

## River Road Neighborhood Council General Meeting Minutes

Date: January 21, 2015

Time: 6:30 – 8:30pm

Location: The Lifelong Learning Center Room 200  
310 S. Curtis St.  
Missoula, MT 59801

Leadership Team Members Present: Jesse Neidigh, Melissa Neidigh, Kim Walterskirchen, Prairie Wolfe and Patrick Guinard.

Others Present: Jane Kelly, Topher Williams, Casey Wilson, Hayes Daniel and Nick Shontz.

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1. Introductions - Approximately 25 people attended the meeting.
  2. Jane Kelly, Neighborhood Coordinator, shared the history and purpose of neighborhood councils and the Community Forum. She also shared the basics of the neighborhood councils and the Community Forum. She also shared resources on the city of Missoula Neighborhood website, including small and large grants, training, outstanding volunteer and agendas and minutes.
  3. Mountain Line - Topher Williams, Community Outreach Coordinator, explained the benefits of Mountain Line to the Missoula Community. In 2013 a mill levy was passed which provided improvements like the new Bolt! Service on Route 2, late evening service until 10 p.m. on routes 1, 2, 6 and 7, and increased vanpool service for seniors and those with disabilities.  
There is also a new mobile app providing real time information, there are three new buses and Wi-Fi is provided by Community Medical Center. The Zero-Fare demonstration project also recently started with the help of 14 community partners. These service improvements are projected to increase ridership by 40%.  
Topher Williams can be contacted at [twilliams@mountainline.com](mailto:twilliams@mountainline.com) or call him at 406-721-3333 ex. 111.
  4. Our Missoula - Casey Wilson from Planning Services provided an update on the Our Missoula project. This project basically is about creating a growth policy for Missoula. This project kicked off in June 2014 and information has been gathered in a variety of ways. The formal public input

process ran from July-September 2014, there were 30 different listening sessions. Values include: community involvement, vibrant downtown, parks and trail system, etc. Challenges: affordable housing, good paying jobs, transportation infrastructure, etc. Then focus groups were formed (where the process is currently at): economic health, environmental quality, safety and wellness, livability, housing and community design. During the last half of 2015 there will be a writing and adoption and public review process.

Neighbors can get involved in a variety of ways: sign up to be notified when events occur at [www.ourmissoula.org](http://www.ourmissoula.org), attend community meetings, check out the focus group links or comment on line.

Casey Wilson can be reached at 552-6631

5. Review Initiatives from last winter meeting and progress, discuss updating initiatives (10 min)

- Recycling - Jesse Neidigh

Republic Services will pick up blue bags of mixed recycling and it is free, but the recycling items are limited. There is a list of what can be recycled in this manner on their website. You can also pay for a separate dumpster container and throw all recyclables in it. It is picked up once a month and it is about \$36-\$40 a quarter and yard waste is not allowed.

- Lights on Trail - Kim Walterskirchen

Due to funding sources drying up there would probably not be more lights coming in the near future. Donna Gaukler advised the neighborhood leadership team to write a letter requesting more funding for light along the trail.

- Russell Street Crossing - Patrick Guinard

The crossing will go under Russell Street. Patrick shared photos of the design.

- Third Street Progress and Plan

The plan is to finish the second half from Curtis to Reserve this summer.

6. H&H Rezone - Hayes Daniel - Purchased the old Western Montana Sheet metal building at the end of Johnson Street. They build yurts there and have 7 other tenants that operate businesses there. From working with the Neighborhood Leadership Team and various city departments the property is classified as mixed use and no more than 16 dwelling units per acre in the future and they were granted a general industrial use classification. They are located at 101 N Johnson Street.

7. Leadership Team Elections

Nominations:

Prairie Wolfe

Kim Walterskirchen

Melissa Neidigh

Jesse Neidigh

Patrick Guinard

Nick Shontz

The slate was voted in unanimously.

8. Improving Neighborhood Communication - Prairie Wolfe  
How can the leadership team communicate with neighbors? Facebook updates and an email list that will be used to communicate back to the neighbors. It was suggested that we reach out to other groups in the neighborhood.
9. New Business - None.
10. Public comment on non-agenda items - None.
11. Announcements - Frank's Little Farm on the corner of Wyoming and Curtis. They are looking for public support from neighbors as there will be a need for public comment in the process to obtain a variance. The expected timeline is March. Everyone is encouraged to visit the farm, there will also be CSAs available and they can be found at the farmer's market.

Submitted by: Melissa Neidigh