

Upper Rattlesnake Neighborhood Council

Leadership Team Meeting, 10/16/17

Team Members: Robin Carey, Doug Grimm, Bev Young, Bill Ruediger, Andrea Stierle, Hans Hoffman

Also Attending: Karen Gasvoda, Office of Neighborhoods; Leigh Greenwood, Rattlesnake PTA; Ben Weiss, Missoula Bicycle Pedestrian program manager.

1. Approval of [April 30, 2017](#) general meeting minutes. April minutes were approved.

2. Air Quality Monitor at Rattlesnake Elementary School

Leigh Greenwood from the Rattlesnake PTA: They want to purchase and install a particulate air monitoring station at the school and are asking for our support for this application for a large grant of \$2500 from the Office of Neighborhoods. They believe that there are two periods during the year when Rattlesnake valley air is different from that in mid-town. PTA website will put the real time monitoring data online. The monitor will be equivalent to the one located at the Fairgrounds. They do not have other grant sources but do have PTA parents w/expertise; UM professors will be backup for installation. Support from Clark Fork School, Rattlesnake Elementary School (will allow placement on school property) and are seeking support of Lutheran Preschool, Mountain Bike Missoula and Run Wild Missoula. No money from other agencies. Hans moved that we support the grant application. Doug seconded. 5 voted yes and one abstained. EPA has a Tech Challenge for air monitors; may lower cost for the unit.

3. Garbage collection/Bear Buffer Zone

Republic Services and bears: issue of when garbage is set out and picked up. Republic wants garbage set out by 6:30am on pickup morning. There are bear proof cans for sale (Ace Hardware) or you can rent from Republic. But not everyone has one or wants one. In Grant Creek, they've negotiated pickup service later in the morning because they too are in a bear buffer zone. Bill moved that we should contact Republic Services, with a letter prepared by Hans, for later pickup in the Upper Rattlesnake. Andrea seconded. All approved

4. New Business

Bill contacted FWP about the deer situation. They think we should adapt to deer, not deer to us. \$100-\$200/deer removal costs were quoted. Also Bill contacted archery people about possibility of helping take deer out. They're not interested; not good PR for archery. Possibly go to Helena to see what they are doing. Neutering is not going to happen; really expensive and must be done yearly. Info has been passed on to Bryan Von Lossberg and the rest of City Council.

Bev brought up the issue of the recommended tree list that Cathy Stewart brought to her attention. Cathy is a retired Forest Service Forester and has served in an advisory capacity to Chris Boza, Missoula Urban Forester. The City has an approved list of trees for boulevards. Chris Boza has refined a list by neighborhood and has 5-6 trees/neighborhood. He wants to present the list to the neighborhoods and has tentatively scheduled a group meeting for 3 neighborhoods. Bev thinks we would get better coverage if he came to one of our meetings,

rather than asking residents to come to a more general city meeting. Bev moved to invite Chris Boza to our general membership meeting. Doug seconded and all approved.

Doug brought up the issue of cars stopping on the railroad tracks at the Greenough/Spruce/Madison intersection when they are held up by southbound cars trying to turn left onto Madison. This is a dangerous situation if the crossing arms come down on stationary autos. He's suggesting a sign that says Don't Stop on Tracks. He talked to Nicholas Bailey at MT rail link. Could be solved with 2 lanes of traffic, one left turning and those continuing west on Spruce. Could get a left turn lane striped. We want the transportation committee to address this issue and pursue it; also bring to the attention of our city councilors. Rail Link will not initiate anything and they'd rather just close the crossing. We asked that the transportation committee take this up in their discussions. Doug has already spoken to City Council.

Next general membership meeting – Hans says that next year we should have a meeting in late September/mid-October. Bylaws say first week of October. We agreed to hold a general membership meeting in February, 2018. Possible topics: Syringa bike park; UR/LR transportation committee; Roundabouts; garbage in bear buffer zones. URNC leadership team will meet in early January to plan meeting.

5. Public comment on non-agenda items

Ben Weiss – roundabouts will be under construction next spring/summer. Concern about the bike/ped trail on west side of Van Buren; it will be more heavily used and the Van Buren/Broadway intersection already has problems, especially on the west side. Current bike lane is often used by cars now. Ben wants MDT to look at the overall intersection as part of the roundabout project. Hans has sent a letter to MDT already and Ben has as well. Ben presented a conceptual design that might improve the safety of that corner.

6. Community Forum Report

Doug has been attending. Now 20 neighborhoods; formerly 18.

7. Office of Neighborhoods Report –

Karen Gasvoda reported that their office sponsored 3 candidate forums and these videos are online at the neighborhood council site. Large grant applications are due soon. Robin has applied for a grant to resurface/repair and relocate bike/ped trail from the suspension bridge across Rattlesnake Creek up to the hobby farm, at base of hill. There may be future trail relocation towards the creek if the dam is removed.

8. Announcements – none

Bev moved to adjourn and all agreed.

Respectfully submitted,

Bev Young, secretary.