

Rose Park Neighborhood Council – General Meeting Minutes

RPNC Meeting – September 17, 2014 – Rose Park

6:30 p.m. – Ice Cream Social (Big Dipper Truck, Mountain Water “Hit The Tap” Trailer)
Neighborhood Council Sign-Up by RPNC Leadership Team.

7:00 p.m. – Rose Park Neighborhood Council General Meeting

In Attendance: Gwen Jones (RPNC LT), John Pilsworth (RPNC LT), Clare Wood (RPNC LT), Juliane Devlin (RPNC LT), Jerome Gannon (RPNC LT), Michael Painter (RPNC LT), Jane Kelly (Neighborhood Coordinator), Genevieve Jessop Marsh (Garden City Harvest), Emily Bentley (Missoula City Council, Ward 3), Jon Wilkins (Missoula City Council, Ward 4), Jim Sadler & Ray Hoffman (Missoula Rose Society)

A meeting of the Rose Park Neighborhood Council was held on Wednesday, September 17th, at Rose Park. An ice cream social started at 6:30 p.m., with ice cream provided by Big Dipper’s Ice Cream Truck & water provided by Mountain Water’s “Hit The Tap” trailer. RPNC Leadership Team members encouraged attending neighborhood residents to sign in & provide an e-mail address if they have one to enable them to receive the city’s weekly neighborhood newsletter.

A general business meeting of the Rose Park Neighborhood Council was called to order shortly after 7:00 p.m..

Welcome & Introductions

Gwen Jones (LT Co-Chair) welcomed those in attendance & introduced the neighborhood council’s leadership team and Missoula City Council representatives present - Emily Bentley (Ward 3) & Jon Wilkins (Ward 4).

Neighborhood Councils

Gwen introduced Jane Kelly, Neighborhood Coordinator, who gave a presentation on the history, organization & general operating procedures of Missoula’s neighborhood councils.

Rose Park Gardens – Rose Society

Gwen introduced Jim Sadler, a board member of Missoula’s Rose Society. Jim, with additional comments from Ray Hoffman & other members of the rose society, discussed the establishment & history of Rose Park and the rose beds. Jim also outlined the efforts of the Rose Society to work with the City of Missoula’s Parks & Recreation Department to maintain & make improvements to the rose beds. The Rose Society would like RPNC to establish a committee to work with them on soliciting funds & volunteers to assist with the refurbishing & other maintenance of the park’s gardens.

Gwen asked that anyone interested in assisting the Rose Society with their work at Rose Park please note so on the meeting’s sign-in sheets and/or contact the leadership team. The RPNC Leadership Team will establish a committee or liaison with the Rose Society.

A couple of suggestions were made by neighbors regarding possible additional help with the rose garden work:

- Contacting Hellgate High School to discuss the possibility of making some of the rose garden work available for seniors during their Senior Service Day.
- Contacting the Trapper Creek Job Corps Civilian Conservation Center to discuss involving the Job Corps in some of the rose garden work.

Update – Rose Park Neighborhood Council Projects

Gwen gave a brief report on neighborhood projects the RPNC Leadership Team has been working on:

- **Small Neighborhood Grant – Trees Adjacent To Willard School Park / Lacrosse Field**
A small neighborhood grant was approved for the project – the trees are scheduled to be planted during the upcoming weekend (Sep. 20 & 21).
- **Community Garden @ “Triangle Park” (Franklin / Ivy / Marshall)**
The leadership team is working with Garden City Harvest and interested neighbors to submit an application for a large neighborhood grant to help in developing a community garden on a city-owned triangle parcel of land @ Franklin / Ivy / Marshall. Genevieve Jessop Marsh (Garden City Harvest) has scheduled a meeting to discuss & develop a work plan for completion of that grant application. (Monday, Sep.22.2104, at 12:00 p.m. at Buttercup Market). Interested parties are welcome to attend. Genevieve also asked anyone interested in writing a letter of support for the garden & grant to contact Garden City Harvest or members of the neighborhood council’s leadership team.
- **Bancroft Bike Lanes**
John Pilsworth also reported that bike lanes (one on each side of Bancroft) were put in when the city re-striped Bancroft from Brooks to South Avenue after this summer’s chip sealing & that the lanes seemed to be working well for bicyclists.

Leadership Team Meeting

Gwen reported that the neighborhood council’s leadership team will be meeting on October 14th (7:30 p.m., Jack Reidy Conference Room, City Council Chambers @ 140 W Pine) – anyone interested in attending would be welcome to join us.

Gwen also asked all residents who might have neighborhood projects they would like to propose to let the leadership team know and/or attend the upcoming meeting. One project the leadership team will be exploring is the possibility of adding some “Book Houses” to the neighborhood – mailbox type constructs where residents could “take a book, leave a book” to exchange books for reading with their neighbors.

Public Comment

Residents were asked to propose any additional neighborhood projects and/or to make any public comment regarding the neighborhood or items not on the agenda. Two items were discussed:

- **Traffic Circles / Traffic Calming**
One resident expressed concern about traffic & vehicle speeds in various areas of the neighborhood. (Kent & Queen was specifically mentioned.) There was discussion about the process of identifying areas needing traffic calming, developing neighborhood support for the project (the more neighbors interested, the lower the cost) and working with the city’s public works departments to get approval for installation & develop a funding mechanism. Councilor Wilkins offered to assist with getting traffic

calming projects approved by the city and city council.

- Tax Increases

One resident expressed concern about the ongoing expansion of property tax levies and annual increases in those taxes – while worthwhile community projects may come with what seems to be a small annual tax increase, in the aggregate those increases can impose a significant burden on property owners whose income is fixed.

Minutes submitted by Painter.