



Rose Park Neighborhood Council - Leadership Team Meeting Minutes

RPNC LT Meeting – January 21, 2015 - 7:00 p.m.

Hal Fraser Conference Room (City Council Chambers / Missoula Redevelopment Agency, 140 W Pine)

In Attendance: Gwen Jones (RPNC LT), John Pilsworth (RPNC LT), Clare Wood (RPNC LT), Julie Devlin (RPNC LT), Michael Painter (RPNC LT), Corena Maurer (Neighborhood Assistant).

Others Present: Genevieve Jessop Marsh & Patrick Long (Garden City Harvest), Derek Smith (RPNC, Nature's Best), Jennifer Bernosky (Republic Services).

A meeting of the Rose Park Neighborhood Council Leadership Team was held on Wednesday, January 21st, in the Hal Fraser Conference Room (Missoula City Council Chambers / Missoula Redevelopment Agency @ 140 W Pine), starting at 7:00 p.m..

Introductions

Co-Chair Gwen Jones called the meeting to order. Those in attendance introduced themselves. (Painter blew a kiss to a passing RPNC LT groupie outside.)

Ivy Street Community Garden

Genevieve, Derek & Patrick handed out a tentative plot plan & timetable for the Ivy Street Community Garden. Garden City Harvest is in the process of finalizing the appropriate permits (sign, fence, ROW encroachment) with the help of the City's Parks & Rec Department. Derek (and Nature's Best) will be contacting local businesses with whom they work soliciting donations of materials and, as appropriate, other assistance. Derek will contact RPNC LT after that effort is complete with a list of materials or assistance still needed – the Leadership Team will contact other neighborhood residents who have expressed interest in supporting the garden project to solicit additional materials or assistance.

During the days of actual construction of the garden beds – which will include use of heavy machinery - volunteers won't be allowed on site. Other projects – native garden planting, some soil moving – will be scheduled for a large group work day (and volunteers solicited). Those days are tentatively scheduled, depending on weather & completion of large work, for late March or early April.

Additional aspects of the garden project were discussed – signage, picnic table(s), fencing, native plants (outside the fenced-in plots), developing a relationship with the students (& faculty) at Willard School.

Gwen will coordinate a meeting with Willard School faculty members who have expressed interest in supporting & making use of the garden in their curriculum (Carolyn Grimaldi, Stephanie Wing, one other instructor). Possible garden projects for student involvement might include artwork for the garden, assisting with construction of a shed.

Gwen offered the assistance of the Boy Scout troop she works with – given advance notice.

Genevieve notified RPNC that this year's "kick-off" for GCH's other Community Gardens is scheduled for April 11th. (Ivy Street Community Gardens is scheduled to be opened & operating in the spring of 2016.)

Public Comment

Jennifer Bernosky, with Republic Services in Missoula, discussed Republic's efforts to develop more support for their city-wide recycling services. Jen is attending Neighborhood Council Leadership Team meetings soliciting comments & input on what Missoula residents would like to see in a recycling service. The more people interested in participating, the lower the cost of the service. Republic Services is in the process of developing more public education tools regarding the service as well. Jen also discussed the challenges of recycling glass in Missoula.

Rose Park Neighborhood General Meeting Planning

Painter had put this on the agenda to foster discussion about holding a general neighborhood council meeting – and possibly elections. (The current Leadership Team was elected in March of 2014 – Painter was under the <mistaken> impression that LT terms were, per the RPNC By-Laws, of 1-year duration. LT terms are, in fact, of 2-year duration.)

It was generally decided that a spring meeting was not necessary, as our last general meeting was in September. We will plan on holding another general neighborhood council meeting in the fall.

LT members discussed possible venues for upcoming meetings – previous general meetings have been held at the Lutheran Church (on Brooks), the Unity Church (South Ave) and St. Anthony's Church (217 Tremont).

Corena reported that MCPS recently agreed to allow use of their facilities for neighborhood council meetings at no charge. (Willard & Washington are the only MCPS schools in the neighborhood, though Paxson is across the street from the boundaries.)

Community Forum Report

Painter reported on the October meeting of Community Forum – presenters included:

- Doug Harby, with City of Missoula's Public Works Department. Doug discussed the city's sidewalk replacement program & how sidewalks are prioritized.
- Mike Haynes, Director of the City's Development Services Department, discussed the Hillview Way Reconstruction project.
- John O'Connor discussed the Missoula County Parks & Trails Bond Measure scheduled to be on the November ballot.

Clare Wood reported on the November Community Forum meeting. Presenters included:

- Wade Humphries discussed floodplain administration throughout the city & other aspects of code compliance.
- Jane Kelly & Corena Maurer (Office of Neighborhoods) and Katherine Brady (ASUM Neighborhood Ambassadors) gave a slide show presentation on Office of Neighborhood projects.

December's Community Forum meeting consisted of the annual Community Forum Christmas party.

Clare also reported that Jane Kelly had asked all Missoula's neighborhood councils to (a) write up a history of what they considered to be their NC's "successes", and (b) come up with at least 4 projects in their "vision" for the next few years. (The Office of Neighborhoods is working with the Community Forum's Leadership Team on those projects as part of the process of updating the Office of Neighborhood's work plan & tracking the accomplishments of the new full-time position in the office.)

Painter, as a really, really, really old (and really, really, really "chatty") guy, agreed to draft a list of RPNC's past projects & "successes."

General discussion ensued about "vision" projects for RPNC. It was generally agreed that the LT's vision would include:

- Attempt to work with MCPS to determine if a more appropriate name for the park at Willard School can be assigned.
- Develop an annual general neighborhood council meeting as a "signature" event for the neighborhood.
- Work with Missoula's Rose Society to complete their rose garden work as part of the Rose Park Master Plan.
- Develop & implement a maintenance / improvement plan for "Triangle Park" (200 block of Mount Avenue).

Office of Neighborhoods Report

Corena discussed the Outstanding Neighborhood Volunteer of the Year Award – and encouraged RPNC to submit a nomination if they have someone they would like to recognize.

Corena also reported that the Office of Neighborhoods (Jane & Corena) were planning on going door-to-door in the area(s) near Missoula's traffic circles which are not currently "adopted" (have neighbors agreeing to maintain those traffic circles). There was some discussion about which traffic circles in the Rose Park neighborhood had not been "adopted." Painter provided a copy of that information (appended below) to Clare Wood – RPNC LT will work with Corena to try to better publicize the need for assistance with maintaining of the traffic circles.

Traffic circles in Rose Park Neighborhood Council which are not currently "adopted" are those at the following intersections: Tremont & Woodford, Blaine & Crosby, Edith & Florence, Crosby & Ford.

New Business

Clare reported that she had contacted the Missoula Public Library to discuss the "Book Exchange Boxes" – MPL informed her that they have no affiliation with any such program. Per RPNC LT discussion, there are a couple in Rose Park NC – one near Edith & Beckwith (by Loyola) and one on Mount Avenue (near MFD Fire Station #2).

Julie Devlin discussed a couple of improvements she would like to recommend for the Willard School park – specifically, installation of a "doggy fountain" and putting up a light on the power pole near the lacrosse goal. Those projects will need to be approved by MCPS, as the park is on their property.

Next Meeting

It was generally agreed to schedule another LT meeting in March – a tentative date of Wednesday, March 11th, was set, pending room availability. (Corena will check on the availability of the Hal Fraser Room.)

Summary / Minutes submitted by Painter.