

## Lewis and Clark Neighborhood Council-Bancroft Ponds Steering Committee Minutes

Date: October 17, 2018

Time: 4:00 pm

Location: Lewis and Clark Village Community Room 3000 S Higgins Missoula, MT 59802

Present: Colleen Biehl, Dave Westfall, John Conner, Jerry Dirnberger, Kathleen Hanson, John Wilkins, Sherry Winter, Jane Kelly, Neighborhood Coordinator.

1. Welcomed Sherry Winters and introduced Katherine Auge.
2. The August 15, 2018 meeting minutes were approved as posted.
3. America Walks grant – Katherine Auge, Program Specialist II, Missoula in Motion. Katherine handed out information and the application for this \$1500 Community Change Grant. Discussion was held. The grant fits in with the ADA Trails improvement with the continuing of the trails through the Audubon birding area on the SW Corner of the park. There is an existing dirt path in this area that could be improved with cutting a 5 ft path and laying gravel down to extend the birding area to all residents of the city.  
The committee discussed the grant and it is due on November 2 which is before the next leadership meeting and decided that we would proceed. John Conner will work on this as he has the ADA Trails information. The grant will be presented to the Leadership team on November 7.
4. Upcoming Meeting Schedule: The committee decided that the November 21 meeting date be cancelled and the committee will meet on December 19.
5. “Action Proposal” : Dave is in process of editing the proposal from our last work session.
6. Discuss current Action Items
  - a. Education reach-out to neighborhood schools –Sherry reported that Lily Haines has begun gathering student/event numbers from last Spring’s educational use of the park. Besides the spring time activities by Lewis and Clark Elementary (120 students, 1-3 times visits (CFC), Washng Middle School (200 students 1-2 visits (WEN) and Garden City Montessori (24 students, 1-3 visits (CFC). During the summer camps and clubs have used the park: MNHC (40 campers 1-2 visits), Word (50 campers, 1-2 visits (CFC) and Boy Scouts (10-15 scouts 1-3 visits). Information is still being gathered on Russell Elementary and Sentinel High School. Numbers will help in planning the size of the outdoor classroom center.  
Jerry Dirnberger knows a local gentleman who is very interested in education and would like to donate towards the outdoor classroom. The size and design of the outdoor classroom in the nature setting of the park would be determined by the by the location and size of a usable area and the number of students. The committee will have more information in the months to come and then can present to the gentlemen.  
Raise Awareness – The committee along with Dave and Sherry decided that Raising Awareness and Education Reach-Out are the doing the same action. Further discussion at next meeting.
  - b. The Large Grant Application, Bancroft Ponds Park – ADA, Trails for \$3,000 has been completed by John Conner and submitted to the Office of Neighborhoods. The Stephens Street entrance, service road, main pond path and both bridges, along with labor are included in this grant. The costs were finalized early this week with Morgan Valliant.
  - c. Kiosk Design update – Kathleen has been in contact with Morgan Valliant concerning the kiosk that she has designed. Morgan will be able to work with her during the winter.
  - d. Clean-up efforts – Colleen reported that there is a lot of litter along 34<sup>th</sup> and Bancroft. It seems since school has started more trash has accumulated. Instead of a large neighborhood Fall Clean-up that has been held in the past, Sherry Winter’s kindergarten class along with their 4<sup>th</sup> grade mentors will take a stewardship time to clean-up next week. Thank you, Sherry!

e. Re-scoping small grant for signs - Colleen Biehl would like to wait on the letter for rescoping the small grant received for Park signs as the money may be needed to help with current proposals.

7. The Five Valleys Audubon Chapter in Missoula has donated the \$5500 for the Birding Corner at the SW corner of Bancroft Ponds Park. Jerry Dirnberger of the Five Valley Audubon Chapter has worked with Morgan Valliant in establishing the bird habitat in the southwest corner of the urban refuge called Bancroft Ponds Park. Native trees, bushes, plants, grasses and seeds have been ordered through the city and a plan for the birding corner has been designed. This will provide both food and shelter to resident and migrating birds.

8. Public comment on non-agenda items

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