

University District Leadership Team Meeting Minutes

December 1, 2020

1. Introductions and Roll Call

When all members logged into ZOOM, Dori Gilels, Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM. Members of the Leadership Team introduced themselves to visitor, Erin Miller, from Forward Montana: Darcy Caron, Co-Chair; Rick Caron; Jordan Lyons, ASUM Coordinator of Neighborhood Ambassadors; Kelly Elam, Missoula Neighborhoods; Bryce Rowe, Treasurer; Anna Potter; Neighborhood Ambassadors; Julie Stephenson; Jennifer Copley, Secretary.

2. Approve meeting minutes for November 10, 2020

Julie moved and Darcy seconded a motion to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved as submitted.

3. Treasurer's Report - Bryce Rowe

Bryce reported that \$248 remains in our budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021. Kelly reports that about \$3800 in reallocated funds remains available for Leadership Councils who wish to apply. She will research how guidelines, sending information via email. Jennifer will confer with T.J. Machado, City Parks and Recreation, about seeking a grant for an informational kiosk at Bonner Park.

4. ASUM Report - Jordan Lyons

Jordan reported that during first semester, Student Ambassadors distributed rakes and shovels, worked on traffic circles, and completed a pumpkin pickup in the UM area. In their annual food drive, they gathered over 600,000 pounds of food. Jordan complimented Anna Potter for creating the recruiting video and updating records for the Neighborhood Ambassadors. Jordan said he would be available during winter break, along with some Neighborhood Ambassadors, for remote service projects.

Rick reported that over 40 student athletes and coaches joined in the fall raking project. Because of COVID concerns, UM coaches are now pulling back from having volunteer athletes shovel snow. Still, four volunteers are currently pledged to shovel for 3 very elderly residents. Rick urged us to set criteria for any additional homes seeking to be added to the list. Volunteers shovel from front doors along entry walkways and sidewalks adjacent to the streets.

5. Planning of 2021 General Zoom Meeting

Dori suggested that we frame the February general meeting as a positive effort to build connections in a neighborhood impacted by the isolation of the COVID year. She said our goal should be to bring the neighborhood together, providing needed information.

Jennifer suggested a February general meeting, and Darcy proposed Tuesday night, February 9. Over the next week, members will check their own and community calendars for any conflicts with that date, firmly locking in the times before the January meeting. Members agreed that the general meeting should be limited to 90 minutes, beginning at 6:30 PM.

Members brainstormed possible topics for the general meeting:

- Hearing from City Council members towards the end of the agenda so council members could address citizens' unanswered questions.
- Listening to an update on ASUM activities in the neighborhood.
- Learning about the proposed final draft for Missoula's North Riverside Parks & Trails Plan.
- Updating ourselves on Missoula's newest long-range transportation plan.
- Describing how people living in the UM can get alerts from UM Police Department.
- Reviewing University District Leadership Council achievements since the Fall of 2019.
- Receiving an update on the Higgins Street Bridge renovation.
- Soliciting residents' ideas for future neighborhood goals.

At our January meeting, members may decide to add additional topics to the list above.

After Darcy initiated the discussion, members agreed to send out postcards, inviting resident participation in the general meeting. Julie recalled previous years' costs as about \$800 for 3000 residents and Bryce confirmed that estimate. The mailings will be addressed to "occupant" or "resident" of known addresses.

Dori suggested to Kelly that Missoula Neighborhoods develop some clear templates and policies to guide Missoula Neighborhood meetings. Also, to help finetune our agenda for the February meeting, Dori asked Kelly to explain at our January meeting how a webinar is different from a ZOOM meeting.

Darcy volunteered to get started on the postcard, with Dori volunteering to help designing the postcard and exploring possible lower cost printing options. Kelly will provide city guidelines.

6. Community Forum Report - Bryce Rowe

The Community Forum did not meet in November. It will probably not hold meetings in either December or January.

7. Office of Neighborhoods Report – Colin Woodrow/Kelly Elam

Colin and Kelly are still working to revamp the grant format. They will announce later when grants will be available.

Kelly said the City is doing some reorganization and renaming. The former Office of Neighborhoods is now Missoula Neighborhoods, a part of Community Planning, Development, and Innovation. Kelly sent out the Long-Range Transportation Plan, asking members to attend the online meeting. The University Neighborhood has been invited to the December 15 meeting. Members are asked to continue serving until the Missoula Neighborhoods can figure out how to hold elections.

8. Public comment on non-agenda items

Bryce said some of his constituents would like to see lights in the University area Bark Park. Jennifer and Rick recalled earlier questions about the environmental issues surrounding animal waste in that Park, and suggested we should not recommend adding lights to the park. Rick reminded us of the high cost of lights. Julie urged Bryce and his friends to talk to Donna Gaukler.

9. Announcements

Darcy volunteered to create a post for the NextDoor website about the Poverello's great need for donations and the procedures for signing up for the ASUM Newsletter.

The University District Neighborhood Council will meet next on January 5, at 6:30 PM.

University District neighborhood Council University@missoula-neighborhoods.org