

Riverfront Neighborhood Council
General/Leadership Team Meeting
02/09/12, 4:30—6:00
Montana Natural History Center

- 1) Introductions – Steve King, Alex Taft and Jenny Montgomery
- 2) Election
 - a. Nominations for Leadership Team were made and the neighbors voted Sally Friou and Ragna Thorn-Thompson. If there are any issues in the neighborhood, please contact the leadership team. We will be using a facebook page to help with communication.
- 3) Newsletter and Email List
 - a. Riverfront would like to send out a hard copy of a quarterly Newsletter. This provides a forum to hear about neighbors, feature local businesses and provide advertising possibilities. The neighborhood needs help with articles and distribution and also outreach to renters as well.
 - b. A sheet was passed around for neighbors to sign up for the email list.
- 4) Adaptable Playground – Jenny Montgomery
 - a. Jenny described that an all abilities playground with "inclusive" play design will be installed in McCormik park. There are no decisions made yet on the equipment and there will be an online survey conducted for neighborhood input. The playground design will focus on kids up to 15, but Jenny also mentioned that folks at the senior center were excited by the possibility of an all abilities swing. They plan to start fundraising in the community this summer, possibly with a comedy night. At this stage, it looks like the park will be open in the Summer of 2013.
- 5) Traffic on Orange St – Steve King
 - a. Steve addressed traffic issues around the neighborhood, such as uncontrolled intersections and ways to calm traffic from signage to traffic circles to street width. He talked about the importance of working with the neighborhood to fix any major problems. Some solutions such as striping, painted crosswalks and traffic circles pose financial limitations, while placing indiscriminate stop signs at every corner would disrupt the flow of traffic immensely. Currently school zones and major streets are a priority for paint, as the budget is tight.
 - b. Neighbors then had an opportunity to pose questions about Riverfront streets. One neighbor suggested that bus stops should also be a safety priority. Several neighbors discuss how passing drivers have hit parked cars on 5th street on several occasions. As this is a route of town, would it be possible to use a speed indicator or make it a two way street? Possible, but the speed indicator only slows people down for a while. These types of decisions will be made in the Long Range Transportation Plan.
 - c. Alex Taft mentioned that at the last two Riverfront meetings traffic has been an issue. We need an inexpensive way to solve the problems, other than just putting in stop signs which can be annoying to residents and passersby. Alex mentions that an email would be sent out to work on possible solutions.
- 6) Public Comment
 - a. Bob Giradono – Bob mentioned that Free Cycles will be relocating to a new warehouse. They are now giving away around 1,000 bikes every year and had 10,000 visitors last year. They are working on adaptive bicycles and are working with the Missoula Institute for Sustainable Transportation on ideas for street improvements. For example, on 5th and 6th streets they discussed making one lane for cars, and keeping the other lane for bicycles.

The next meeting is THURSDAY, March 8th, 2012 from 4:30pm to 6:00pm.