

Captain John Mullan Neighborhood Council Meeting Notes

March 20th, 2008

Twenty six people attended the general meeting of the Captain John Mullan Neighborhood Council. Attendees were asked to sign in and were given copies of the agenda, the neighborhood bylaws showing proposed changes, surveys about what issues or activities the neighborhood should work on, and asked to use stickers to indicate where they lived on a large map of the neighborhood. Brownies, cookies, and bottled water were provided.

Co-Chair Randy Johnson called the meeting to order just after 7 pm. He welcomed both City and County attendees, summarized the agenda, and introduced City Council Members Pam Walzer and John Hendrickson. Pam and John explained how our neighborhood council can be effective in dealing with City government by presenting our issues as a group rather than as isolated individuals and explained some of the current and upcoming issues that might affect us.

Laval Means gave a presentation on the Urban Fringe Development Area. In the next 20 years, Missoula is expected to grow by 15,000 housing units. The City has developed maps that show all the constraints, existing and planned infrastructure, and current development on land that's on the edges of Missoula. These maps are being shown to neighborhoods and other interested groups because the City is going to have to make some decisions about where to put those 15,000 new homes in the next 20 years and will be asking for input from the community. Some general decisions will need to be made about locations and density so that the City can plan for transportation, utilities, parks, fire and emergency services, schools and so on. After these presentations have been made to as many people as possible, some development scenarios will be developed. People will be asked to comment on them, then a draft plan will be developed. Then they will ask the City Council to send the draft plan to the planning board for a public hearing. So there will be plenty of opportunity for people to get involved in shaping the final development plan, which will result in a growth policy amendment. As a start, Laval passed out survey forms and asked everyone to use them to show what issues are most important to them and return the forms to Laval. Laval answered several questions from the audience and explained the maps. Kathie Snodgrass has a CD containing all the maps, and anybody else who wants one can get one from the Office of Planning and Grants.

Kathie explained that the bylaws approved at the general meeting last fall were reviewed by the City attorney, and a few minor changes were needed. Kathie explained that although the neighborhood bylaws allow for equal participation by both City and County residents, there are a few things that are limited to City residents, including approving bylaws and electing leadership team members. Nancy Butz moved that the proposed changes be made to the bylaws. Josiah Hodge seconded the motion. Of the people remaining at the meeting, twelve were City residents. All twelve voted in favor of the motion. There were no votes in opposition.

Randy explained that the neighborhood had three vacant positions on the leadership team. Randy opened the floor for nominations. Dick Hexter, Jordan Hager, and Kim Neel were nominated. Donna Johnson moved that these three people be elected by acclamation and

Josiah Hodge seconded the motion. All twelve city residents voted in favor of the motion. There were no votes in opposition.

Randy moderated a general discussion and question session. Steve Vance expressed concern that internet service to new developments along Mullan Road degrades due to service line branches. Bresnan and Qwest will need to hear from people in order to be convinced to upgrade service in the area before the Mullan Road area is saturated. Shane LaValley, representing the Country Crest Homeowner's Association asked how the Neighborhood interacts with Homeowner's Associations. Leadership team members said they weren't entirely sure and were looking for ideas. Since Grant Creek neighborhood has been around for quite a while and they have many of the same issues, maybe we can ask them how they operate and see if that would work for us.

The meeting was adjourned just before 9 pm.

Kathie Snodgrass

note keeper