

Grant Creek Neighborhood Council General Meeting Minutes

Date: November 18, 2015

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: The Grant Creek Inn
5280 Grant Creek Rd.
Missoula, MT 59808

Leadership Team Members Present: Bert Lindler, Dennis Muth, Ron Larsen, John Langstaff.

Others Present: Harlan Wells, City Council Elect, Jane Kelly, Neighborhood Coordinator, Stephanie Kolb, Neighborhood Work Study, Jamie Jonkel, Wildlife Management Specialist, Kate Dinsmore, WGM Group.

There were approximately 30 people in attendance.

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1. Bert Lindler opened the meeting at 7 p.m., introduced newly elected city councilman Harlan Wells, and asked Wells to make a few comments.
 2. Black Bears in Grant Creek – Jamie Jonkel, Wildlife Management Specialist, Discusses Bearmageddon - Jamie Jonkel, wildlife management specialist for the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, discussed the many problems this fall as bears short of natural foods headed to town for apples, bird seed, and trash. Bears were still out, Jonkel said, although a few were denning every day now. Dens are often in hollows of big cottonwoods close to town. Sunflower seeds and other bird feed are like heroin to bears, Jonkel said. He recommended against feeding birds before December 15 or after April 15 to reduce the possibility that folks in Grant Creek might be feeding bears rather than birds. Jonkel said that within a decade he expected grizzly bears to be frequenting the outskirts of Missoula and that it would be best if folks had first learned to secure attractants from black bears.
 3. Update on Additional Southbound Lanes at the I-90/Reserve Street Interchange – Kevin Slovarp, City Engineer - An email message from city engineer Kevin Slovarp said the planned improvements include two southbound lanes, a right –turn lane, and a bike lane. The sidewalk will need to be reconstructed and some signal work will be needed.
 4. Grant Creek Trail – County Extension to Mellot Lane - Bert Lindler provided updates on the Grant Creek Road/I-90 interchange project and the Grant Creek Trail. The city has budgeted \$200,000 to improve the flow of southbound traffic

on Grant Creek Road through the interchange. The Montana Department of Transportation is working to incorporate the project into its plans. If everything falls into place, construction could begin as early as 2017.

Missoula County has awarded a contract for extending the Grant Creek Trail to Western Excavating, the company that's building the Missoula to Lolo trail. The four-fifths of a mile extension begins at the city-county line and goes to Mellot Lane.

The project to build the last few hundred feet of the Grant Creek Trail in the city goes out for bid on November 29. The project is supposed to be completed by May 15.

The audience gave a round of applause for completion in a single day of the guardrail along the Grant Creek Trail.

5. Scott Street Redevelopment Plan – Change Coming to the Neighborhood – Jeremy Keene, WGM Group – Kate Dinsmore presented for Jeremy Keene. She gave an update on the Scott Street Redevelopment Plan.
6. Request for approval by Community Forum and City Council for Grant Creek Boundary modification to add Windsor Park Phases 1-7; Northgate Development Park; East of Grant Creek to the Grant Creek Neighborhood Council - Jane Kelly, the city's neighborhood coordinator, discussed the problem of neighborhoods that have been annexed into the city without being assigned to neighborhood councils. Several such neighborhoods are within the Grant Creek Neighborhood Council's area.
John Hendrickson moved that the Grant Creek Neighborhood Council recommend that the newly annexed portion of Glen Eagle be part of the Grant Creek Neighborhood Council. Brian Walter seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by voice vote.
7. New Business - None
8. Public comment on non-agenda items - Becca Boslough, a waste reduction educator and energy corps service member from Home ReSource, spoke about the Zero Waste Missoula program and the opportunities to reuse construction materials at Home ReSource or to have Home Resource involved in the deconstruction of structures so that as much of the materials as possible could be reused.
The problem of poor telephone service in Grant Creek was discussed. Residents need to complain if their service isn't adequate, said Brian Daigle, who has worked in the telecommunications industry.

9. Leadership Team Elections-

Bert Lindler presented the slate of neighborhood residents who have volunteered to serve on the Grant Creek Neighborhood Council's leadership team:

Prospect	Dennis Muth
Prospect Meadows	Bert Lindler
Glen Eagle	Brian Daigle
Grantland Landowners	Ron Larsen
Grantland 1-10	Kim Birck
Area Outside Association	John Langstaff
At Large No. 1	Tony Marino
At Large No. 2	Stuart Armstrong
Community Forum Rep.	Bert Lindler
Community Forum Alternate	Ron Larsen

Bert Lindler asked for additional nominations. There were none.

Steve Laber made a motion to elect the slate of candidates. Alayne Hilditch seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous voice vote.

10. Announcements - None

Jamie Jonkel, Wildlife Management Specialist jajonkel@mt.gov 542-5500
Jeremy Keene, WGM Group jkeene@wmggroup.com
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