

**Community Forum Meeting
Meeting Minutes
October 23, 2008
7:00 p.m. City Council Chambers
Moderator, Jeff Stevens**

Captain John Mullan – Kathie Snodgrass (Rep)

Emma Dickinson –Absent

FarViews/Pattee Canyon – Ray Aten (Rep)

Franklin to the Fort – Absent

Grant Creek – Don Nicholson (Rep)

Heart of Missoula – Absent

Lewis & Clark – Absent

Lower Rattlesnake – Absent

Miller Creek – Absent

Moose Can Gully – Lyle Guerts (Rep)

Northside –Absent

Riverfront – Melissa Schmitt (Rep)

Rose Park – Absent

South 39th – Jeff Stevens (Rep)

Southgate Triangle – Hans Christiansen (Rep)

University District – John Snively (Rep)

Upper Rattlesnake – Jan Hoem (Rep)

Westside – Absent

City Council Liaison – Jon Wilkins

Neighborhood Liaison – LaNette Diaz

Others Present

Linda McCarthy, Bob Reid

Quorum

Quorum is present.

Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Aten moved for adoption of agenda. *Mr. Christiansen* seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of CF Minutes from August 28 & September 25, 2008

Ms. Snodgrass motioned to approve minutes from both meetings. *Mr. Aten* seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda

Approve request out of Neighborhood Project Grant Committee from the Lower Rattlesnake NC for a small grant in the amount of \$200 to supplement funding of a Large Project Grant called the "Gateway Project". Unanimous vote in favor of adopting the consent agenda.

Public Comment (non-agenda items from audience)

Ms. Hoem talked about the proposed survey follow-up to Mayor's citizen survey. A committee was formed with Mr. Salmonson, Mr. Christiansen and I. Realistically this is a big job for three people to do, it requires professional involvement. Determining how people feel about growth is important, with the

UFDA project addressing the growth policy with four amendments coming up soon, maybe reexamining the amendments are necessary. The growth projections were from the last seven years, this bubble of growth is over and therefore maybe the maps don't reflect the real goals today. With the slowdown in building there is time to step back and make certain the proposed amendments to the growth policy reflect our goals. Maybe the city could send a mailing to everyone so they know what the proposals are for their specific neighborhood; could we give the people a chance to respond in their own words, not just a choice of three options; would like the opportunity for expression for our own hopes for the future of Missoula. The projection of 2% growth may need to be reexamined to reflect current growth, maybe reduce it to 1%. Mr. Nicholson concurs, the projection of 2% growth is overstated, and the census states it is about .08 of 1%. A plan is needed and the data base needs to be accurate. Ms. Hoem reminded folks that November 10 is the opportunity for folks to say something at the public hearing.

Neighborhood Liasion Report–LaNetteDiaz

- All leadership teams were sent an email with a link to a survey tool asking for input to develop the Neighborhood Training Series for Jan-April 2009.
- Spring Presentation update on maintenance districts. Talked about presenting all types of maintenance districts and discuss what people would support to meetings next Spring. Ms. Diaz is putting an outline together and will work with other departments and have a draft available in January, at which time would be looking for 'stories' that can go with that to add to make it 'real' and applicable.
- Bus Tour Report-move to November.
- Outstanding Neighborhood Volunteer of the Year Award: Reminder that applications are due Nov. 7
- UFDA Joint Public Hearing will be Nov. 10 at 7 pm as part of City Council meeting

Committee Reports-none

New Business

Move November and December CFLT and CF meetings to the respective dates: Nov. 6 CFLT and Nov. 13 CF, Dec. 4 CFLT and Dec. 18 for CF

Mr. Aten motioned to move the meetings as indicated. **Mr. Christiansen** seconded.

Discussion: Ms. Hoem can't make the CFLT on Nov. 6th. Ms. Diaz will solicit a change via email earlier that week. Motion passed unanimously.

Ongoing Business

- CFLT Bylaw Changes –Ray Aten

Last month discussed suggested changes to bylaws and a resolution for additional duties for the leadership team. Ms. Snodgrass and Mr. Stevens had some suggestions for a few wording changes (and typos) which were incorporated.

Mr. Stevens suggests item 3, under 5.3 typo in last sentence ...report is prepared **is** shall be...strike second is and replace with **it** 5.3.4 second line ...of those **duties** at...correct spelling. **Ms. Hoem** suggested addition of the word **annual** goals in 5.3.4 first line ...for setting goals of...

Mr. Aten would like to move for adoption of changes to bylaws listed under LEADERSHIP TEAM, i.e. specifically 5. LEADERSHIP TEAM 5.3 are to strike of 5.3.3, 5.3.4 and addition of new language 5.3.4. **Ms. Snodgrass** moved to adopt the changes. **Mr. Christiansen** seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Wilkins advised to let him know when this needs to go before committee for adoption to make the referral.

- Adopt Resolution adopting defining additional duties of CFLT Ray Aten

Mr. Aten read the 11 points or duties of the CFLT.

Mr. Christiansen moved to accept the resolution. **Ms. Snodgrass** seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Neighborhood Council Updates

- **University**—fall meeting will be Oct. 30 at Paxson School. Agenda includes update on 5th/6th streets project with the University; VRIP; zoning update; discussion about calming circles; bicycles using sidewalks; sidewalks not getting shoveled in winter; and elections.
- **Southgate Triangle**—had general meeting Oct. 8th. Elections for CF representative held, Mr. Christiansen was re-elected. Discussion on Paxson Park area with Donna Gaukler. It is in early stages and a committee will participate in discussion for planning of it. Discussion regarding traffic control devices was held.
- **Grant Creek**—neighbors met with the Parks Dept. a couple months ago about the proposed trail next to Grant Creek Road. There are some problems determining just where the right of way is. Home-owners have been contact and virtually all have granted right of way access free of charge. An engineer has been consulted to do a preliminary overlay of where the trail should be placed.
- **Riverfront**—new structures in Silver Park were recently constructed. Comment period for Russell St. EIS draft will be closing October 20—actually it is extended to Nov. 4—encourage folks to comment. The LT meets 1st Weds. of month at Bernice's at 5:30 and anyone in the neighborhood is welcome to attend.
- **Moose Can Gully**—planning for general meeting November 19, have a presentation with Parks n Rec about South Hills area trails.
- **South 3rd St.**—had our meeting last night. Sheriff McMeekin presented on the bond for a new emergency response center; Laval Means presented on UFDA; Tom Zavitz presented on zoning update; update on funding for benches for Homestead Park and trees; update on funding application for Tonkin Trail; leadership team elections were held, Mr. Stevens will be the chair and CF representative; Cathy Deschamps will be the alternate and secretary; new LT member Joyce Lewis. Special note of thanks to Carol Conrad for serving on the LT for last 10 years with very dedicated service, she will be greatly missed.
- **Upper Rattlesnake**—had general meeting Oct. 9 with candidate forum and OPG staff talked about UFDA and zoning update—they did a super job informing folks. Elections will be held in the Spring. Talked about speed limits and sidewalks. It was suggested that Upper and Lower Rattlesnake folks form a committee to meet with council representatives to set priorities for infrastructure improvement needs.
- **Farviews/Pattee Canyon**—our general meeting will be Nov. 5, 7 pm at Lewis & Clark Villages Community Room. We like to play 'stump the chump' with our city council representatives and look forward to that, our neighborhood parks master plan will be unveiled and OPG will present on zoning rewrite. Elections will be held as well.
- **Cpt. John Mullan**—a joint meeting with Pleasant View and Hellgate Meadows home owners to discuss the planning process for Pleasant View Park is in the works. Have a new member on our LT. Working on updating our website.

City Council Liaison Report—I have been getting a lot of EIS comments regarding Russell St., they are not considered official comments to me, be sure to cc them to the appropriate parties in charge of accepting official comments to be on the record. In today's paper there was an article regarding layoffs in building department. The inspector laid off is the one doing the voluntary residential

inspections; therefore I will take over any presentations regarding the program. Invite your council representatives to your meetings.

Presentations

Downtown Master Plan–Making it Better for All Linda McCarthy, Missoula Downtown Association

In response to concerns with growth and development as it pertains to Downtown, it was determined to have some vision and plan for downtown. The steering committee has been around for a couple years and involved with the process of Master Plan Development. Three well-attended public workshops have been held so far with the purpose of creating a guiding tool to serve long-term health of downtown. Issues and concerns have been identified and fundamental concepts to address them. *see attached response sheets from Workshop #2.

Ms. McCarthy went over the details of the 2035 capacity diagram from the refined alternative and provided some explanation of the details. The diagram represents a taste of where we are going and came from feedback from folks attending lots of meetings and public workshops. The consultant's will present the final plan and implementation strategy Nov. 18-20 and the final public workshop will be Wednesday November 19 at the Holiday Inn Parkside.

Discussion:

What are the priorities? Addressing Macy's-how to keep and strengthen; First Interstate Bank building, believe City Council approved a new process to fast track the parking structure to design/build simultaneously; Riverfront Triangle trying to get something going there, the City has put out a request for proposals.

How can you hold place holder areas for a proposed future project? An example is the First Interstate Drive-thru property, when the new building is completed a drive-thru will be with that building so the current land will be available for different use. With a fundamental concept for the future of downtown in place, property owners are more willing to participate and engage in that process.

Proposed Emergency Operations & Regional Training Center Bond Issue Bob Reid Emergency Services Director & Dale Bickell CAO Missoula County

The county has a bond issue on the upcoming ballot election to fund building a new 911 center which is in need of expansion to handle the volume of calls, to provide opportunity for growth-can only handle six dispatchers currently, and provide a better quality working space. The increased size would allow for an emergency operations center where commanders and public officials can meet to manage a significant incident. New technology to handle volume of cell phone calls and text messaging is needed as well.

The Sheriff Department offices, evidence storage space, warehouse space for large evidence, special vehicle storage, etc. would be included in this project as well. The Regional Training Center aspect would provide space for training needs regionally of which there is currently no adequate facility.

The proposed location is on county owned land adjacent to the Detention Center. Total cost is \$23.4 million, which may actually come down with the slow-down in construction making it more competitive for bid award. With money set aside from land sales, grant sources and 911 excise taxes the amount to come before voters is \$16 million. Tax increase translates to 6.69 mills, which for a house with a market value of \$200,000 taxes would be \$27.82 annually.

Discussion:

Question asked about value analysis for this new building Bob Reid said that sizing projections based on standards used by OPG for determining growth figures and what the architects recommended were identified. The goal was to have a manageable price and have a building with a long life-span. This building

should meet the needs for next 25-30 years without any substantial improvement or addition to it. Dale Bickell added that the criminal justice and administrative needs assessment cost figures came out \$42 million dollar project which far exceeded expectations and capacity to do, so the focus was on the biggest need and priority which was public safety. The other aspects will be put aside and relooked at later.

Suicide Among the Young: Facts, Figures and Formulas for Prevention Karl Rosston, Suicide Prevention Coordinator for the Montana of Public Health and Human Services

A number of statistics and facts were presented, some highlights as they pertain to Montana are:

- *Fire arms are the primary means, but suffocation and hanging has increased in adolescent girls
- *Main method used to be overdose for females; the last five suicides by young females in Montana have been with firearms.
- *The predominate risk group is 15-19 yr. old white males
- *Most suicides occur in the afternoon and in the child's home
- *Most have to do with interpersonal conflicts where they are trying to bring change in someone else's behavior, ability to connect with others and relationships they have
- *Montana has the highest suicide rate in the nation and has been in the top 5 for 30 years
- *Regional factors: firearms, isolation, alcohol and drugs, (#2 in nation for alcohol related deaths). The number one factor is our attitude around mental illness. Scene as weak and a burden, that is predominant in our region. It is cool to have a psychiatrist on the east coast for example, people hide that here.
- *Suicide is the number one preventative cause of death for 10-14 year olds
- *Montana is about double the national average for suicides; some counties are triple the national average.
- *Factors associated with ideations: family stress or lack of parental connectedness-not understood or validated; depression or substance abuse-strong genetic component; and family violence.
- *90% have major psychiatric disorder-depressive or bipolar disorders; depression is the most treatable disorder out there with a 70% treatment success rate

Warning signs: change in pattern of behavior-acting out of character. Giving away prized possessions, increase in substance abuse, increase or decrease in sleep and eating, isolation, complaints of being bored, apathy, increase of accidents and accidental behavior, overall sense of hopelessness, drop in academic performance.

Myth: not supposed to bring it up, on the contrary, asking them directly if they are suicidal validates their pain and provides opportunity to talk.

Method in use in MT is QPR; Question, Persuade and Refer.

Question-voice concern, ask if they have a plan and get others involved. Don't act shocked, challenge them and say they are doing it for attention. Best approach is to be direct. If you can't ask the question, find someone who can.

Persuade-listen, there is nothing so bad as to ruin the rest of your life, I don't want you to hurt yourself, let's talk to somebody.

Refer-take to a source of help; the ER, mental health center, contacting police or clergy. Ask for a commitment for safety from them and help set up resources.

What Montana is doing:

ASSIST is a training program available from the State for every High School. Signs of Suicide is curriculum based and provides students with opportunities to learn how to intervene with someone they are concerned about.

Teen Screen is being used in all schools in Helena and Great Falls currently to identify high risk youth in the 10th grade. Downfall is the need for parental consent.

Good Behavior Game, target is early education to teach social skills. They followed kids for 30 years who were taught these skills and found that all had lower crime rate, substance abuse and suicide rates. The state has also built up and supported the suicide prevention lifeline. When the national number is called from the Montana area code is routed to one of two centers, Voices of Hope in Missoula, or The Help Center in Bozeman to direct those in crisis to resources in their community. It is important for community leaders to have the information to share and let people know in your neighborhoods that resources are available.

Discussion: What does Missoula have in place? Karl said that Missoula County has a suicide prevention coordinator who coordinates and assists trainings and does prevention work with the schools. Missoula does not have Signs Of Suicide in place yet.

What are the other venues of getting this information out? Media blitz, conferences-NAMI conference as well as the NASW conference will have a focus, articles in the paper, and going to forums such as this to have community leaders carry the message back to their communities is the best way to get the word out. Mr. Rosston offered his availability for community trainings or presentations.

The message needs to be in the hands of peers and parents, what could we as community people do? Talking to representatives, legislators about supporting more training in the community, talking to school board members and schools about bringing these types of prevention efforts in, there is no cost and they have been picked for Montana. Some of these programs can be implemented in one classroom period. Missoula has been hit hard with suicides the last couple years, how many more kids have to die before action is taken. It is preventable. Talk to people about your desire to see some action taken.

Public Comment: Carol Ulrigg suggested via the CFLT that this presentation be given. She would like to see CF sponsor something relating to this topic for the citizens of Missoula.

Final Business

Monthly report to City Council—request to report on non-agenda items

(the monthly report to City Council will be made by the moderator of the meeting. The report made will address all items on the Community Forum agenda for the month. A request for reporting on non-agenda items will occur at Community Forum to ensure pertinent non-agenda are reported as well).

Mr. Stevens will do the monthly report.

Moderator for the next meeting will be **Ms. Schmitt**

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Ross

Christine Ross
Secretary, Office of Neighborhoods
City Clerk's Office

*Copies of any handouts and referenced documents at this meeting are on file in the City Clerk's Office