

Lower Rattlesnake Neighborhood General Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 15, 2022

6:00 PM

Missoula Public Library, Cooper Room B

5:30 Pizza from the Bridge & socializing

6:00 Introduction by Danny Tenenbaum, LRLT

- 1) There was a motion to approve the September 8, 2019 General Meeting Minutes. That was seconded and approved.
- 2) Q&A with Jennifer Savage, Heidi West (Ward 1 reps): Most of the discussion centered around the renegotiation of train horn installations at the Madison and Taylor St. rail crossings. Since Montana Rail Link was sold to BNSF the city is having to get a new agreement for installation and funding of these warning horns.
- 3) Update on Prescott – Peter Lesica (LRLT) read e-mails from the Missoula County School Board about plans for disposition of the Prescott School, which is now empty. There is a MCPS facilities committee that is now looking into all the school board holdings.
- 4) Robert Schultz also reported on the installation of train horns at both crossings.
- 5) Jeff Gicklhorn of Missoula Parks and Rec presented updates on Lower Rattlesnake parks and open space units. In Greenough Park there are still plans to install a vault toilet near the picnic shelter. They are proceeding with removal of Norway Maples and encouraging cottonwood invasion on the eastside of the park. The westside commuter trail will be patched and coated in spring. On Mount Jumbo the elk have moved in early; people are encouraged to sign up as “elk spotters”. Winter Mt. Jumbo closures will be December 1, 2022. The Backbone Trail will be closed November 17-18, 2022 to allow for pile burning. The sheep grazing to control weeds will continue next spring/summer. On Waterworks Hill, the new trailhead is complete, with native plants added before the weather turned cold and snowy.
- 6) There were updates by Nancy Heil on the Rattlesnake Creek Watershed Group and their recent activities. You can be added to their newsletter list that includes future activities and issues by going to:<https://www.rattlesnakecreekwatershedgroup.org>
- 7) Bob Giordano updated the work of the Upper/Lower Rattlesnake transportation committee. He passed out a list of project priorities to improve streets and trails. He

reported on paving projects from summer 2022 for Greenough Drive and Lolo Street. Anyone can join the listserv for periodic updates by contacting rattlesnaketransportation@missoula-neighborhoods.org

- 8) Kalina Pritchard, Missoula Neighborhoods, conducted elections for the Lower Rattlesnake Leadership Team. We elected the following seven candidates for two-year terms: Peter Lesica, Robert Schultz, Kathy Tonnessen, Joan Bessac-Steelquist, Marta Meengs, Ken Brown and ??
- 9) Peter Lesica presented a proposal to be submitted to the Missoula Neighborhoods for their large grant competition. One of the neighbors will request that a new “Gateway to the Rattlesnake” wooden sign be installed on Van Buren. Cost is \$1600 and this proposal was unanimously approved by members of the LRLT and others.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM