

Grant Creek Neighborhood Council General Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Date: December 1, 2016

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: The Grant Creek Inn
5280 Grant Creek Rd.
Missoula, MT 59808

Leadership Team Members Present: Bert Lindler, Dennis Muth, John Langstaff, Ron Larsen

Others Present: Jane Kelly, Neighborhood Coordinator, Jordan Hess, City Council, Chris Behan, Missoula Redevelopment Agency, Drew Larson, Planner I, Kevin Davis, Grant Creek Trails Association President

There were approximately 40 people in attendance.

Bert Lindler welcomed the 40 persons attending the meeting.

1. Welcome and History of Neighborhood Councils – Jane Kelly, Neighborhood Coordinator described how neighborhood councils came about and the role they play in providing local input to Missoula's city government.
2. Scott Street Redevelopment Plan – Chris Behan, Missoula Redevelopment Agency gave a presentation on the North Reserve/Scott Street Master Plan. The executive summary outlines current conditions, plan vision and concepts, including traffic considerations, and land-use categories such as retail, office space and residential development. Trails in the plan include a connection to the existing Grant Creek trails as well as connections to the city's existing trail system.
3. Costco Move – Drew Larson, Planner I discussed the current status of Costco's plan for a new store on West Broadway that would be 30,000 square feet larger than the existing store with more parking. The city plans to annex the site and the section of West Broadway leading there with utility use and traffic considerations key items under consideration. West Broadway traffic will be controlled by a traffic signal and additional access will be provided from the south via Mary Jane – extension of this street has been in the long-range transportation plan but some local residents are concerned with increased traffic.

4. Update on the Grant Creek Trail – Kevin Davis, President, Grant Creek Trails Association provided an update on the status of the Grant Creek Trail and took questions. He expressed appreciation for the dedication of the trail association's board members, donations by neighborhood residents, and the cooperation of landowners during this process. He's optimistic that the last segment of trail from Mellot lane to Snowbowl road can be completed, pending preliminary engineering design now underway and grant applications yet to be submitted. Questions and answers included discussions on how to continue trail south beyond the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and trail maintenance.
5. Update on the Additional Southbound Lane/s at I-90 Interchange – Bert Lindler said that the Montana Department of Transportation is designing a project to increase the number of traffic lanes for southbound traffic on Grant Creek Road at the I-90 interchange. Now there's just a single lane. When the design is complete and the cost has been determined, the project will be added to the five-year plan, based on an email from Shane Stack of the Montana Department of Transportation. Stack also said that a recommendation to reduce the speed limit on I-90 to 65 just west of the Reserve Street interchange will be considered by the State Transportation Commission on December 15, 2016. One resident asked why there was not a sign on Grant Creek Road north of the S curves indicating that the speed limit returns to 45 miles per hour there. Bert Lindler will try to get an answer.
6. Q & A with City Council – Jordan Hess, City Council Member introduced himself and took questions. A broad range of questions were discussed including regulating short-time rentals (Airbnb for example), the city's purchase of Mountain Water and how the cost might impact Grant Creek neighborhoods that have independent water systems (the city's expenses will be paid only through revenues generated by users of Mountain Water), and the suggestion that the current zero fare bus use be critically assessed. Hess said the 3-year zero fare bus pilot project will be the subject of a careful evaluation.
7. New Business - None
8. Public comment on non-agenda items - None
9. Leadership Team Vacancy Elections - were taken for two recently vacated leadership team positions – At Large No. 2 and Glen Eagle. Wes Spiker nominated Lee Clemmensen for the At Large No. 2 position. The nomination was seconded by Patrick Marx. No other nominations were received. Lee Clemmensen was elected by unanimous voice vote.
10. Announcements - None

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