

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
140 WEST PINE STREET  
MISSOULA MONTANA  
MARCH 9, 2011, 11:05 AM**

**Members present:** Ed Childers, President; Lyn Hellegaard; Bob Jaffe; Marilyn Marler; Renee Mitchell; Pam Walzer; Jason Wiener; Jon Wilkins and Cynthia Wolken

**Members absent:** Stacy Rye, Dick Haines, and Dave Strohmaier

**Others present:** Ellen Buchanan, John Hendrickson

**I. Administrative Business**

Both minutes dated [February 16, 2011](#) and [February 23, 2011](#) were approved as corrected.

Ms. Hellegaard stated during the February 23, 2011 minutes it states “met and she was hopeful to be able to finally get her information in the correct format she was looking for” which is incorrect she stated, they met and she was hopeful that she would get the information she was requesting.

Ms. Mitchell stated in the minutes on February 16, 2011 it states that “the vote today is not a reflection of the council’s political vent”. It should state “bent.”

**II. Public Comment on items not listed on the agenda--None**

**III. Consent Agenda**

A. Resolution naming the Missoula Redevelopment Agency Conference Room the “Hal Fraser Conference Room” in recognition of Hal Fraser’s leadership and service to Missoula as a member and Chair of the Missoula Redevelopment Agency Board of Directors from 1991 until 2011. ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Ellen Buchanan) (Referred to committee: 02/28/11) **(REMOVE FROM AGENDA)**

**Motion: The committee recommends the city council adopt a resolution recognizing the dedicated public service of Hal Fraser and formally renaming the Missoula Redevelopment Agency Conference Room at 140 West Pine, the “Hal Fraser Conference Room”.**

Ellen Buchanan, Director of Missoula Redevelopment Agency, stated Hal Fraser chaired the MRA board for many years. He came on the board in 1991 and in 1992 he became chair of the board until this year. The MRA board unanimously approved they would like to name their conference room much like the city council named the council conference room after Jack Reidy.

Jon Wilkins moved to name the MRA Conference Room after Hal Fraser.

Pam Walzer clarified the motion was to adopt the resolution.

Ed Childers asked if Ms. Buchanan would clarify who actually owns the building. Ms. Buchanan stated the City of Missoula owns the building and the MRA invested money for the renovations.

Approved unanimously.

**IV. Regular Agenda**

A. Administration and Council discuss legislative matters. ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Ed Childers) (Referred to committee: 01/24/11) (**HELD IN COMMITTEE**)

Pam Walzer stated Mr. Strohmaier has a bill, Senate Joint Resolution (SJ) 16 carried by Tom Facey to investigate passenger rail options for Missoula. He would like the committee to support this bill.

Ms. Walzer moved to support SJ 16 “Study resolution on increasing passenger rail.”

Ms. Hellegaard asked why they didn’t include all the cities on the southern route.

Mr. Wilkins stated he will support the concept but wonders if it will happen.

Ms. Walzer read part of the resolution:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE  
OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

That the Legislative Council be requested to designate an appropriate interim committee, pursuant to section 5-5-217, MCA, or direct sufficient staff resources to:

- (1) evaluate the costs of expanding passenger rail service in Montana;
- (2) identify local, state, and federal funding sources for passenger rail;
- (3) analyze the benefits of increased passenger rail including access to public transportation and economic benefits from increased tourism and job opportunities;
- (4) explore potential connecting routes for service within Montana; and
- (5) evaluate possible bus and rail connections that could serve Montana communities with no direct access to passenger rail services.

The motion was carried with 1 (Mitchell) abstention. Mr. Childers will write a letter and send it on.

Ms. Walzer announced Mr. Strohmaier state House Bill 16 will be heard on Monday at 3:00 PM before the Senate Judiciary committee. She asked if we sent anything official from the city? There was a some inaccuracy in the House discussions that it went before Municipal Court with no appeal which is false.

**V. Held in committee**

1. Mayor's Update – Ongoing in Committee. (Mayor Engen)
2. Updates from Council representatives on the Health Board, Community Forum, Transportation Policy Coordinating Committee, other boards and commissions as necessary. – (Ongoing in Committee)
3. Joint meeting of the Mayor, City Council and County Commission; a facilitated quarterly OPG review as directed in the [Interlocal Agreement](#) (Agenda)—Ongoing (Mayor Engen)
4. Joint meeting between the Missoula City Council and the Missoula County Public Schools' Board of Trustees ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Dave Strohmaier) (Referred to committee: 09/17/07)

5. Examination of Office Planning and Grants ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Lyn Hellegaard) (Referred to committee: 09/08/08)
6. Consider a regular and an emergency ordinance to adjust ward boundaries. ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Laval Means) (Referred to committee: 02/28/11)

**VI. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:23 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Nikki Rogers*

Deputy City Clerk