

**Community Forum Meeting
Meeting Minutes
May 22, 2008
7:00 p.m. City Council Chambers
Moderator, Carol Elsen**

Captain John Mullan – Kathie Snodgrass (Rep)
Emma Dickinson – Absent
FarViews/Pattee Canyon – Ray Aten (Rep)
Franklin to the Fort – Jon Salmonson (Alt)
Grant Creek – Don Nicholson (Rep)
Heart of Missoula – Absent
Lewis & Clark – Greg Gullickson (Rep)
Lower Rattlesnake – Carol Elsen (Rep)
Miller Creek – Absent
Moose Can Gully – Lyle Guerts (Alt)
Northside – Absent
Riverfront – Melissa Schmitt (Rep)
Rose Park – Absent
South 39th – Jeff Stevens (Rep)
Southgate Triangle – Hans Christiansen (Rep)
University District – John Snively (Rep)
Upper Rattlesnake – Jan Hoem (Rep)
Westside – Absent

City Council Liaison – Jon Wilkins
Neighborhood Liaison – LaNette Diaz

Others Present

Quorum

Quorum is present.

Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Christiansen motioned for the adoption of the Agenda. *Unidentified male* seconded. The Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

None

Presentations

Intro to Complete Streets–Jon Salmonson (Refer to attached documents)

Mr. Salmonson indicated this presentation is to inform CF and is available on line. A national organization of a coalition with similar interests has formed. F2F has been promoting this infrastructure plan and has received a grant to fund an intern to work on the project. The intern has been hired and is getting geared up to start. There is a lot of work left to do in the City.

In discussing demographics, there will be a doubling of the older population in the future. This will be a profound difference in the way the neighborhood looks and the way the city operates, there will many

fewer people out driving, they will be seeking other modes of transportation. Safe routes to school is an active group which addresses the young population of which less and less are walking to school. Talked about the inadequacies of streets currently: incomplete as far as having curbs, gutters and sidewalks; they are not wheelchair accessible; there is no room for bikes or pedestrians. We have ordinances in place, but not in a package. All new subdivisions have specifications for curbs, gutters, and sidewalks, crosswalks, etc. in older parts of town it goes by 'retrofitting'. Have to be prepared to distinguish and identify what parts of town we are talking about. (Showed statistics in a power point presentation). Talked about national legislation proposed and is gaining headway. Local action is where we have to begin so even the most vulnerable citizens can travel safely in public right-of-way. Showed examples of ideal complete street scenarios. **Mr. Salmonson** went on to say that effective policy should prompt the following changes: restructure procedures, rewrite design manuals, retrain planners and engineers, and retool measures to track outcomes. There will be a workshop for leaders in Missoula in June going through all the factors involved to implement Complete Streets. Question about lighting, is that a part of this. Yes it is. **Mr. Wilkins** said he would be interested in how Missoula compares with other cities when the study is complete. He further added that Missoula does a great job with bicycle routes and open streets, have a long ways to go, but in Montana we are probably the leading city in paths, sidewalks and bicycle systems, but it takes people like you to keep it going. My biggest gripe is I can't ride a bike (have only one leg) but I ride an electric scooter and until two years ago I could not stay on a sidewalk and make it to downtown until that section on Higgins was completed. How do you get off the block if you are in a wheelchair, you can't; we need to pay attention to that in our neighborhoods. I commend the work in the F2F neighborhood. I don't agree with the only way to pay for this being the property owners and I wish there was another way to fund. **Mr. Salmonson** said that economic funding is one of the things we need help with. **Mr. Nicholson** referred to the Fodor presentation a couple nights ago where he was talking about this kind of stuff and what to do. There isn't a development that comes before council where there isn't an argument about the costs of sidewalks and so forth. Fodor's numbers were that the impact fees we should be charging are somewhere between \$25,000-\$90,000 per lot. Prioritizing is a tough subject in this town, but F2F did it. The city takes care of the streets and property owners the sidewalks, curbs and gutters. I dislike studies that cost money. We need to go to work on the problem. In F2F there is a way to go-SID's-and take a bite out of the problem. **Mr. Salmonson** stated that if the CDBG grant were not there, it would have been very difficult. The SID is the acknowledged form but it becomes prohibitive and has been a roadblock to a lot of the retrofitting. There are other sources. **Mr. Nicholson** replied with virtually 100% CDBG money goes to affordable housing and almost nothing else. **Mr. Aten** asked if public works and the planning departments are supportive and how they feel about policy with complete streets. **Mr. Salmonson** replied very much so, they feel they have a complete streets policy, they are dealing with a lot of retrofit. Other standards were applied years ago and they are missing elements, the policy they follow is laid out in master plans. They will have to do it incrementally. We are hoping to put together a program that supports moving ahead more quickly. **Ms. Diaz** thanked Jon for this information and it fits in with what else we will be talking about this evening. The bus tour committee did pick complete streets so this will be tying in with this. The project CF will work on, 'other revenue streams for infrastructure' fits into complete streets. All that is coming together tonight and this presentation feeds into the rest of the evening.

Approval of Minutes Approval of March 27, 2008, and April 24, 2008, meeting minutes.

Mr. Aten would like to hear from people who asked about it at previous meeting if they are satisfied with the updates. **Ms. Schmitt** asked if they changed. **Ms. Diaz** replied that the page with the changes are provided. **Ms. Schmitt** commented that it looks detailed enough, it is probably all there. She noticed that this month's minutes are way more accurate, I am sure it is good. **Mr. Gullickson** motioned to approve both sets of minutes. **Mr. Christiansen** seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Liaison Report-Ms. Diaz

1. **The final report of training & future funding.** The report is included in your packets and has been forwarded to city council. I think this series was very successful for the first year. A summary of attendance followed. Neighborhood Orientation had 19 attendees from 12 neighborhoods. I overlooked including an evaluation but did glean a few things said at the training. I will include the evaluation next time. The Leadership Development training was attended by 23 people from 10 neighborhoods. The Community Building training was on the first nice Saturday of the spring. There were 18 attendees from 9 neighborhoods. The summary of evaluations are included. If you can share this with others in the leadership, for next year the orientation will occur first, but seeking out guidance for the two skills trainings. Also did request that the training series become a part of the budget yearly for community forum to put it on, so far I believe it has been favorable from city council, have you heard anything Jon? **Mr. Wilkins** replied that he hasn't heard if it will be in the budget, but I want to commend you on the outstanding job and I think city council feels the same way. **Ms. Diaz** continued that it looks promising to be in the budget. **Mr. Wilkins** said he would back it up to get it in the budget.
2. **Funds Allocation.** If you look behind the budget tab in your notebooks, you will see that if you reallocated funds it will say 'reallocated' and list the amount. It leaves a balance in the community forum budget of \$3,293.54. Proposing to use some of that for the bus tour. Received a request, and approved, from Southgate Triangle for \$400 for some park outreach in the neighborhood. The process for using funds is to first utilize your funds then request via email for use of community forum budget. **Mr. Aten** asked if we need to vote on this in terms of how to expend these funds? **Ms. Diaz** replied that you will be voting on the bus tour tonight, but in the guidance for reallocation it says that requests for neighborhood councils could be approved by the Liaison. I will bring ones forward that I need more information or comments from all of you on. Southgate Triangle has used up their budget and mailing budget, this outreach for parks is a great addition to what they are doing. **Unidentified male** asked about the neighborhood guide. **Ms. Diaz** stated that the guide is our outreach strategy for the summer and I do want feedback. We are going to create an outreach guide for neighborhood councils in general: what NC's can do for you on one side and how to get involved on the other. That will be used to table at Farmer's Market, Out to Lunch and different community events.
3. **Introduction of interns.** Mason Giem was unable to come tonight due to work schedule. He will be creating the guide for which \$500 has been allotted; it may not be that much however. He is also creating personalized brochures for neighborhood councils. So if you want to use some of your budget next year for this, he is interested in identifying who would like to do that and meet with leadership teams to help create a template for your use. He is also going to be working with the Emma Dickinson neighborhood to do a listening survey to find out what the likes so they can focus on doing things that the neighborhood wants to see continue to happen. So that would be a model for other neighborhoods down the road.

Ms. Diaz introduced Laurel Douglas. **Laurel Douglas** stated that she would like to work with the upper and lower Rattlesnake residents to understand the bear ordinance. She has a lot of ideas but would like to meet with people and figure out who can get involved and who is necessary to get people up to speed to understand the regulations and consequences of not following the ordinance. **Mr. Wilkins** suggested getting with public works or OPG and talk to them. He referred to a 4-lot subdivision proposal a couple weeks ago up the Rattlesnake. The lots were on a hill and in the winter the garbage service truck could not get up the hill so they had to bring their garbage down the hill for pick-up. He asked how they would bear-proof the garbage—it didn't seem to matter to anybody including city officials—I'd like to know more about that myself. **Ms. Douglas** said she has yet to meet with the Communications Director of the City and noted there is apparently a non-profit that has been created around this issue and there are others that are involved, like Defenders of Wildlife. I am not sure what

people think when they hear about those organizations, so it may not be beneficial if there is a negative reaction to have them involved. **Mr. Wilkins** suggested contacting Dave Strohmaier as he is involved with an organization dealing with this. **Ms. Douglas** said Grant Creek does a 'bear fair' so it might be interesting to meet with them to see what they do and get ideas. **Ms. Diaz** commented that this is dealing with the wildlife feeding ordinance adopted last year. This is an effort to address this need that has come up and Laurel is interested in it. I want interns to pick projects they are interested in and I think this is a good one for her. I would like to get feedback on the guide, if it is sensible and if you want to spend less or more on its production. **Ms. Snodgrass** said this is a good idea, especially for neighborhoods that are as well established and don't have visibility to their residents. Everybody is at the Farmer's Markets, so that is a good deal. **Mr. Christiansen** would encourage anything that would make community forum and the neighborhoods more visible in the city, this is a great idea. **Mr. Wilkins** would caution that it is money out of this body. Maybe get a hold of the organization that does the bear proof cans in the rattlesnake. **Ms. Diaz** clarified that no money is coming out of the budget for Rattlesnake awareness, Laurel will identify all the entities and work with other groups and write grants to funnel money into awareness campaign in the Rattlesnake area around the wildlife feeding ordinance. Our interns are interning for free as well. **Ms. Hoem** said that I think Ms. Diaz is talking about the neighborhood guide. **Ms. Diaz** said yes, all the money at this time is for the guide.

4. Neighborhood Website Update. The Missoula-neighborhoods.org website has been redone: it is cleaner, easy to see links (demonstrated to CF via web stream), the map zooms in to enlarge to view neighborhood. **Ms. Snodgrass** asked if Captain John Mullan was on their yet (map). **Ms. Diaz** replied not yet, it just passed committee on Wednesday, and is on the consent agenda for Monday (city council) and then Dan Jordan will make a new map. The website map will be updated then. I want to highlight that Southgate Triangle has been working on their website; it is under construction but looks great. Encourage everyone to find a webmaster. You can also click on neighborhood contacts and pull up the pdf council and association contacts. You can view the neighborhood calendar, which is updated monthly. The neighborhood orientation handbook is under neighborhood resources. Also the community toolbox from the community building training is up by file or sections. Neighborhood project funds page has information on the large and small grants and the applications are there. The recently solicited project idea is on there as well. **Ms. Schmitt** asked if it stated it needs approval by a neighborhood council. **Ms. Diaz** replied that the new large grant application does say that and it is on the site, if you want to see what the new guidelines are, you can look at that online. The neighborhood newsletter has an assortment of months posted and will probably keep one year here. Community Forum has their own website with agendas and minutes for the past year. City Talk has the new information on it. The neighborhood ordinance pulls up in a pdf format still.

Ms. Diaz informed folks that Mason will be calling people on leadership teams to get volunteers for a 1-hour slot to get out at events to talk about neighborhood councils. My encouragement is to get your websites updated and to find some-body to do it. After the guide is out, people are going to visit the website and go to the neighborhood links. If you want people to get engaged, you have to have an inviting website they can go to. They can also call my office as another option to learn more information. If there isn't a website, I can mail information. I would like to get a show of hands if you would like to meet with Mason to get a template to design a brochure for your neighborhood (nine hands raised). Mason will get in contact with you. He has a template of ideas to play with to fit your needs. Next year you can look at printing those. Our office will keep the template too, so if you need help, we can help you. **Mr. Gullickson** commented to Ms. Diaz that the handling of the budget reallocation dollars is exactly as the committee had envisioned for those dollars to work. **Mr. Aten** suggested that as you find people to do your websites, their contact should be Ms. Diaz not Bob Jaffe. **Ms. Diaz** replied yes; contact me first and then there are certain things they need to talk to Bob about. In the case of Southgate Triangle, they created a whole different website outside our system, which is fine, but in order to do that they need to

talk to Bob so the sites 'talk' to each other. **Mr. Salmonson** asked if funding for the brochure would come out of the mailing or regular budget. **Ms. Diaz** said it is up to you which budget to choose, it fits within both.

5. Remind CF about City Talk. Community Forum is able and allowed to suggest City Talk topics which are surveys to the community about issues we believe are important. We haven't used it in the last four months, so if you have any ideas bring them to forum. **Mr. Aten** stated that he would like to know what the public thinks about how we should fund various kinds of projects in the city. We could start with just transportation. How do people want to fund road improvements, complete streets, sidewalks, and Hillview Way. **Ms. Diaz** stated that is part of my presentation, we will get to that point soon. **Mr. Christiansen** supported that work on City Talk needs to happen and be current, it has fallen behind.

Committee Reports

Bus Tour Committee Proposal– Kathie Snodgrass

The committee has met several times discussing input from the last CF meeting and what the topic for the bus tour would be. We came to the conclusion that it would be more focused if the tour was concentrated on one subject, so the Complete Streets for Neighborhood Transportation was chosen. The idea is to focus on a good example of a complete street, a street that is working well in your neighborhood and also look at what your neighborhood's top priority for changing or improving a street would be. Use that compiled list with emphasis on what the neighborhood themselves think are the most important places to deal with within the city, would provide a chance to make a difference perhaps with how the staff and the city council sees our street system. In the handouts is a proposal with the details. There is also the announcement and visit request form. If you have an idea for a proposed route, indicate it. Fill in the attendees, presenters and the routing. Proposed budget and tour evaluation are included as well. **Ms. Diaz** added she will be sending them out to all leaders on all neighborhood councils. **Ms. Elsen** said it looks good to her. **Mr. Gullickson** commended the committee on their work, and that the Lewis & Clark neighborhood would be proud to host Splash Montana for the beginning and ending point of the tour. **Ms. Elsen** asked for a motion to accept this proposal. **Mr. Christiansen** so moved. **Ms. Hoem** seconded. Motion passed unanimously. **Ms. Diaz** added that afterwards is an opportunity to invite your family, we will have pizza, salad and lemonade together and then we can go to Splash Montana. Remember you can invite a couple of family members and meet each other's families.

Neighborhood Project Fund Committee–Recommends approval of small grant to Franklin to Fort NC– Hans Christiansen

When we funded the intern program for the F2F neighborhood a request for \$2000 was submitted and \$1800 was granted. A small grant has been submitted to make up for that \$200. This grant will enable them to complete what they are trying to do. We are proud to offer this grant to them for approval and urge support for it. **Mr. Gullickson** moved that we accept the small grant application from Franklin to Fort for \$200. *Two unidentified females* (Snodgrass & ?) seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Budget Reports-LaNette Diaz

Unless any one has any questions, that is covered. **Ms. Elsen** thanked Ms. Diaz for discovering the funds still available for the zero-scape planting for the median. Didn't realize those funds were still available, thanks for your attention to detail.

New Business

What is the purpose of the CFLT–Hans Christiansen

I want to ask if you are satisfied with the way we have been doing business with the CF and the leadership team. My vision is that the leadership team should take a more active role in running the day to day business of the CF. The leadership team should solicit through LaNette's office the presentations and people should indicate whether or not they want to see presentations. Should act like a board of directors with LaNette being the CEO. If all the leadership team is going to do is meet monthly to set the agenda, that can be done with a computer, it doesn't take that much time nor is it that important. I think that the leadership team can do a lot more for the CF. **Mr. Nicholson** referred to his previous time on CF four or five years ago and said all we got were lectures from the city about this is what's going to happen and they were the ones always doing the presentations. His view of the NC's and CF are a grass-roots up-and-down communication tool and there was almost never any up. I am encouraged this time from the two meetings I have been too that there is a lot more activity individually, thank you Jon, and other folks for at least initiating conversations with city council. That is a dramatic turnaround is a very healthy thing. I would encourage through the leadership team that we continue that kind of spark-generating thing opposed to as being talked to all the time. My first time on CF was not all that productive, this has a feel of a much better situation and I thank you all for the changes you've made in the intervening years. **Mr. Wilkins** added he was on the leadership team ...can't even remember how many years...as well as the Lewis & Clark LT and I remember those times that we were having presentations that were long winded and during that time I kept preaching that we needed presentations but the goal is to decide if you want to take that to your neighborhood. It should be a presentation to convince you that this would be great at our (neighborhood) meeting. I think that's what has been going on and I would like to see that continue. I think your program (Complete Streets) would be good out in the neighborhoods and taken to different council's. **Mr. Aten** in looking at bylaws for CF, it is interesting to see what's in there.....the one thing Hans said, which I think is the majority of what we have done lately is to meet two weeks prior to set the agenda. That is only #1, there is #2, #3, #4, and #5 of which #2 is to approve all expenditures of CF funds, to lead monthly meeting or designate the facilitator of the meeting, to take attendance, record minutes of meetings and file them with the City Clerk, and lastly to be responsible for the drafting of language and recommendations to City Council. Final draft of the recommendation shall be approved by the leadership team prior to submission to the CF. **Mr. Christiansen** added, my point is, a lot of these things do not take a lot of time. I think the leadership team needs a more active role and if we are going to work in this direction, we need more people; I would like to see a minimum of seven people and that way we can get three or four together at one time. **Ms. Elsen** asked if it is possible to bring forward a skeleton proposal of what shape that might take or substance that would be if the leadership team did more. **Mr. Christiansen** replied that we could come up with something. **Mr. Wilkins** asked if there were problems getting attendance at leadership team meetings. **Mr. Christiansen** replied that right now there are only three people on the leadership team. Everybody has commitments, and it is hard sometimes to get one or two to meet with LaNette and I'm not satisfied with that. **Mr. Wilkins** suggested having some alternates. **Mr. Christiansen** stated this body is the one that has to say which way to do it. **Ms. Elsen** asked if the bylaws stated a set number or recommendation of how many should be on the leadership team. Someone stated three to seven. **Mr. Aten** stated the importance of this discussion taking place, I think we have a very dynamic and capable staff person now and this ups the ante for the rest of us instead of having a staff person that plans meetings and works out agenda which is quickly done, there is a lot more things that we can do...I really like that idea and would like to see people cogitate and talk about this more and think about what more should the leadership team be doing in terms of helping set the beginning direction, but it is up the CF as a whole to be making and implementing decisions. **Ms. Elsen** suggested a subcommittee that could bring recommendation or proposal to take action on or have vision for. **Mr. Christiansen** stated that before we have a subcommittee, I would like to have some ideas from this body what they think the leadership team should be doing. I would like to have a group that would meet with new neighborhoods or assist the Liaison to activate neighborhoods that are not currently. **Ms. Elsen** paraphrased are you suggesting that be part of the leadership teams description, that you meet with new neighborhoods and

try to mentor them. **Mr. Christiansen** replied yes basically. **Ms. Snodgrass** suggested as with any leadership team should provide guidance to LaNette on stuff they think we have said we would like to address. It is clear that LaNette and Christine are very efficient and gets things done in a hurry and things like laying out meeting agendas should be able to be done by email. I would think that the executive function part of the LT would be the most important and effective things that the team could provide. **Mr. Aten** commented that the one thing he would like to see implemented, which the LT did work on through feedback from CF, and that was we had hope to start a regular gathering with the committee of the whole with city council. We met one time and there was some good dialogue about what CF does and some of the issues that are important to us and I think we should be back in that arena again; it should become a regular occasion. With the transition of staff, it slipped, but that is what I would like to push for. **Mr. Nicholson** it strikes me that there are 18 of us representing the segments of the city and pitching ideas as we did with transportation tonight to the leadership team to debate, discuss, and decide which ones should be presented is an obvious function of the leadership team to carry out and maybe the most important function of the leadership team. We are the communication link—some NC's are active, many are not, this gets to be a sub organization of the city council truly. Communication from us to city council as Mr. Aten has suggested, to the committee of the whole is a really good way to do that. **Mr. Wilkins** reminded others that at every committee of the whole he provides a report on what CF has done that month, but at Mr. Aten stated, that visit that one time (at COW) really went over well and I would like to see that get going too. **Mr. Salmonson** asked Mr. Christiansen "are you talking about issues rather than procedures". **Mr. Christiansen** replied that the LT would not deal with things but rather present it to CF and then vote on recommendations or issues. I just feel that we could stretch farther on what we can be doing. **Ms. Elsen** suggested if it were a regular agenda item to ask if anyone in the group had anything in particular they would like to have the LT consider as an item for the next months agenda, then you might end up with a list of things to consider and make a choice from and that could be done in a matter of minutes and then the LT would be the ones to make a decision to place on the agenda or not. I bring this up because after the Fodor visit the presentation will be available through MCAT and I would like to present 20 minutes of that to CF so you get a flavor for it; but I don't know how to get that on the agenda. That is the kind of thing you could just ask us—what sorts of things we would like to see at the next meeting and then you of course would narrow it down and put it into a workable evening. **Mr. Salmonson** agrees, for instance the very issue the Fodor presentation, just prior to that the UFDA presentation—think if those two points of view were put side by side, it would be a surprising contrast there. WE are being asked to make up our minds about some things and it would be good to use this tool (CF) to identify those issues and to use the forum as a place to talk about them, to have them presented and visit about them. **Ms. Diaz** suggested instead of a committee, CFLT could definitely work on what they should be doing and we could come up with a proposal since they are the ones in that role right now. **Ms. Elsen** added that perhaps the LT could take from this discussion a concrete item, like Mr. Salmonson suggested, how to take two events like the UFDA and the Fodor presentation—that might be something specific to work on. **Mr. Christiansen** added that is exactly what we are asking for. **Ms. Elsen** likes the idea of making that an agenda item to open up to us (CF reps/alts) and we can bring forward things we would like to see discussed in the forum.

Ongoing Business

Community Form Project—UFDA & Revenue Development for Infrastructure presentation on ideas

LaNette Diaz

From last month, asked for discussion around what kind of project you would like to work on. The minutes reflect it was UFDA or how do we pay for things. Now that a lot of federal funding is not available, how do we maintain our streets and prepare for the future. UFDA is hard to wrap my head around. What I heard is that we want citizens to know that this is going on and to get that word out. As much as possible via email I have been disseminating that information. I know that OPG utilizes our mailing list to get information out to you. I am not sure what else you would like to do as CF on that. Their meeting last

night and tonight I would have liked to have provided that information at last meeting, but the dates weren't out yet. I can work with them to ensure that sits on our agenda better so we can talk about what is coming up with UFDA. **Ms. Diaz** asked if there are other suggestions. **Mr. Aten** said the other part of it is to try to get OPG to keep us aware and in the loop, for example, what we saw at the open houses would be appropriate for them to do a short presentation here tonight. They have three scenarios, as is with the changes based on the Envision Missoula piece and I don't know how many people actually know that and certainly MCAT provides another venue to get that out and in terms of our awareness. It would have been nice to have them here tonight to expand on that. **Ms. Elsen** asked for a show of hands of those here who attended one of those open houses (one of the workshops these past couple days)...more than half raised hands. Is there any discussion of what keep CF in the process of trying to understand the scenarios in relation to UFDA moving forward impacting our city and neighborhoods. **Mr. Wilkins** said that through the Liaison and thru OPG we will hear more about it. What I would like to hear from this group is more on how should we pay for things, I would like to hear what the public thinks. **Ms. Elsen** recapped what Mr. Fodor said about the UFDA project. He was excited to be in Missoula and thinks this city has so much going for it and was positive about that. Someone in the audience asked what he thought about the planning here. In looking at UFDA specifically, he felt we had jumped ahead and hadn't spent enough time talking to people today about the goals we want to see as Missoula grows. Instead we have gone directly to proposing building 15,000 dwelling units in the next 20 years or accommodating 100,000 residents in the next 50 years. So what we are planning for is a growth number instead of a goal citizens want. Maybe the growth number will take us beyond where we want to be in growth and would miss our goal; that maybe we wouldn't really be planning for a better Missoula, and when we ended up with one of three plans to choose from, we might look at one of those plans and see as happened in his home county, that after three years of work, they had come up with three options, none of which were as good as what they were living with at that time. His point was that we need to be really sure that we are aiming for a goal that take us where we want to be and give us a better Missoula recognizing that we will change, and part of our change includes growth, but we need to plan for what citizens want, not just for development—I think that summarizes it. **Ms. Hoem** added that Mr. Fodor emphasized having development pay for itself as far as the impact it makes on schools, fire and police services, and traffic. He had quit a few innovative ideas on how that could be implemented in any growth plan that the ones benefitting from the development should be paying for the infrastructure changes and not just putting that on the shoulders of the citizens who have already paid and continue to pay again and again as growth happens. **Ms. Diaz** added another thing that relates to that is that we need to be growing within our current urban footprint—that does help with not having to create further and new infrastructure—I think those are all good points. **Ms. Elsen** commented that bringing forth some of the footage of Mr. Fodor's talk and juxtaposing that with UFDA, it will bring out some differences and similarities.

Ms. Diaz said that one of the things that has been coming up is that how do we pay for infrastructure and what will Missoulians support as far as paying for things has been a central conversation that occurs in the mayor's office and to city council at the citizen level. Community Forum and Neighborhood Councils as well as each of these different entities play a different role in that conversation. With the mayor's office, a lot of it came up from the citizen survey as well as the strategic planning effort being pursued. Part of that strategic planning is how to pay for these things—that piece is still missing. Also the mayor's office is researching what other cities are doing. The council has seen the survey and will also be engaged in the strategic planning. The city council is engaged in the budget planning and seeing how are we going to pay for these things and they also have constituents that they hear from. Citizens are wondering what are our options...how do we learn about them...and what is the best way to give opinions given those options. Community Forum and Neighborhood Council's are saying how do we do this and keep the character of our neighborhoods, how do we improve roads, sidewalks, curbs and gutter and the aesthetic value of our neighborhoods. If the money is running out, how do we keep those things in our neighborhoods—what will people pay for. Given all of that, I think all of us are on the same page, and the

conversation is pertinent at this time and CF is actually ahead of the curve. There is a significant role for CF to play. I think that role is that CF should be having presentations that educate and inform you as representatives on issues. Then you take it to your NC meetings in the fall and present and talk about them, and as a group we can work on that presentation that be given after you hear the information. Gather citizen input at those meetings and bring it back to CF. Then CF can put together a recommendation report, you can do a city talk, could have an open house in September—something to get that information out. I met with the mayor's office staff and they are excited about CF taking a role in getting the information to you and getting it out to the neighborhoods and that input back to CF and shared again with city council and the mayor. They see CF and the NC's as a way to gather citizen input and making sure that the gap—what will people pay for and what are people interested in; and the gap for the citizens— how do we learn what is going on and how do they give input on what they like. Those gaps are easily filled by CF and NC's. When this was presented to the mayor's office, they were very excited about it and we came up with a tentative idea for presentations. The citizen survey results, from the Mayor's point of view, as far as infrastructure and what people will pay for and won't— how do we move forward. Funding 101—how is the city funded now and what that looks like. What are the options for funding, what other cities are doing. Bruce Bender has been doing research and will bring forward options for discussion and getting citizen input and bring it back to CF. You may choose to do independent research to come up with options for things that don't get answered or can get others in to talk to CF. It's actually from CF to the citizens and back up, which is the unique structure of NC's (up-and-down communication). Each of those presentations will be in-depth, about an hour each month. We can do other presentations as well, but our business may have to move more quickly. Most of our business currently is adopting grants, approving minutes, and getting updates which we can still do and still have a couple presentations. Those are my thoughts and I am asking for feedback. **Mr. Nicholson** commented that the first place to look for money is in the budget (city); are there 'wants', things that really aren't necessary, that could be redirected. I would like to see half the time allocated for the presentations from the mayor's staff, that should be sufficient. The citizens have a chance to provide input when they approve SID's, bonds and so forth which is pretty effective now. It is good that the citizens of Missoula are so engaged, that is positive and rare. I would like to have maybe two subjects on the agenda, but not how can we help the city get more money. **Ms. Diaz** commented that it is not all money options, the funding is in the budget process but understanding how we currently get funds will be explained. **Mr. Stevens** likes the proposal and allows time to discuss and digest the information. It works in nicely time wise for the fall when NC's have meetings. **Ms. Hoem** agrees with Mr. Nicholson in cutting down the allotted time for presentations. **Ms. Diaz** clarified that the reason for allowing an hour, is to have time for questions, answers, discussion so that everyone here gets what they need to bring the information to the neighborhoods as the representatives. **Ms. Hoem** added that Mr. Fodor made some interesting comments about impact fees and other ways of paying for things. It would be good to bring that 20 minute segment related to fiscal needs and responsibilities and how it relates to development (to CF). **Mr. Christiansen** asked for clarification what a 'citizen survey' consists of, who all fills out the survey. This was the telephone survey conducted about two months ago of 400 residents. **Mr. Wilkins** said a copy is on the website (mayors). **Mr. Aten** expressed his delight in this way of running the CF. I would like to have adequate time for discussion of presentations, not listen to an hour presentation, which is pretty long. I think some alternate opinions, from outside the city staff, if possible could be presented to understand the whole process. **Mr. Wilkins** would like to hear from the Missoula Organization of Realtors and the Chamber of Commerce as well, all these things affect them as well. When you talk about impact fees that increases the affordability of housing, which is an issue. I think this is exciting; my dream is to have this on a larger scale and invite the neighborhood to attend an 'open forum'. **Ms. Diaz** commented that could definitely be done. **Mr. Aten** stated that we should keep this open (CF) for everybody and make it clear that anyone can attend; the more public involved, the better. **Ms. Hoem** commented that this summer is when OPG will make the recommendation that UFDA become an amendment to the growth policy, we as a forum shouldn't be all consumed with the revenue, but allow time for that. **Ms. Diaz** said OPG will

at the June meeting, and we can have options for funding presented in August. September has been left open (the agenda) to identify what else CF could be working on and then most NC general meetings are in October and November. **Mr. Salmonson** said the suggested ideas presented tonight are wonderful, what an initiative, I support it. **Mr. Wilkins** said that he can relate to what Mr. Nicholson said about are we spending our money wisely (the city). The way the gas prices have gone up, every department has felt the impact. Will the city even be able to provide the services we have currently with that, I think that is something to consider. **Mr. Snively** expressed that the empowerment that CF will provide the neighborhoods is a positive direction. **Mr. Aten** offered a suggestion that we go to a consent agenda for items such as meeting minutes for example.

Neighborhood Council Updates

- Lower Rattlesnake—inaudible comment.
- Moose Can Gully—nothing to report.
- University—will have the general meeting in early July. One of the topics relates generally to the complete streets initiative, but on a more personal level, to encourage people to shovel their walks in the winter. I think it is appropriate for neighborhoods to take charge of and develop.
- Southgate Triangle—park improvement is an issue with the neighborhood. Have been working with the parks department on them. A grant from the Celebrate Missoula Program awarded a couple years ago for playground equipment at McCloud Park for \$2000 was used to purchase a climbing structure which will be installed soon. In August we will have an ice cream social simultaneously at all three parks in the neighborhood. We want to ask what they like in the parks, how they feel about traffic, etc. After our mailing, our budget was used up, so we did apply for \$400 from the reallocated funds which we received, and a \$250 grant and any other costs will be solicited as contributions.
- Lewis & Clark—the leadership team will be meeting the first week of June to plan a general meeting later that month. The Green Blocks Program application deadline was today, as of noon there were six applications. I think the funding of the city issue is a good topic to spend our summer time on.
- South 39th Street—we have nearly completed our grant application to be submitted by the end of June to the Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks for \$20,000 to help fund construction of the Tonkan Trail which will cross a portion of the South Hills connecting to Hillview and Clearview Way and the rest of the South Hills Trail System. The city would contribute \$10,000 through cash in lieu and we will be applying for Neighborhood Project Grant Funds.
- Farviews/Pattee Canyon—nothing to report.
- Riverfront—a work party on the new park Dakota Greens between California and Russell Streets was hosted by the NC and another work party the evening of June 19th is scheduled where some refreshments and social activity will be occurring. The LT always meets at 6pm at Bernice's the first Thursday of every month.
- Upper Rattlesnake—there were six city council members and about 100 people at the Fodor event on Tuesday. There was some difficulty getting the media to cover, don't count on them to assist you, you really have to hound them. They disappointed us. There are alternative methods that really work—networking and emailing—those worked to get the word out for that large a crowd. Eben Fodor's speaking style makes people feel hopeful that good things can happen as we grow. I think the main comment I heard from people was that they really felt empowered to make Missoula a better place. A few topics he talked about were affordable housing-when you make it, perpetuate it-don't let people sell off the house at a big profit after five years, keep that pool of affordable housing available. Inclusionary zoning is still the best technique people have found to get affordable housing on the ground. He talked a fair bit about campaign finance reform, that development interests have undue influence on elections. In 2005, Portland voted to fund elections for their candidates and they have an interesting way of doing it in my opinion. I will show you the segment on impact fees at the next meeting or whenever it is on the agenda. He said that Missoula's impact fees are extremely low even for

Montana, they are somewhere around \$2500-\$5000 whereas Bozeman is already at a minimum of \$7000. The real cost to a city are \$25,000-\$90,000, those costs remain the same, will the developer pay them or go into taxes. The majority of impact fees are being paid for by the taxpayers that have already built their homes not by the new development. He had a lot of growth slowing techniques, one is not subsidizing growth to the degree we are and he really emphasized developing a walk able community. Thanks to Upper and Lower Rattlesnake, Grant Creek, University, Rose Park and Moose Can Gully who provided money to make the event happen, it was a wonderful contribution to help sponsor this event, it couldn't have happened without you Grant Creek—nothing to report.

- Captain John Mullan—the LT met May 14 and discussed how to spend the remainder of our budget. Possibilities included our first big project which may have something to do with Pleasant View Park which the developer is putting in just grass and sprinklers, other improvements will have to come from another source. We are planning on a neighborhood picnic this summer and we will be sending out a mailing. The June LT meeting will be around the 10th at Bailey's (Coffee House & Market).
- Franklin to Fort—the NC will meet next Tuesday for our next monthly meeting. There will be a picnic in the neighborhood's one park in July. My house has a view of 8th/Grant where Marilyn Marler and David Schmetterling are leading a group that is creating a beautiful pocket park. They get together every Thursday. A grant that came through CF is assisting this project.
- City Council Report—regarding LaFrey Park, there was \$33,000 budgeted this year and we approved \$138,000 which was budgeted for next year but the contractor offered a cost savings deal to do the work slated for next year now so the committee approved this expenditure and it should be on the consent agenda at the next council meeting. The Duck Pond is full of water and there are six goslings with their parents swimming around in it. We are hopeful it will hold water in light of the work done in the last year, but it might take a year or two to get that to happen. I was involved in the founding fathers that started NC's—boy have we grown. You all are doing an outstanding job and I am proud of where we have come and look forward to more growth.

Monthly report to City Council—moderator prepare

Ms. Elsen recapped that she will include the interns and what they are engaged in, the bus tour, continuing focus on UFDA, Eben Fodor and the revenue development for infrastructure, and mentioning our enthusiasm about hearing from the Mayor and Bruce Bender and taking that information to the NC's, and complete streets. **Mr. Aten** added including our intention to spend some funds for outreach in terms of internship project. Is there a dollar amount? **Ms. Diaz** stated the cost for the guides depends on the design, up to \$500 has been allotted. **Mr. Wilkins** suggested stating just that. Ms. Diaz commented to include that the interns are volunteering. **Ms. Schmitt** mentioned the opportunity for each neighborhood to create their own outreach brochure (as part of the interns work). **Ms. Elsen** motioned all in favor of accepting the above to go to city council. Motion passes unanimously.

Moderator for the next meeting will be

Mr. Snively will be the moderator for the June meeting.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Ross

Christine Ross
Secretary, Office of Neighborhoods
City Clerk's Office

*Copies of any handouts and referenced documents at this meeting are on file in the City Clerk's Office

May 22, 2008

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