

Riverfront Neighborhood Council Leadership Team Meeting Minutes

Date: May 26, 2015

Time: 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Location: Bernice's Bakery
190 S. 3rd St. W
Missoula, MT 59801

Leadership Team Members Present: Jonathan Qualben, Mary LaPorte
Others Present: Corena Maurer, Neighborhood Assistant, Mike Painter,
Extraordinary Events Committee, Dale McCormick, Extraordinary Events
Committee, Matt Ellis, Missoula Ospreys, Jeff Griffin, Missoula Ospreys, Gwen
Hoppe

1. Missoula Osprey Fireworks Schedule – Matt Ellis and Jeff Griffin attended the meeting on behalf of the Osprey organization.

Following introductions, the following points were noted:

- Jonathan: spoke of the neighborhood history, our previous discussions and stated that the number of fireworks on the schedule was too many.
- Dale: Dale is a member of the extraordinary event committee; he spoke of the development of the use agreement. Dale stated that if the use agreement were to be amended it would be a longer process that would not solve the immediate concern about the number of fireworks displays for this baseball season.
- Mary: background on previous Leadership Team meeting discussions. The scheduled fireworks (2013: 1; 2014: 3; 2015: 5) is not the trajectory the leadership team wants
- Gwen: Gwen spoke of previous fireworks events and the many problems with dogs, kids, and noise

Matt stated that he was here to get briefed on the issue. He distributed the 2015 game schedule, which includes the 5 fireworks events. From his point of view he said that the Ospreys have dealt with fireworks by moving the scheduled time earlier. Recently they declined a request for another fireworks show. The fans enjoy the fireworks, and they have properly notified the city and complied with the requirements in the use agreement.

Mary noted that the Leadership Team on May 11 passed a resolution requesting that the number of fireworks be held to 3 per season. She asked Matt if the 2015 schedule could be reduced to 3. Jonathan spoke of the development of the revised use agreement, and raised the issue of the City's sound ordinance.

Matt stated that he could not provide an answer to this request; he will take it back to his management team. He offered to provide comp tickets to the Leadership Team for the games with the fireworks. He also said that there may have been 5 fireworks shows last year, although not reflected by the permits.

Dale said more about the revised use agreement, which is generally more permissive. It may be appropriate to review the agreement with MRA, other city officials, and see how the agreement is working out. There was some discussion of quiet (soundless) fireworks. The information provided by Jane Kelly, Office of Neighborhoods, was shared with Matt.

There was discussion of a neighborhood opinion survey in this issue. Although it was not clear how that could be done in terms of staff resources, it was agreed that Matt could provide input on any survey if is done. He said they do get complaints about the gate being closed on Hickory Street on game nights and other events.

Next Steps:

- Matt will communicate his decision to the Office of Neighborhoods before the Riverfront Neighborhood General Meeting on June 10.
- Corena agreed to located the Sound ordinance and distribute to LT members and others.
- Mike Painter, Rose Park Neighborhood Council and member of the Extraordinary Event Committee, will put this on the agenda for the upcoming May 28 Community Forum.

2. New Business - None
3. Public comment on non-agenda items - None
4. Announcements – None

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Submitted by: Mary LaPorte