

University Neighborhood Council Leadership Team Agenda

Date: October 5, 2021

1. **Introductions and Roll Call** With attendees joining via Zoom, the meeting was called to order at 6:32 PM. In attendance was chairperson, Darcy Caron; Treasurer, Bryce Rowe, Secretary, Jennifer Copley; Office of Neighborhoods Interim Director, Kelly Elam; and members Brad Cederberg and Rick Caron. From the University of Montana those in attendance included Lacey Zinke, Kat Cowley, and Faith Sullivan. Lacey is a Director of Fraternity and Sorority Involvement and guides students in learning how to collaborate and build community relationships. Katy replaces Jordan Lyons in a campus agency that helps students meet basic needs. Jordan works some nights for Missoula County and can no longer attend University District Leadership meetings.
2. **Approval of September 7, 2021, Minutes** After review, minutes were approved on a motion made by Rick and seconded by Bryce.
3. **Presentations** None Scheduled
4. **Items for Discussion**

University Entrance: Rick said that the entry to the University area badly needs upgrading to welcome all to one of the top 100 universities in the nation. Via email, Dori communicated about UM plans for redesigning the entrance to the University area and, possibly, including Jeannette Rankin on the back burner of that plan.

Bryce suggested that the Heart of Missoula Neighborhood Council could coordinate with the University District Leadership Team and the University of Montana to develop suitable entrances to the University from both the north and south. Kelly, however, reminded members that the Heart of Missoula team includes only four members. She explained that proposed new bylaws will allow businesses to join leadership teams if leadership teams want their involvement. All leadership teams need to review those proposed new by-laws.

Darcy said she will reach out to invite the corridor design company to our November meeting to discuss its plans for the Madison Street Corridor.

Grant Training: Jennifer, Brad, and Dori expressed willingness to work on drafting grant proposals for addition of pickleball courts at Bonner Park. Each will join Darcy in attending city training for grant writing.

Leaf Raking by UM Athletes: Rick Caron reports that last year students raked about 35 yards in one day. An improvement this year involves a composting company that will come by this year to pick up waste. However, Rick's UM Athletic Department contact says there are limited numbers of athletes available to provide community service this year. The University has available 30 rakes and approximately the same number of shovels.

Rick added that last year we generated a list of people who need help with raking due to age and frailty. In winter, students were assigned to specific houses. We also need a

feedback loop, according to Rick, so we can actually get feedback on which students showed up to rake and shovel. Brad suggested informing Lacey of dates that we want to work with UM students. Faith suggested that we could get many additional volunteers.

Collaborations with UM Greeks and Neighborhood Council: Members asked Lacey if Greek houses would like to get involved. Lacey responded that Greeks may be interested. Chapter presidents have been told that University cleanup will be on the Sunday afternoon, October 17. Lacey explained that all students involved in Greek life have service requirements and are excited to contribute. She and Rick exchanged phone numbers for future planning. Lacey also promised to talk to other UM folks on how to show more pride in UM and the neighborhood.

Lacey Zinke then introduced Faith Sullivan. Faith is a junior and President of the women's advocacy group for the sororities on campus.

Neighborhood-Student Communication: Darcy Caron explained that Neighborhood Ambassadors no longer exist but expressed a desire to have continuing connections with UM students who can share UM campus events and concerns with the leadership team. Rick noted that the largest portion of our neighborhood is the UM campus, and that he wants them involved. Darcy invited students present to future neighborhood meetings, asking them to think about ways to collaborate in the future.

On November 6, Greek houses on campus begin their annual food collection competition against MSU. Dates are not final, but the 6th to the 20th of November are tentative dates.

One large Greek house, *Kappa Kappa Gamma's* John R. Toole House was on suspension for low numbers. The house is presently empty and there are no plans to use the house. Lacey will keep us informed about what will happen to that house, and believes the upkeep is ongoing.

Kat Sullivan has worked with the Renter Center since 2017. She wants to figure out how to keep connections and involvement. Kat said she is happy to attend our meetings and stay involved.

Darcy said that neighbors appreciate the Sunday sweeps after football games and added thanks for the neighborhood cleanups. Jennifer expressed appreciation for the cleanup of pumpkins. Due to her late hiring, Kat said she may not be able to get some previous services organized this year. Bryce added his appreciation for the block party students organized in the past and he hopes a similar activity will occur this year. Jennifer thanked Lacey, Kat, and Faith for adding the student perspective. Darcy followed up with a suggestion that we all collaborate on an April cleanup.

Newsletter: Darcy said that it is time to get out a news report for the neighborhood, each member contributing a paragraph. We will include a neighborhood survey in the newsletter.

Kelly said we may use a city email list. In response to a question from Brad, she explained that the list includes only people who have signed up for, either at a public meeting or on the Missoula city website. There is a general list serve for each neighborhood.

Darcy suggested that we post our letter on Neighborhoods app, as well. Brad suggested and Darcy supported the use of Google Forms for our survey. Rick will do a blurb on UM leaf raking and snow removal. Lacey was asked to write a short piece about her connections, services, or ideas. Darcy will add any other items that may arise from the city website projects underway and the "Can the Cats" drive. Members were asked to get information to Darcy by the last week October, and Darcy will get out the email in the first week of November.

5. **Community Forum Report** Kelly reported that Emily Harris Shear talked about city plans for housing the poor and the affordable housing trust fund. Other items discussed included the city's growth policy, and recreational marijuana recommendations from the state.
6. **Missoula Neighborhoods Report** Kelly reported that we can find a new map system on city website that will include wards, a new logo, new website updates, how-to-guides, and handbooks. Some links on the website do not work yet because when Internet Explorer ended several links were posted on Internet Explorer.

A person on Third and Myrtle near the Hip Strip was almost hit by a car. Business owners complained, and Public Works sought a grant to pay for improvements including pedestrian safety improvements, bike racks, tables, and a new fire hydrant. A tree planting project planted 20 trees, and another neighborhood will get 20 tree plantings next year. There will be a Candidates Forum on Wednesday, upcoming for Wards 1 and 2. MCAT will stream the forum. There will be no Community Forum in November and December, but meetings will resume in January.

With other members adding appreciation, Jennifer thanked Kelly for the brevity of her report.

7. **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items** No public comment.
8. **Announcements** The first Tuesday in November is Election Day. Consequently, members agreed to reschedule the November meeting to 6:30 PM on November 9.
9. **Adjournment** The motion to adjourn was made by Kat and seconded by Rick.