

# University Neighborhood Council Leadership Team Meeting Minutes

**Date:** May 7, 2019

**Time:** 6:30 pm-8:30 pm

**Location:** Lewis and Clark Village Community Room, 3000 S. Higgins Ave., Missoula

**Members Present:** Julie Stephenson, Bryce Rowe, Jennifer Copley, Jeff Birkby, Peter Drakos, Rick Caron, Mike Jackupcak, Dori Gilels

**Others Present:** Jane Kelly (Office of Neighborhoods), Lynne Hanson (graphic artist), Jordan Lyons, Director, UM Off-Campus Renter Center and Neighborhood Ambassadors, Imaad Hossain (AmeriCorps/Vista), Abbigail Belcher (UM Student Senate President), Ethan Hanley (UM Student Senate Vice President).

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Meeting minutes were reviewed from the March 6 leadership team meeting and the April general meeting. Jordan Lyons asked to add an addendum to the minutes that a small grant had been both requested and *supported* by the general meeting attendees. Also asked to add to the minutes that \$500 had been approved for snow shovels. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously to accept the meeting minutes as amended.

## BUDGET

Peter Drakos reviewed the budget. We have about \$456 remaining in our budget for this fiscal year (which ends in June). But we also have \$300 carryover. We discussed ways to use up the remaining funds in this fiscal year. One possibility is to use them for more benches and work on the Jeanette Rankin Park. We will discuss this more at the June meeting.

## COMMUNITY FORUM REPORT

No one represented the University District at the last community forum meeting. Bryce has volunteered to attend the May Community Forum.

## ASUM AMBASSADORS REPORT

Jordan Lyon presented his report. The “Party in the Park” had a good turnout. It was held the same week as the University District General meeting, which seemed like a wise move. Lots of young families attended. Refreshments, lawn games, other activities. The event was held at Bonner Park, which may have worked better than blocking off a street. Postcards about the

event were sent to the UM residence halls, as well as University District residents. The cost for mailing the postcards to the dorms was about \$500.

The Ambassadors have been discussing what sort of social event to have in the fall.

## **OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOODS REPORT**

The Office of Neighborhoods is now located at 400 Ryman.

The neighborhood bus tour was a great success. Neighborhoods visited on the three-hour tour included Miller Creek, Moose Can Gully, Linda Vista, and 39<sup>th</sup> Street. Several members of the University District Leadership Team were on the tour and spoke highly of the tour speakers and organization work done by Jane and Karen.

A celebration will be held on May 21<sup>st</sup> in support of the volunteers who maintain all the traffic calming circles in Missoula. The celebration will include free food, as well as plant giveaways and shared stories. Jane reminded the team members that grants of up to \$150 each are available for purchasing plants and supplies to maintain and enhance the traffic calming circles.

Dori mentioned that she is interested in exploring connections between the Bancroft Ponds (behind Pattee Creek Market) and the surrounding neighborhoods. She will keep conversation going with adjacent neighborhoods and see if there's a role for the University District in the open spaces and parks around the Bancroft Ponds.

## **NEW LOGO DESIGN for Univ District**

Lynne Hanson, a graphic designer who recently moved to the University District, presented some updated logo ideas, based on the initial ideas discussed at the General Meeting held in April. Lynne presented four different logo ideas for the University District, which were discussed by all leadership meeting attendees. We hope to have the final logo design finished soon so it could be used on the new Bonner Park signage that is being funded with a recent small grant awarded by the city of Missoula. Lynne will present the final designs to the leadership team at the June meeting. The logo computer files will be housed in the Office of Neighborhoods.

## **NEIGHBORHOOD PRIORITIES**

Jennifer presented a summary of prioritized neighborhood concerns that came out of the University District general meeting held in April. The top four issues were street lighting; care of urban forests; snow removal; and traffic safety/routing.

The leadership team discussed the list of neighborhood priorities, and how our team could act to ensure that we keep moving forward with ideas and projects to deal with these priorities. We will spend more time discussing possible actions during our June meeting. We also discussed

sending a letter to our city council members spotlighting our top neighborhood priorities, and asking them to keep these priorities on their radar. The contents of this letter will be discussed at the June meeting.

Peter Drakos discussed the ADA access issues related to the renovation of the Higgins Street Bridge. There is concern that the redesign will remove the stairway that goes down from the bridge to Caras Park. Peter said that much of the design is not up to ADA standards for the slope. He asked that the University District Leadership team keep this issue on their radar.

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next leadership team meeting on June 5, 2019.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:40pm

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