

Riverfront Neighborhood Council General Meeting
September 10, 2013, 6:30 pm
Free Cycles Community Bicycle Shop
732 S. 1st St. Wet, Missoula, MT

MINUTES

Caleb Kasper facilitated the meeting. Introductions were made by all present.

I. Mill Site Special District Zoning

Nick Kaufman and Don McArthur discussed their plans for the development of Block 12 of the Mill Site District. Plans call for 4 condominium buildings, mixed use residential and commercial. In the process of planning for this project, needs for zoning changes for the entire district became evident. Several specific issues include property setbacks, the amount of windows required, and siting of the buildings to accommodate curved streets.

A 27-page proposed draft zoning ordinance was distributed. This details many other development standards. The developers are working with Development Services; all zoning changes will need to be approved by City Council and the Mayor.

Discussion followed regarding how this plan fits within the Historic Southside/Riverfront Master Plan, as well as the projected size and cost of this phase. There will be two 4-story buildings with approximately 20 units, and two 3-story buildings also containing about 20 units. Costs for the units will start in the low-\$200,000 range and increase from there.

When the ordinance is completed for submission to Council the Riverfront Neighborhood Council will be informed.

II. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

1.) The September 7 event at Municipal Stadium was particularly loud. Doug Hawkes-Davis also noted that parking cost \$10.00, although parking fees may be part of the use agreement. Residents were again urged to call 911 and register a Quality of Life complaint.

2.) Bob Giordano announced that a Festival of Cycles is scheduled for September 14. 50 bikes will be given away to children.

3.) A public hearing will be held on Oct. 8 for the Madison and Higgins Bridges. The Montana Department of Transportation will present its engineers plans. The good news is the our bridges are deemed safe.

III. By Laws

There are no Bylaws changes presented now, although the Leadership Team has identified a few needed amendments. Jane Kelly outlined the process required for changes:

- We work with the Neighborhood Coordinator to make needed changes
- The Leadership Teams reviews amendments, amendments reviewed by the City Attorney
- Revised Bylaws are posted in writing for 30 days prior to a vote by the full Neighborhood Council
- Upon approval by the neighborhood council, the Bylaws are submitted to City Council for approval

IV. 5th/6th Street Traffic Calming Project : Caleb Kasper

Caleb and Wes have met with the Public Works Committee as well as the Bike/Pedestrian Advisory Committee. The Public Works Committee staff have said that a \$40-60,000 feasibility study will be needed, particularly as this is a designated State Urban Corridor. There has been discussion about a lower-cost, in-house pilot project/study. These streets are scheduled for re-paving and repair in 2016, do we have to wait for this?

Next Steps:

- Continue to work with Public Works Department to explore options
- Presentation at September 26 Community Forum with a request for support to take the project to the next step

Bob Jaffee and other offered suggestions for building public support. For example, a presentation to the Organization of Realtors, City Club, etc.

V. Elections: Leadership Council

Mary LaPorte nominated Suzette Dussault. Suzette made a few comments about her interest and return to the neighborhood. She was unanimously elected.

Rogna will remain on the Leadership Team.

VI. Large Neighborhood Grants : Jane Kelly

The City has made about \$20,000 available for large grants. Neighborhoods are encouraged to apply for grants of up to \$3,000. A training workshop will be held on September 19, and the deadline is October 7.

Ideas for projects included improvements around Willard School, possibly in cooperation with Rose Park, as well as landscaping projects. A bike ride and tour of the neighborhood was planned for September 16.

VII. Weed Issues

Concerns were raised regarding the need for MRL to take better care of their areas along the track. Problems include the use of possibly harmful chemicals in absence of signage, as well as the chopping of weeds which just spreads invasive seeds. It was agreed that we should ask for more information from MRL; perhaps a subcommittee will be formed. A new resident, Ed Nolder offered that he is a licensed pesticide applicator and has knowledge of this issue.

VIII. Announcements

- 1.) Adopt-A-Traffic-Circle: There are 72 traffic circles in the city, many need care, and volunteers are needed. Resources available include \$50.00 grants from the City, the Extension Service for training, and Doug added that seedlings may be available. Bob offered Free Cycles as an adopter for the 1st Street/Cottonwood Circle.
- 2.) Neighborhood Council Leadership Training: September 30, 6:30 pm
- 3.) The Neighborhood Watch Program is offering sign-ups for \$2.00/year. Resources are available through the County Sheriff's Office as well as the Missoula Police Department.
- 4.) Bob Jaffee encouraged the Council to initiate/maintain contact with Loyola High School regarding some upcoming improvements planned for their athletic property, as well as long range plans for the site.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary LaPorte

10.02.13