

Greenough Park Advisory Committee
Minutes
April 6, 2009

Present: John Pierce, John Horrell, Barbara Stanley, Kathleen Kennedy, Matthew Koehler, Susie Spindler. Also present: Morgan Valliant, Conservation Lands Manager; Hank Butzel, Jim Habeck. Excused: Cyndy Braun.

Minutes: John Horrell moved to approve the March minutes. Susie seconded the motion and all approved.

Public comment: Jim Habeck asked about the city's liability for personal injury while citizens cross the creek. Morgan will check into the liability. Susie noted that mapped park trails lead to the creek crossing which has no bridge. As an aside, Morgan noted that the lower third of the park is considered city park land and the upper two thirds are designated conservation lands. Hank Butzel asked when the annual hazard tree assessment walk would be done, and John Pierce stated that it is usually done at the October meeting.

Brochure: There was general discussion about the purpose of the brochure. Kathleen stated that initially the purpose was to explain park management, especially thinning of the maples. Now stream restoration and access are being stressed. The brochure has to be written in a concise way with a usable trail map and a few photographs of the park through the seasons. Matt stressed that bullet points outlining park guidelines and rules could be very effective. Morgan proposed including annual update inserts in the brochure. Susie will ask her sister to prepare several different mockups for the committee to work with. Kathleen suggested distribution to Rattlesnake Valley residents through the two neighborhood councils along with general distribution through Parks and Recreation, Friends of Missoula Parks, the Natural History Center, the proposed lower entrance kiosk, and at the picnic shelter.

Strategic planning/vision/mission statement: When Susie gets input from committee members, she will continue to develop the statement. Input to date has prioritized recreational use, natural habitat preservation, and legal issues as the most important concerns.

Fund-Raising: Morgan and Matt are contacting Tim Bechtold about Friends of Missoula Parks fund-raising. When a publicity flyer is prepared, Morgan will e-mail it to committee members to distribute. Morgan recommends leaving the bridge in its present location to raise awareness of the need for donations to pay for repositioning the bridge. A fund-raising event, a barbecue/potluck, will be held at the picnic shelter in July. Planning will take place at the May meeting.

Footbridge: Morgan reported that Rod Frost, COT, can do the placement work during the Fall.

Diversion log: John Pierce noted that a diversion log needs to be positioned upstream against the rock gabions to prevent their further erosion during spring runoff. He and Morgan will evaluate which tree should be felled for this purpose.

The next meeting will be held on May 4, 2009 at the Greenough Park picnic shelter at 4 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Stanley