



MISSOULA NEIGHBORHOODS

Community Forum Report

City Council Chambers, 140 W. Pine

March 22, 2012 at 7:00 pm

Moderator, Mark McMillin

Captain John Mullan – Steve Schmidt
Farviews/Pattee Canyon – Absent
Franklin to the Fort – Mark McMillin
Grant Creek – Bert Lindler
Heart of Missoula – Bill Flanery
Lewis & Clark – Greg Gullickson
Lower Rattlesnake – Absent
Miller Creek – Absent
Moose Can Gully – Lyle Geurts
Northside/Westside – Absent

Riverfront – Absent
River Road – Jesse Neidigh
Rose Park – Absent
South 39th – Cathy Deschamps
Southgate Triangle – Hans Christensen
University District – Dave Christman
Upper Rattlesnake – Doug Grimm

City Council Liaison – Absent
Neighborhood Liaison – Jane Kelly

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jane Kelly, Erika Foster

QUORUM:

A quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

The agenda was approved.

APPROVE MEETING MINUTES:

The minutes for [February 23, 2012](#) were approved as submitted.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jan Holm, Montana Elders for Livable Tomorrow has been working on the air quality and climate change issues, and the group is concerned with the coal trains passing through the Missoula valley.

She said the trains travel from Huntley, MT through the state to Sandpoint, Idaho and into Bellingham, Washington. From Washington the coal is shipped to China to maintain their coal fired power plants. The burning coal produces toxins with mercury and in the spring the wind currents blow the toxins into the United States.

She noted Rail Link is expanding the coal export which will cause 40 or more trains daily to pass through Missoula. Currently the trains cause road blockage on Greenough Drive from the railroad tracks, and legally each train can block the road up to 10 minutes. The additional amount of train travel will increase more road blockage.

A Forum is scheduled for Tuesday, April 17th from 7:00 to 9:00 pm located at the University Campus, Uri Hall to discuss the coal export issue. Speakers from various parts of the country will attend to discuss their experience with the additional coal trains traveling through their towns and communities. She encourages all neighborhoods that live along the rail line to attend the meeting, and she also requests the Forum to encourage their neighborhoods to attend and get involved.

TRAINING:

Watercolors Computer Training – Erika Foster

Ms. Foster stated the Training Fund account currently has \$1000 and the deadline to utilize it is June 30th. In previous meetings the Forum discussed using the funds for various ideas which include:

1. Computer workshop at Watercolors
2. Mail streaming
3. City website training
4. Other miscellaneous ideas

An email was sent to the Leadership Teams seeking interest from other people who are interested and she received one response. She presented a PowerPoint presentation and discussed what Watercolor Computer Training Center offers. The training can involve anything from neighborhood council meeting postcards, newsletters to website design. The cost is \$75.00 per person for six people for a total of \$450 and if all 18 neighborhoods have a representative who attends, the cost will be \$50.00 per person at \$900.00. The classes are half day workshops at approximately three hours, and they are offered during the week and weekends.

Mr. McMillin asked if the Forum is interested.

A motion was moved to use the Training funds for computer training at Watercolor Computer Training Center.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

A training date will be discussed at a later date.

ONVYA - OUTSTANDING NEIGHBORHOOD VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD:

Ms. Kelly stated the Outstanding Neighborhood Volunteer of the Year Award (ONVYA) recognizes a citizen for an outstanding contribution to their neighborhood. There are so many amazing people to choose from, but unfortunately only one can be chosen.

Last year there was an application for a group of people and it was turned down because the program is not geared towards groups, but that can be changed if the Forum is interested.

She mentioned the award committee's time commitment is three or four hours and will be divided into two meetings and she asked for volunteers. Ms. Deschamps, Mr. McMillin, Mr. Linder and Mr. Neidigh volunteered to be on the award committee.

LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE:

Mr. McMillin said a public discussion was conducted at the fairgrounds and a consultant was there to discuss [three alternatives](#) and they include:

1. Business as usual with minor changes with bus system and routes – This alternative will require no additional operating dollars. Ridership is projected to increase by 4% over existing levels.
2. Service Efficiency Alternative – Ridership is projected to increase by 11% over existing levels.
3. Focus Inward Alternative – Ridership is projected to increase by 14% over existing levels.

Mr. McMillin addressed each alternative and noted citizen concerns.

Mr. Flanery said today's meeting was a joint meeting with the Long Range Transportation Plan and the Community Advisory Committee. They addressed the bus route changes and funding between the three project options.

LEADERSHIP TEAM NOMINATIONS AND INFORMATION (PER BYLAWS, VOTE WILL BE TAKEN NEXT MONTH)

Mr. Guerts stated Ms. McCourt resigned from the Community Forum Leadership Team and they are seeking volunteers to fill the position. Ms. Kelly noted the meetings meet monthly on the second Thursday from 6:30 to 7:30 pm located at the Jack Reidy Conference Room.

Mr. McMillin moved to nominate everyone to serve on the Leadership Team and vote for active members at the next meeting.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

EARTH WEEK – CF AND THE UNIVERSITY

Ms. Foster stated the University Sustainability Office has limited volunteer events planned for Earth Week. There is an opportunity to table at the University's Oval on the Friday, April 20th and mentioned that there will also be a BBQ open to the community at the Forum for Living with the Appropriate Technology (FLAT). They are asking for a small donation and will be having a silent auction, live music and a tour of the facility.

The Missoula Urban Demonstration project is sponsoring an Earth Day celebration on Sunday, April 22nd at Caras Park. A Sustainability Olympics event is planned and they are asking for 10 teams of five people to participate. Organizations are asked to donate \$75 to the event in exchange for a tabling spot. Ms. Foster encourages the neighborhoods to attend both events.

Mr. Neidigh moved to include a tabling event at Caras Park on April 22nd and use \$75 from the Community Forum general budget.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

REPORTS

Staff report – Office of Neighborhoods

Neighborhood Project Grant Funds

Ms. Kelly stated the Office of Neighborhoods received many good grant requests and it is unfortunate that all of them were not selected. The funding allowance is \$20,000 and there was not enough money to fund them all.

Ms. Foster stated there is a draft recommendation from the NPF committee in the packets that was approved by the City Council. There is one change with stipulations for the Hellgate Park award and it includes the word "estimated cost" for their project to be fully funded.

Ms. Kelly stated she is in the process of notifying people that they were awarded a grant. She will prepare contracts for the awarded projects and schedule a meeting to discuss purchase orders and rules of how to obtain the funds.

Ms. Foster was asked questions at the last meeting regarding the inactive neighborhoods and she reported the two inactive neighborhoods are Orchard Homes and East Missoula. They are currently receiving the yearly \$800 because there is a plan to activate the neighborhood councils in the near future. The Northside/Westside is a federated neighborhood council and each council receives \$800 per year.

Ms. Foster stated she has additional information to answer questions about mailings; if anyone is interested contact her after the meeting.

Ms. Kelly said the University District Neighborhood Council met for the first time in four years and Dave Christman was voted the council's representative.

Ms. Kelly thanked the Forum for sending her the get well card and she appreciates it.

Ms. Kelly stated the Bike/Walk bus week is April 28 through May 5th and she asked if the Forum would like to sponsor a table and a Festival of Cycles event again this year. The deadline for flyer printing is approaching and she asked the Forum for suggestions.

Mr. Neidigh stated last year's bike tour was not successful and he suggests eliminating the bike tour and keep the tabling as it was productive.

Mr. Flanery moved that the Forum participates in tabling at the Bike/Walk Bus Week.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Ms. Kelly will send an email out asking for volunteers to table the event.

Branding Committee

Mr. McMillin reminded the Forum to bring their shirts, hats or visors so they are ready to wear at the tabling events. He noted summer softball teams will be starting soon and their uniforms will take priority at the shirt shops and the Forum should place the order soon.

The embroidery work is done by the Eye of the Needle located in the Stockyard complex, and the screen printing will be done by Team Shirts located on Railroad St.

Mr. Guertz asked if a neighborhood patch can be made with the neighborhood logo. Mr. McMillin said he will call and check for pricing information.

Neighborhood Council Reports

Moose Can Gully – Lyle Geurts reported their nature hike and picnic is scheduled for Tuesday, June 5th and a team of fourth graders will be leading the nature hike.

Grant Creek – Bert Lindler – No report

River Road – Jesse Neidigh – No report

University District – Dave Christman reported their first meeting was successful and he thanked Mr. Neidigh and Ms. Kelly for their help. Over 40 people attended and a Leadership Team was elected. There was a presentation regarding the University's Student Neighborhood Ambassadors Program (SNAP), a presentation regarding the University golf course, the Riverfront trail paving materials, the ADU Accessory dwelling unit issue and discussion on the street & traffic issues.

Franklin to the Fort – Mark McMillin reported they met Dustin Delridge, Quality of Life Officer and he presented information and MUD also gave a presentation about their program.

South 39th – Cathy Deschamps reported they continue to discuss stop light options and lowering the speed limit at Brooks St.

Heart of Missoula – Bill Flanery – No report

Captain John Mullan – Steve Schmidt reported they will meet next week to plan their summer picnic and they will discuss a marathon to raise funds for the Mullan Road bike path.

Southgate Triangle – Hans Christensen reported they were awarded a grant to fund a survey for the Bellview Park area. They are also in the process of replacing leadership team members.

Lewis & Clark – Greg Gullickson reported a general meeting is scheduled for April 25th. They will discuss the south campus development proposal and the cities sidewalk project.

Upper Rattlesnake – Doug Grimm reported they will meet on April 29th and will be discussing the Rattlesnake area bus revisions, new leadership team members, the Rattlesnake bear issue and plan an apple picking festival.

City Council Liaison Report – Jon Wilkins absent

Ms. Deschamps will moderate the April meeting.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 8:41 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Elam

Kelly Elam
City Clerk Office