

**Farviews – Pattee Canyon Neighborhood Council  
General Meeting  
Minutes**

**Thursday, April 5, 2018**

**6:00pm Pizza, 6:30 Meeting**

**Community Room UM Lewis and Clark Village  
3000 S Higgins Ave (Across from Agnes Ave)**

**6:00 PM Social:** Pizza from Bridge Pizza was provided by Farviews – Pattee Canyon Neighborhood Council and the Office of Neighborhoods.

**6:30 PM Neighborhood Council meeting commences:** The general meeting commenced at 6:30 PM.

**Introductions:** Ray Aten introduced the other members of the leadership team present (PJ DelHomme, Wayne Hiatt, Mary Marry, and John O'Connor), Jane Kelly (Office of Neighborhoods), and John DiBari (Ward 4 City Council representative).

**Approval of September 7, 2017 general meeting minutes:** The minutes were approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**Budget and expenditures report for Farviews-Pattee Canyon Neighborhood**

**Council:** Ray Aten noted that the Farviews-Pattee Canyon neighborhood Council fund balance was \$712.76 on March 13, 2018 and this balance would be reduced due to the expense of printing and mailing the postcards, purchase of the pizza, Igloo water jug, and paper supplies.

**Ward 4 City Council Representative Forum:** John DiBari was invited to speak about current city issues of interest to him and to answer questions. John spoke about his interest as chair of the City Council Land Use and Planning committee, particularly affordable housing. Concerns and questions posed by the attendees included encroachments on park easements, development of a specific site on Simmons Drive, the lack of a left turn signal for left turning North and South bound traffic at the intersection of SW Higgins/39<sup>th</sup> Street and Russel St./Hillview Way, parking congestion on Westview Dr., and the need for traffic calming on Whitaker Drive.

**A Vision for Ninkpata and Whitaker Parks:** PJ DelHomme presented his vision for Ninkpata Park: what he has learned about the land that can be incorporated into the park, and his discussions with Donna Gaukler of the Parks and Recreation Department about how to develop a neighborhood and Parks and Rec. plan for both Whitaker and Ninkpata parks.

PJ requested that five to eight residents of the neighborhood volunteer to serve on a working group that would meet with a Parks and Rec. landscape architect to develop a Master Plan for Whitaker and Ninkpata parks. He noted that the working group would probably meet for 60-90 minutes, once a month for nine months to a year to develop the plans and present them to the neighborhood for approval. Sean Howell, John McGree, Keith Thurlkill, and PJ DelHomme volunteered for the committee. Cathy Nolan was suggested as another member or possibly neighbors with property abutting Whitaker and/or Ninkpata parks.

**Fate of Whitaker Park's USFS Radio Building:** John O'Connor presented an overview of the Neighborhood Council's Parks Master Plan, Whitaker Park's recent history and new playground, and the Parks Advisory Board's view of the building. He noted that renovation of the deteriorating building would be costly and the building will be of limited value as a Park building. No adaptive reuse for the building as a park structure has been identified despite neighborhood efforts dating back to 2005. Keith Thurlkill presented his research on the history of the building. His sources included photographs and printed materials from National Museum of Forest Service History, the Mansfield Library Archives and Special Collections, the Missoula County Records Center, and a variety of online sources. He noted that all that have viewed his findings remark that it's a historically significant building and they wish there was money to preserve the building in a historical context.

After discussion the following motion was presented: The Farviews-Pattee Canyon Neighborhood Council moves that the present location of the USFS Building at Whitaker Park be used for a park related purpose such as a shelter or park equipment and that the building be either moved to a location where it can be used for historical interpretation or that the building be deconstructed. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

**Nomination and Election of Leadership Team Members:** Jane Kelly, Office of Neighborhoods, noted that Cathy Nolan is the only member of the present leadership team whose term is not up for renewal and Jane solicited nominations. The following people nominated themselves: Ray Aten, Wayne Hiatt, Mary Marry, PJ DelHomme, John O'Connor and Julie Aldegarie. All were elected by unanimous voice vote.

**Public Comment about items not on agenda:** There were requests that the next neighborhood council meeting have presentations addressing the neighborhood deer population and Neighborhood Watch.

**Announcements and Adjournment:** There were no announcements. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.