

July 2008 Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 9, 2008, 7:00 PM

Chairman, Matt Baldassin called the meeting to order at 7:10. Those present:

- Matt Baldassin
- Carol Brodie
- Hans Christiansen
- Helen Kolokotronis
- Michael Regnier
- Ryan Sutherland
- Carole Ulrigg

Read through minutes from previous meeting - Ms. Ulrigg made a motion to approve the minutes and Mr. Christiansen seconded. Unanimous vote to approve.

No treasurer's report received from the Neighborhood Council Office.

Park Pet Update - Mr. Baldassin got a call from the company - it is probably a month out. Ms. Ulrigg mentioned having a "name the pet" contest.

Midtown Association - Mr. Baldassin spoke to one of the leaders of the Midtown Association (Mr. Winger) and they will be sending out invoices next month.

Ice Cream Social - Wrong date on the postcard - Mr. Baldassin will contact LaNette and see if she can send something out with a correction and if she can help us get a correction in the Missoulian. Mr. Sutherland will post something on the website. Mr. Baldassin said he contacted Dairy Queen and Baskin Robbins - no ice cream donations. Dairy Queen is willing to give some gift certificates (Mr. Baldassin will pick them up). Ms. Ulrigg will bring scoops and a table to dish the ice cream, napkins and spoons, small bottles of water. Mr. Baldassin will pick up the dry ice, Ms. Ulrigg's cooler and the ice cream (4 vanilla, 2 chocolate, 2 strawberry, 2 neopolitan) on Saturday around 1pm. Mr. Sutherland will bring sign up sheets.

New Business - Ms. Ulrigg spoke today to the new officer in charge of suicide prevention, Mr. Carl Rossten, and Ms. Ulrigg suggested that the NC host a symposium on suicide prevention. Mr. Rossten could be our guest speaker. Her suggestion would be to hold such a symposium in later October. It would take place in the evening (7-9 pm) in conjunction with Russell School (similar to the symposium on Meth). Ms. Ulrigg would like to try and apply for a small grant to pay for it. Mr. Baldassin's concern: is this going to be very beneficial to the SGT? We don't have a lot of resources or time and so should we spend what we have this way? Perhaps it would be better to try and get some other neighborhood councils involved. Ms. Ulrigg mentioned that he has been having some trouble getting cooperation with the city. Mr. Sutherland suggested that we contact our city officials and put it in their hands. Mr. Baldassin made a motion to table this issue until the city has a chance to get involved, Mr. Sutherland seconded it and all voted.

Mr. Christiansen asked Mr. Baldassin to comment on his conversation with Donna Gauckler of the Parks Dept about Bellevue Park. She confirmed that there is no money available for developing Bellevue Park at this time. She was open to the idea that the neighborhood would have all kinds of input on what happens in the park. The following email is from Donna on May 23 to Chairman Mr. Baldassin:

At this time, I have no reason to believe we will have funding for park development in FY10. We would like to develop the park in the next few years, but unless we find a funding stream, I do not know how this will happen.

If the only improvements we make were grass and irrigation with a minimum amount of park signage, a bench or two and picnic tables...(no shelters, playgrounds, etc) we would still need to plan on about \$75,000 per acre minimum. I base this number on our last three projects.

I want to reiterate with the neighborhood, the Parks Department has made NO decisions regarding park development. Our standard practice, once a funding stream is determined, is to host a neighborhood planning process for the park. We have included the park in our CIP planning as the citizens have requested that we do so and because this park is listed as needed in the Urban Area Master Park Plan.

Ms. Ulrigg moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 and Mr. Sutherland seconded.