

University Neighborhood Council Leadership Team Minutes

December 7, 2021

6:30 pm

Virtual Zoom

1. **Introductions and Roll Call** The meeting was called to order at 6:33 PM with co-chairs Darcy Caron and Dori Gilels present. Also in attendance were Bryce Rowe, Treasurer; Jennifer Copley, Secretary; and Kelly Elam from the Missoula Neighborhoods. After solving some connection issues, Rick Caron joined the meeting a few minutes later.
2. **Approval of Minutes for November 9, 2021** With two corrections to be inserted by Kelly Elam, the minutes from the November 9, meeting were approved. Dori moved and Darcy seconded the motion to approve the minutes.
3. **Items Discussed**
 - **Bonner Park Survey** So far neither Jennifer, Dori, nor Darcy have had access to the results of the Bonner Park Survey. Darcy said that she will email Brad tonight asking him to give us results so we can begin to pull out the data and start thinking about what we could do for Bonner Park in the grant writing process of early 2022. Dori thanked Kelly for sending out the email with the survey. At the January meeting we hope to be ready to brainstorm ideas for Bonner Park improvements that might be supported by competitive City grants.
 - **Grant Writing Plan** Kelly is uncertain that there will be grant training this month because some issues must still be worked out between the City Council and the Office of Neighborhoods. Kelly urged us to start working with the city agencies which might be involved with the grant. Sometimes city agencies, Kelly said, do not feel “in the planning loop.” Dori reminded those present that Jennifer and she walked through ideas with two officials from City Parks and Recreation this summer.
 - **Snow Shoveling** Rick Caron reported that four households asked for help: three elders and one resident with physical challenges. Fifteen UM students from three sororities are ready to go on with the shoveling after the next snowstorm, probably Wednesday, December 8. Members thanked Rick for his work on the shoveling project.
4. **Community Forum Report** Neither Bryce nor Jennifer could attend the webinar. There will be no meeting in December, but Community Forum will reconvene in January. Kelly will correct the link with Bryce to make sure he gets the notice.
5. **UM Representatives Report** Both Lacey Zinke and Kat Crowley have been working with Rick on the raking project.
6. **Missoula Neighborhoods Report** Kelly Elam reported that applications for Colin’s job, Program Specialist 11 have closed, and interviews will begin soon. The city hopes to have a new program specialist by January. All dates will be posted online. Kelly also reported that

the Missoula Midtown Association hopes to develop a Midtown Master Plan and is looking for funding. Members can read the Association's goals at <https://missoulamidtown.com/masterplan/>.

Rick Caron pointed out that Engage Missoula is also asking for comment. Rick says he will post his concerns about the dog park along the Clark Fork Corridor. Rick says that the presence of E-Coli has been found in Jacob's Island testing and fears the E-Coli may be related to the runoff of animal waste from Bark Park. Rick asks members to support him by posting their comments, also.

Dori added that we should think about ways to support Engage Missoula within the university neighborhood. Darcy and Dori agreed that we could post a reminder about Engage Missoula in our next newsletter. Dori said we should also pay close attention to the developments on the Missoulian's property. Both Rick and Dori expressed sadness over the verbal harassment endured by a prospective developer of the property and his family, while noting the developer's own troubling comments.

In response to a question from Jennifer, Darcy said she had contacted Jeff Smith of WGM group to see if he could attend our December meeting. Jeff did not respond to Darcy's inquiry, but she will ask him back soon.

7. **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items** Dori will step down from the leadership team as of January. Dori will continue her involvement in projects she has committed to support but will seek other avenues of involvement in local affairs. Dori promises to keep us informed. Jennifer and Darcy thanked Dori for her service, and Dori expressed appreciation for Darcy's leadership. Bryce announced that he will also resign because he has moved to the Southgate Triangle District.
8. **Announcements** With two resignations, Darcy encouraged us to pound the pavement to get more people involved in the University District Neighborhood Council. Dori reminded us that we need to look at proposed bylaw changes and finalize them in January. Members wished both Dori and Bryce good luck for the future.

The next meeting was scheduled for January 4, 2022.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 PM.