

**Moose Can Gully (MCG) and South 39th Joint Neighborhood Council Leadership Team Meeting Minutes
April 7, 2021 4:00 PM, Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

MCG Present: Carol Garlington, Betsy Weber, Janet Van Dyke

MCG Absent: John Nugent is no longer on team

South 39th Present: Ruth Burke, Dave Bell

South 39th Absent: Jeff Stevens-Chair, David Touchette, Paul Kilzer

City Staff Present: Kelly Elam, Program Assistant

City Staff Absent: Colin Woodrow Neighborhood Coordinator (at another meeting)

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM by Carol Garlington.

1. Roll Call and Introductions

John Nugent is unable to continue due to illness.

2. January 27, 2020 meeting minutes

Ruth Burke moved to approve the minutes as written; second by Dave Bell. Unanimous approval. It was noted that, due to Covid 19, activities in these minutes have been largely suspended.

3. Neighborhood Clean-Up Day—Preparations/Assignments

Discussion occurred about Clean-Up Day. April 24th date will conflict with the Riverbank Run. Janet described historic difficulties with neighbor participation in non-urgent causes. Carol noted that the intent of Clean-Up Day was to build excitement within neighborhoods.

Decisions:

We will do a combined MCG/So 39th Neighborhoods clean-up.

Each of us will bring additional volunteers.

Garland Park on 23rd Street will be our meeting and ending location.

Meeting time 12:00 noon on April 24, 2021 (Saturday). End time expected to be 2:00pm.

From there we will assign teams to various trails or areas of need. Parks and trails were suggested.

“Free Dump” cards will be available for compostable trash.

Assignments:

Carol will get maps of neighborhoods to help with assignments (**Betsy** will provide electronic copies to Carol)

Kelly will coordinate with Republic to have a dumpster and trash bags at Garland Park. Also acquire gloves.

Dave will post event information on Next Door to recruit participants.

Carol will get info for sandwich boards printed.

Dave will call Jeff Stevens and either get the sandwich boards or ask Jeff to place the signs for South 39th.

Betsy will get sandwich boards from Janet and place them for MCG.

4. Disposition of Neighborhood Funds

Kelly reported that funds are available for neighborhood projects but must be spent by June. Neighborhood plans for spending must be communicated to the Office of Neighborhoods (Kelly) by May 30th. Janet noted that the most urgent need for MCG is sandwich boards. Not having the current purchase price, a decision was made to meet again by Zoom on May 12 to discuss. Unspent funds can be directed to neighborhood grants.

5. Community Forum Report

Carol gave a brief report to be followed up at a later meeting. Several Community Forum meetings have occurred. The River Masterplan was presented, and discussion occurred about the Neighborhood Council role. Neighborhoods serve as two-way conduit between neighbors and City Council. There has been concern about the responsiveness of City Council. More neighbor participation is needed in Neighborhood Councils. A suggestion was made to put recruitment notice on Next Door. (Who will do?)

6. Missoula Neighborhoods Report

- a. Kelly reported that the Office of Neighborhood has moved back to their earlier space. Offices are being refurbished and redistributed. Staff will often be working remotely and the best way to communicate is via email. Final office location has not yet determined.
- b. Kelly noted that there is wide variation in different Neighborhood bylaws. Bylaws are being reviewed with the intent to make them more standardized and to give Neighborhoods more leniency in fund allocations.
- c. Kelly reported that mailing lists are quite outdated with hundreds of mailings coming back as undeliverable. Office of Neighborhoods is working to get an updated list. In the meantime, Kelly advised that notices not be mailed.
- d. Kelly reported that a “refresh” of the Neighborhoods website is planned.

7. Public comment on non-agenda items

Ruth asked if there is a long-term plan for parks. The park at 39th Street and Paxson was discussed. It would be helpful to review any current plan before making suggestions for improvement. Kelly suggested she consult Parks & Rec.

Betsy asked about the plan for work being done on the Higgins Avenue bridge. Kelly referred her to Engage Missoula for this information.

8. Announcements (none)

Adjourn: Move to adjourn by Betsy, 2nd by Ruth. Unanimous agreement. Meeting adjourned at 5:10 by Carol.

Next meeting: Zoom May 12, 2021 at 4PM.

To be discussed: MCG Sandwich board purchase, Community Forum details.

Minutes submitted by Betsy Weber - Secretary