

**Moose Can Gully (MCG) and South 39th Joint Neighborhood Council Leadership  
Team Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, March 16, 2022 at 5:30 PM by Virtual Zoom**

**MCG Neighborhood Council LT Present:** Carol Garlington, Betsy Weber

**MCG LT Absent:** Janet Van Dyke

**South 39th Street Neighborhood Council LT Present:** Paul Kilzer, Ruth Burke, Dave Bell

**South 39th LT Absent:** Jeff Stevens, David Touchette

**City Staff Present:** Kalina Wickham, Neighborhood Specialist

**City Staff Absent:** Kelly Elam, Program Coordinator

**Others Present:** Diane Stensland-Bick

**City Council Members present - None**

**1. Call to Order, Introductions and Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by Carol Garlington. David Touchette and Jeff Stevens have both expressed difficulty meeting virtually. Minutes will be mailed to them by Betsy.

Diane Stensland-Bick introduced herself as a potential homeowner in MCG. She has read minutes of our meetings for the last year and follows City Council and Community Forum activities online.

**2. Approve Minutes for February 16 2022 meeting**

No revisions were suggested. Ruth moved to approve the minutes. Second by Paul. All approved.

**3. Urban Deer Update:** Paul revisited our February 16, meeting discussion with City Council President Gwen Jones and Ward 4 Councilman Mike Nugent. This meeting ended with no commitment to action by Council members and a perceived lack of urgency. Diane asked if a study had been done in Helena before action was taken. Paul said that, while he is not familiar with the details that led to Helena's urban deer culling; their ongoing experience has been summarized in news reports over the years, and he offered to help in making these reports available.

Mike Nugent and Gwen Jones planned to discuss the urban deer issue after the February meeting. To date, there has been no follow-up communication from them.

Paul noted the presence of several dead deer on Missoula roadways (South 39th Street; Miller Creek Road; Brooks Street) in late February, with delays of two weeks or more in their removal. Betsy has resorted to fencing her yard at great expense. Several ideas were discussed: keeping public consciousness of urban deer issues alive with posted photos; inviting Ruth's nephew to a meeting to discuss a Michigan response to CWD. These were tabled.

Kalina will reach out to Gwen Jones and Mike Nugent regarding their follow-up to the February meeting.

After the March 16, meeting, Paul provided the following links to some of the available news reports on the Helena urban deer experience:

[Helena Police kill 140 urban deer this winter](#). Missoulian. April 17, 2013

[Helena Police to trap, kill 60 urban deer starting Sunday](#). Missoulian. November 30, 2013

[Helena Police explain urban deer culling process, 30,000 pounds of meat went to food bank](#). Newstalk KGVO. December 19, 1917

[Helena to suspend urban deer culling due to budget cuts](#). NBC Montana / AP. January 8, 2020

[Helena plans to resume urban deer culling](#). Independent Record. October 4, 2021

#### **4. Bylaws Revisions Update:**

Kalina reported that our comments on the Neighborhood Council Bylaws revisions were sent to the City Attorney and there has been no response to date.

#### **5. Missoula Neighborhoods Cleanup Day April 30**

After discussion, it was agreed that we will hold a joint S39th/MCG Neighborhood Cleanup Day in Garland Park 12-3 pm as in 2021. No compostables will be collected. Dave noted that this will once again be the same day as the Bank Run.

The following activities were assigned.

**Kalina:** Email budget for items such as ball caps to give away, signage. Send MCG/S39 trail maps with street names to Ruth, if available.

**Carol:** Get signs for sandwich boards

**Ruth:** Make trail maps, bring table, bring sign-up sheet. Also contact Jeff Stevens to obtain S.39 story boards.

**Paul:** A scheduling conflict will prevent Paul from being available from mid-morning to mid-afternoon on April 30, but Paul will plan to be available at 3 pm to collect the bags of trash and haul it to the designated dumpster.

**Betsy:** Balloons, check with Kelly/Kalina about ball caps available in the Neighborhood office. Get bid for caps needed beyond this.

## **6. Joint South 39th Street / Moose Can Gully Neighborhood Council General Meeting 2022**

Kalina reported that City Council meetings are transitioning to hybrid, with City Council members meeting in person and others welcome to attend virtually.

It was tentatively agreed that a General Meeting will be scheduled for Wed, June 29th at an outdoor venue, contingent upon City of Missoula guidance for meetings in this stage of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Betsy will look for past agenda topics to include election of new Leadership Team members.

## **7. City-wide Needs Assessment**

Ruth asked if there were plans for a city-wide assessment of neighborhood needs.

Betsy recalled neighbors being surveyed for priorities at the last General Meeting in 2019, and an online survey of neighborhood priorities was made available for those who did not attend the General Meeting.

Kalina noted that there is interest in surveying neighborhoods for their needs and priorities. She expects this will be implemented when other surveys are completed.

## **8. Community Forum Report Carol Garlington**

Carol had emailed her report to the group prior to the meeting. There was no additional discussion.

There will be no March Community Forum meeting due to lack of quorum with spring break.

## **9. Missoula Neighborhoods Report**

Kalina reported that there will be a presentation at Community Forum in April about Trees for Missoula, and in May about Preservation Montana.

Neighborhood Project Funds (NPF) grant applications are due March 18th. Kalina invited members to join the NPF Committee to select grants.

## **10. Public Comment on non-agenda items** None

## **11. Announcements** None

## **12. Next Meeting**

April 16, 2022 at 5:30 PM Virtual Zoom

### **Adjourn**

Paul moved that the meeting be adjourned, second by Ruth. The meeting was adjourned at 6:31 pm

**Minutes respectfully submitted by Betsy Weber, Secretary.**