and Mr. Theisen.**

Ms. Davis said she would like to see more dignitaries invited and participating this year; she said that there have been several empty seats in the past, and she would like a full bus.

Ongoing business

Monthly report to CC:

Community Forum attendees suggested that **Ms. Davis** simply give an overview of everything on tonight's agenda.

Neighborhood Updates

- Rose Park – **Ms. Gorman** our LT will be meeting Monday April 2nd to plan next meeting. Anyone interested, please come.
- Lewis & Clark – **Mr. Gullickson** Meeting on Tuesday March 27th (next meeting April 2nd).
- Emma Dickinson – **Mr. Hathaway** LT met with city parks on the 13th
- South 39th St.-- **Ms. Mitchell** met on the 13th of March . Steve King gave an update on Hillview Way reconstruction project.
- Moose Can Gully – **Mr. Theisen** General meeting yesterday- big part was Hillview way discussion,
- Farviews/Pattee Canyon – **Ms. River** LT meeting April 4th to plan the general Spring meeting
- Franklin to Fort—**Ms. Davis** had its general meeting February 27th: election for LT, CF members and alternates; presentation by Lou Ann Crowley next meeting April 3rd 6:30 pm at Bethel Baptist; This is her last meeting as a CF Alternate
- Riverfront – **Ms. Schmidt** NC discussed Osprey field; meeting April 5th @ Bernice's 6:00 pm
- Lower Rattlesnake – **Ms. Elsen** No Report
- Southgate Triangle – **Mr. Christiansen** report from Parks and Rec. for a project on spraying and fertilizing the parks. General meeting in April
- Upper Rattlesnake – **Ms. Hoem** CC member Heidi Kendall contacted them concern about Lincoln school- no date for LT yet
- Grant Creek – **Mr. Walter** discussed parking at Osprey field; trying to get the Grant Creek trail off the ground

March 22, 2007

●University District – **Mr. Bodholt** Spring meeting Last Thursday; update on South Campus project; discussed neighborhood grants (Bonner Park); update on Madison street bridge 6th street alignment; completed LT elections

Mr. Christiansen made a motion to approve the CF report to City Council. **Mr. Theisen** seconded the motion.

*Vote (approved unanimously)

● City Council Report – **Mr. Wilkins** – mail-in ballot discussion – wants input; discussion in committee on the “MillSite”

Ms. Gorman will be moderating the next meeting on April 26, 2007

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:21 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy DuBois

Tammy DuBois

Secretary

City Clerk’s Office