

# University District Leadership Team Meeting via Zoom

November 10, 2020

6:30 PM Mountain Time

## 1. **Introductions and Roll Call**

After all members had successfully logged into ZOOM, Dori Gilels called the meeting to order. Present were Kelly Elam, representative of Missoula Neighborhoods; Dori Gilels, Co-Chair; Darcy Caron, Co-Chair; Chloe Loeffholz, student representing ASUM; Bryce Rowe, Treasurer; Jennifer Copley, Secretary.

## 2. **Approval of Minutes of October 6, 2020**

Darcy moved and Bryce seconded the motion to approve the minutes from October 6. Members voted to approve the minutes.

## 3. **Treasurer's Report – Bryce Rowe**

The University District Neighborhood still has \$248 in the budget. Most of our expended funds were used to print and distribute the fall newsletter. Jennifer mentioned that T.J. Machado of City Parks and Recreation would like us to seek a project grant to develop a large, central entrance sign for Bonner Park. Project Grants will be opened in the spring.

## 4. **ASUM report – Chloe Loeffholz for Jordan Lyons**

Chloe reported that ASUM volunteers completed a post-Halloween pumpkin pick-up, composting smashed pumpkins. ASUM used grant money to purchase 30 rakes to for leaf raking in the University area. Though UM's fall semester ends November 29, ASUM Neighborhood Ambassadors may remain available for winter break projects.

## 5. **Establishing a Representative for Community Forum**

Bryce volunteered to serve as University District Delegate to Community Forum. Jennifer will serve as alternate. The two will rotate attendance at Community Forum meetings.

## 6. **Leaf Raking – Darcy Caron**

City leaf collection in the University area will begin November 9, and continue through November 13, and the special district on the November 17.

Using mostly the Nextdoor app, Darcy collected 15 names of neighborhood residents who needed leaf raking. Another 10 names came from UM. During morning and afternoon shifts, 3 coaches and 47 athletes raked about 25 yards on Election Day. They finished remaining yards November 7. Athletic department volunteers will assist 10-15 neighborhood residents with snow shoveling.

## 7. **Jeannette Rankin Park, Plan B for Weeding**

Autumn plans for weeding and planting ended with the big snow dump in mid-October but will be completed in the spring.

## 8. **Nextdoor App F/U 9 Cautions from Missoula Neighborhoods**

Because of Colin's paternity leave, Kelly and Colin discussed, but did not decide, how leadership councils should use the Nextdoor website. Colin had raised concerns about the website's postings of religious and political content. Dori suggested that we could continue

to use the website for announcements. Darcy said that, pending a final policy decision from the Missoula Neighborhoods, members who post information pieces on Nextdoor should identify as members of the leadership team. For now, we will not create a special account for the University District Neighborhood Council.

9. **Sidewalk Issue**

Jennifer reported that she had contacted the City about some hazardous uplifts on an area sidewalk and some deep puddles in an alley between South and Sussex. City officials returned communications promptly and courteously.

10. **2021 Neighborhood General Meeting via Zoom**

Members discussed how to host a general neighborhood meeting using Zoom or a webinar. Jennifer suggested we confer with ASUM before setting a date for a general meeting, and members agreed to choose the date at our December meeting. Reflecting on our depleted budget, members suggested that we may have to apply for additional funds to afford a mailing of the postcards usually used to announce meetings. Dori suggested that we could use both Nextdoor and our email list to inform residents of planned meetings. Bryce and Jennifer are storing University District sandwich boards which we will also use for publicity.

Members brainstormed potential topics for a general neighborhood meeting:

- Seeking comments on improvements, if any, in neighborhood snow removal;
- Exploring the developments in the Missoula's affordable housing and use of ADU's;
- Reviewing neighborhood issues of diversity and inclusion;
- Hearing from Ward 3 City Council members Heather Harp and Gwen Jones;
- Initiating a backyard Wildlife Habitat competition;
- Reviewing River Trail System plans

11. **U District Neighbors United COVID**

Bryce reports that the group is inactive.

12. **Community Forum Report**

Jennifer had previously distributed detailed notes on the October Community Forum meeting and suggested that we invite a speaker who could summarize for us the city's proposed plan for downtown parks.

13. **Office of Neighborhoods Report – Kelly Elam**

Kelly and Colin are compiling results of a city-wide assessment and rewriting grants for spring release. Colin will return for two days per week next week.

14. **Public comment on non-agenda items**

Dori and Darcy conferred and they agreed that in the new year Co-Chair Darcy will assume the drafting of agendas and the chairing of meetings.

15. **Announcements**

Members set the next meeting date for December 1, agreeing that at the December meeting we will choose a date for a general neighborhood meeting. With no additional announcements, the meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.