

**Rose Park Neighborhood Council, Leadership Team Meeting Minutes, April 17, 2024;
5:30pm**

1. Introduction and Roll Call
 - a. Present were Audrey Hayes, Sean Hayes, Melissa Glueckert, Eric Claxton, Rachel Calderon-Navarro, Tony Rollin, and Julie Robitaille (Principal of Paxon Elementary School)
2. Approval of Minutes - March 20, 2024 meeting minutes were unanimously approved.
3. Presentations - Julie Robitaille, Principal of Paxon Elementary School, led discussions on the following topics:
 - a. Need for a push-button, solar crosswalk signal across South Higgins Avenue near Paxon School:
 - i. Julie said that a signal across Higgins, most likely at the Hastings/Burlington/Higgins intersection, would increase the safety of students and parents who are crossing Higgins. There have been some close calls, some of which take place when buses are parked adjacent to Paxon along Higgins in the morning for discharge of students. Such a signal would be a significant step forward regarding safety. The crosswalk would be manned during the busy parts of the school day.
 - ii. The Rose Park Neighborhood Council offered to author a letter of support.
 - iii. Melissa will provide Julie with a contact in the City Transportation Department.
 - iv. Melissa will also advise the RPNC as to whom the support letter should be addressed.
 - b. Support for the Mill Levy for Missoula Elementary Schools
 - i. Julie reviewed the needs driving upcoming elementary school mil levies that will be on the ballot later in the year. Two levies will be on the May ballot: General Fund Levy and a Safety Levy. More information can be found at <https://www.mcpsmt.org/cms/lib/MT01001940/Centricity/Domain/3231/2024%20Levy%20flyer%201.pdf>
4. Elections were held and the following role assignments were unanimously approved.
 - i. Chairperson - Rachel, Co-chair - Tony
 - ii. Treasurer - Melissa (or Kalina)
 - iii. Secretary - Eric Claxton, co-secretary - Tony.
 - iv. Representative for Community Forum - Gary, co-representative - Sean
5. Neighborhood Clean-up, Saturday April 27
 - a. Rose Park participation in the Neighborhood Cleanup was modified to only include cleanup of the Slant Street Gateway located at Mount Avenue and Park Street across from Fire Station #2.
 - i. Tony provided Melissa with an outline for timing and Melissa will generate handouts for the event.

- ii. It was agreed to use two sandwich boards to advertise the event. These will be placed on Mount Avenue and Plymouth Streets in the vicinity of the Gateway.
- iii. Tony will obtain flyers from Melissa on April 18 and distribute them to residents near the gateway.
- iv. Tony will pick up tools from Currents on the morning of April 27.
- v. It was agreed to use Neighborhood funds to buy drinks and snacks for participants.
- vi. A dumpster will not be needed at the site.
- vii. Eric agreed to bring his truck for hauling compostable materials to the Missoula Compost.

6. Planning for the September General Meeting

- a. September 15 was confirmed for the general meeting. It was agreed to have the meeting start at 3 pm.
- b. Audrey will ask the Boy Scout Executive whether we can ask Scout Troops to assist in handing out hangers in the neighborhood.
- c. The signage will be similar to that used last year. Rachel will again prepare hangers and get them printed. She estimated the cost to be \$306. A motion was carried to use the current year's budget to cover this expense (Eric moved, Audrey seconded, unanimous vote). Rachel will also get graphics to Melissa so that large signs can be made for the sandwich boards. It was also agreed to produce 8.5x11 graphics for display in Rose Park area businesses.
- d. Tony will contact Big Dipper for ice cream truck reservation.
- e. Melissa will contact Park District for Rose Park reservation of the date.
- f. Potential agenda item for the meeting: Rose Society adopt a rose bed.
- g. Ward Representatives should be invited to the meeting. Fire Department folks from our fire house should also be invited.
- h. Other plans will be discussed in April and subsequent meetings.

7. Community Forum Report - none

8. Missoula Neighborhoods Report- Melissa

- a. Next Monday will be the first opportunity for Rose Park to present a Neighborhood update to City Council. Audrey will make the presentation covering three points:
 - i. Paxon School crosswalk
 - ii. Support for Rose Society including their adopt-a-bed program
 - iii. Participation in the City Clean-up on April 27.

9. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

- a. Deer are a worsening problem in the City of Missoula. They pose a health risk. The question was raised as to whether the City would consider a plan to relocate deer. The issue was debated and this is a potential subject for the general meeting.
- b. Dilapidated housing is a problem for at least one house along Stephens Avenue. The question was raised as to whether there are ways of giving owners incentive to improve properties. The suggestion was made to contact the County Health

department to get their opinion.

10. Announcements

- a. The issue of zoning and possibility of high rise apartment complexes along Brooks Street just south of Rose Park was raised to make the team aware of the possibility. Some Rose Park citizens received letters relating to zoning changes in that area and have responded to the City.

11. Meeting was adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Note: After the meeting, Tony attended the monthly meeting of the Missoula Rose Society and heard the following:

1. The most pressing need is for a fence to protect the rose beds from deer. Apparently, rose plant leaves are a favorite food for deer. This issue is one for the leadership team to consider in terms of collaborating with the Rose Society.
2. The Rose Society will be represented at the September 15 Rose Park General Meeting to address rose bed adoption.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Rollin, April 19, 2024