

University Neighborhood Council Leadership Team Minutes

September 7, 2021

6:30 PM

Virtual Zoom

1. **Introductions and Roll Call** With all connected to a ZOOM link, the meeting came to order shortly after 6:30 PM. In attendance were co-Presidents Dori Gilels and Darcy Caron, Treasurer Bryce Rowe, Brad Cedarburg, Rick Caron, and Secretary Jennifer Copley. Each person in attendance was asked to share what they were most excited about this month.
2. **Approve Meeting Minutes for June 1, 2021** Darci moved and Bryce seconded a motion to approve the minutes.
3. **Presentations – None**
4. **Items Discussed**
 - a. **Update on Jacob’s Island Dog Park: Rick Caron** Local rafting companies and fly shops expressed interest to Rick Caron about making some changes in current use of Jacob’s Island Dog Park. These local businesses share concerns and willingness to support efforts get some changes. Members of the University leadership team expressed, also, their strong support for Rick’s efforts to work toward multi-use park for the area.
 - b. **Update on Bonner Park Data Collection** Brad Cedarberg collected data for several days before unhealthy levels of summer smoke kept most people indoors and made numbers invalid. Darcy suggested that we get questions put together for surveying neighborhood residents about their desires for Bonner Park. Brad expressed interest in helping to develop the survey for neighbors and will send the leadership team copies of the draft he prepared earlier in the spring so the team may offer suggestions. Dori suggested using the city of Missoula’s resident address list. Colin says that Survey Monkey has raised costs and suggests using Google Forms, instead, because it is free. Observational data could be added later to bolster numbers collected in the neighborhood survey. Colin said he will check on City Parks and Rec Plan, sending it out to team members.

Dori suggested that, at the least, we send out an informational email. Jennifer says it should include success with planters members helped plant on Maurice Avenue.
 - c. **UM Partnerships: Rick Caron, Neighborhood Ambassadors, Fraternity and Sorority Involvement** At this time, Rick reports, it is unclear who might now be interested in involvement in last year’s programs. The University has made departmental personnel changes. Athletes, however, must still complete community service hours. Rick promises to seek more information, and members voiced support for Rick’s continued leadership in this area.
 - d. **Communication and/or Fall Meeting with Neighborhood** Missoula’s Office of Neighborhoods will open grant proposals December 1, conducting preparatory workshops in December and early January. The grants will close in mid to late March. Those applying for grants, said Colin, should work with the departments involved so that grants are

consistent with city goals, processes, and plans. The time to meet with City Parks and Recreation is from October to December, when their workloads diminish. Jennifer and Dori volunteered to meet in City Parks and Recreation and bring information back to the October meeting. Jennifer suggested we invite City Parks and Recreation to our November meeting to discuss Bonner Park and Jeannette Rankin Park.

e. Darcy suggested we invite Neighborhood Ambassadors to again get involved with the University District leadership team. In addition, she suggested, we may also want to bring in student representatives from the fraternity-sorority community. Darcy has made some contacts, and Brad volunteered to reach out to make fraternity-sorority connections. Darcy will additionally contact campus ministry and legal services to seek their interest in sending delegates.

5. **Community Forum Report** The August meeting was canceled when speakers canceled their attendance. The Forum will meet in September with the Police Department, discuss the Neighborhood Watch Program, and review the draft of the city-wide Neighborhood Council guides.
6. **Missoula Neighborhoods Report** Colin Woodrow shared new Office of Neighborhood logos and reported that two planned, large neighborhood events had to be canceled due to COVID spread. Groups could, however, meet outside, setting an example for others in our community.

Colin reported, also, that Missoula Neighborhoods now have an interactive map to help city residents learn which Neighborhood Council they might contact or join. It will eventually include data about each neighborhood, along with boundaries and demographics. He hopes to add neighborhood photos to the website. The Office of Neighborhoods plans to develop recruitment fliers, complete with graphics, to increase membership in the councils.



Colin showed members new logos for the Office of Neighborhoods. So far the only Neighborhood team with a logo is the University District, but Colin hopes other teams will choose logos.

This year the University District will have about \$2400 to spend, a small increase based on population. A handbook is coming out which will detail operating guidelines and the grant application schedule. Eventually, Colin hopes to update the budgeting process.

Colin says leadership team members might want to check out the Missoula corridor plan; explore concerns about roundabouts; review the repurposing/rezoning of the Missoulian building; and read about downtown planning, including traffic flow. Colin is working with League of Women Voters to prepare and conduct candidate forums. Ballots will go out October 14.

7. **Public comment on Non-Agenda Items** Rick suggested bringing in someone to talk about bears, and Jennifer suggested adding urban deer to the discussion.

8. **Announcements** The next meeting will come to order at 6:30 on Tuesday, October 5. Jennifer suggested that we use some of our time to brainstorm the topics for the informational email.
9. The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 PM.