

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE REPORT

June 17, 2009
09:30–10:00 am
140 West Pine Street

Members Present: Marilyn Marler (chair), Pam Walzer, Dave Strohmaier, Stacy Rye, Bob Jaffe, Jon Wilkins, John Hendrickson, Dick Haines, Renee Mitchell, and Jason Wiener

Members Absent: Ed Childers

Others Present: Jackie Corday, Jim Hausauer

I. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

A. Approve minutes.

Minutes June 3, 2009 of approved as submitted.

II. FINAL CONSIDERATION AGENDA ITEMS

III. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

IV. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

A. Parkland acquisition in Franklin to the Fort neighborhood ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Marilyn Marler)(Referred to committee: 06/08/09)(**INFORMATIONAL ITEM, REMOVE FROM AGENDA**)

Franklin to the fort Neighborhood in Ward 6 is seriously deficient in parkland. Marilyn Marler asked for an update from the Parks Department on potential new acquisitions.

Jackie Corday was present to provide the committee with an update on potential acquisition in the area. This is an underserved area in Missoula as acknowledged in the Master Park Plan. Jackie met with the Neighborhood Leadership Team on June 16, to discuss and review an aerial map showing the undeveloped or underdeveloped areas.

In prior years, two areas in particular were being considered as possible park sites, the Forest Service motor pool and the mall beyond Bob Wards to the west and south. In conversations with property owners, there are not any plans to make changes at this time. The Leadership Team discussed ways for the neighborhood to move forward, and identified a few private parcels to consider making contact. At their next meeting scheduled for June 23, the group will form parks subcommittee which will meet with Jackie to discuss assignments. The remaining funds from the 1995 Open Space Bond (approximately \$387,000) will be put towards underserved neighborhoods. However this money will need to be leveraged or partnered with other agencies to stretch out the dollars. The 2006 Open Space funds cannot be spent on urban parks. The neighborhood is looking to find creative solutions as there is not much land available in this area and with current zoning and land prices the remaining funds will not go far.

In 2006, the Forest Service was contacted to discuss long range plans for the motor pool area. The site is about 14 acres, with plenty of room for different opportunities and it is also located on the Bitterroot Branch trail. To date, the Forest Service has no intentions of wanting to give the space up as it is being used.

Jon – there is a big need in this area and it is heavily impacted by infill. Is there opportunity to use Urban Renewal money to purchase parkland?

Jackie – the land at the mall is in URD 3 and MRA had hired a consultant for study for URD 3 and how best to pursue renewal of the area. The study or vision called for a massive change, but was too grand a scale for the businesses. WGM was hired to scale back and look at other alternatives. The study done by WGM was done in 2005 or 2006 and the Parks Department recommended at that time for a park in the area. A park could also serve as business attractions, good for mall as well as the neighborhood. Given the current economy, nothing is moving forward at this time.

Several of the committee members suggested contacting different people in the Forest Service Department.

Stacy – I have met with Jackie on the lack of parks, looked at maps and there are not any big parcels of lands beyond what has already been discussed. We need to get parkland in subdivisions as they are created.

Public comment:

Jim Hausauer – member of the Franklin to the Fort neighborhood and in reviewing the two maps from the Master Park Plan, you can see the need as there is no significant acreage in this area. We need help to think creatively and leverage the remaining funds and continue to focus on this area. In reviewing the UFDA plan, this area is targeted for infill, thousands of additional units going into the neighborhood.

V. NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- A.** Discuss the ownership, licensing and permitting for Brennan's Wave ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Donna Gaukler) (Referred to committee: 09/08/08)
- B.** Goal setting with Greenhouse Gas and Energy Conservation Team ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Pam Walzer) (Referred to committee: 09/08/08)
- C.** Approve program for city to market renewable energy certificates (aka —green tags||) ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Marilyn Marler, Brian Kerns and Ben Schmidt) (Referred to committee: 09/15/08)

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting adjourned at 10:00 am.