

Franklin to the Fort Neighborhood Council Leadership Team Meeting Minutes

Date: October 28, 2015

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Location: Rosauers

2350 S. Reserve St.

Missoula, MT 59801

Leadership Team Attendees: *Michelle Cares, Tim Streets, Matt Loomis, Brad May, Jake Riggs*

Others Present: *Jane Kelly, Neighborhood Coordinator; Patricia Hogan, Sarah Bates, National Wildlife Federation (NWF) deputy director; Juliet Slutzker, NWF sustainability & habitat educator*

- 1) NWF Certified Habitat-Franklin Park signage. Sarah Bates spoke.
 - a) The Parks Board would like to have parks certified, but hesitates to use the official NWF sign. Concerned that citizens may misinterpret future management decisions, such as: xeriscaping, no-spraying, etc. The city wants collaborative signage which provides explanation of management practices.
 - b) Question: What is the difference between signs at parks and signs in pocket parks in the right-of-way? Answer: Park Dept. is not concerned, because that is another department.
 - c) Question: Where in the hierarchy is the decision made? Answer: Not known; somewhere at staff level. The department seems to be bending over backward to make this happen. Other communities have done this with their own unique community identity.
 - d) The Neighborhood Project Funds grants deadline was yesterday, but funds could be available for a project such as this next year.
 - e) Ms. Bates handed out an explanatory document, which is in draft stage. Suggestions for revisions of this and public interpretive signs should be made to Juliet Slutzker of the NWF.
 - f) The purpose of the signage is to educate. This project at Franklin Park will set the standard for the city.
 - g) Ms. Bates suggested that the Franklin School site would be an excellent future project for development and education.
 - h) The NWF staff continues to work closely with the city on this project.
 - i) Question: What is the timeframe? Answer: NWF thinks this will happen soon, and notes that five city parks are potential. They also wish to look at the current Food Bank site.

- j) Question: Are other neighborhoods interested? Answer: Some are, but not as far along as F2F. Jane Kelly added that the office is waiting to get pollinator plates at traffic circles to provide water for pollinator species.
 - k) Question: Who would design the signs? Answer: Unknown at this point.
- 2) Update on Franklin Park redevelopment plans (the bond issue). City staff did not provide information to Jane in time for this meeting. Jane will send links to the leadership team.
 - 3) Community Forum report-Michelle Cares.
 - a) At the Community Forum, a report was given concerning way-finding signage and information kiosks. The first phase will see the installation of 37 signs by the end of next year.
 - b) At the Community Forum, a report was given on the Activate Missoula transportation plan. By federal law the plan is updated every four years. See: activatemissoula.com
 - c) At the Community Forum, a report was given on Missoula College, which will be functional by May, 2017. Consideration is being given to a wind energy installation in the Hellgate Canyon, and a pedestrian bridge to connect to the Kim Williams Trail.
 - 4) Office of Neighborhoods report-Jane Kelly.
 - a) Candidate forums can be viewed on MCAT.org
 - b) Please respond to a Community Forum questionnaire. Twelve questions cover strategic planning for the Community Forum and all Neighborhood Councils.
 - 5) New business- We want to plan for a general public neighborhood meeting in January or February. Michelle will apply for reallocated funds to cover the costs of the meeting.
 - 6) Public comment on non-agenda items-none.
 - 7) Announcements-Matt Loomis announced an upcoming meeting to present fairgrounds concepts, Nov. 5.

Next leadership team meeting: Wednesday, December 2, 2015 at Rosauers. 6:00 PM

Minutes submitted by Brad May