

Northside/Westside Neighborhood Council

General Meeting Minutes

Date: January 23, 2019

Time: 6:00 to 8:00 PM

Location: Burns Street Bistro, 1500 Burns St.

Missoula, MT 59808

80 persons in attendance-notes by Vicki Mikolajczyk

1. Welcome and Food: Elissa moderated the meeting
2. Missoula Neighborhood Watch updates: Tony Rollin, Chair of MNW Board, and Officer Ethan Smith

Tony Rollin-Neighborhood Watch is active in this neighborhood-Thanks!

Officer Ethan Smith- In response to public input, the police department has taken a more proactive approach: more visible presence, more police patrols and hiring more personnel. He is coordinating Neighborhood Watch with free training on how to avoid neighborhood crime.

Community Questions Answered by Officer Ethan Smith:

Is Poverello Center the cause of increased petty crime, drug use and problems in the community?

“Not necessarily. Poverello does not allow persons under the influence of drugs and alcohol at their center. Some problems result from Poverello’s presence, but not all. Do your part-do not leave your cars unlocked, do not leave your purse, laptop or other valuables in your car, lock your doors.

3. Russell Street update: Katie Klietz, Account Executive, Big Sky Public Relations

Trying to stay on schedule, project should be completed by late summer. Bridge will be taller with lighting all around, safer for pedestrians.

Community Questions Answered by Katie:

Are bicycles causing problems on pedestrian bridge? Somewhat, but places with more people around are safer.

4. Affordable Housing and Westside’s designation as an Opportunity Zone-Eran Pehan, Director, Housing and Community Development with Montana James and Colin Woodrow

Wants to attract investors, wants community input through Neighborhood Councils and talking to local bankers. Colin Woodrow comments that they are shaping new growth through coordination between city and county. They are recognizable of the need to maintain older neighborhoods by helping elderly and those on fixed incomes.

Community Questions Answered by Eran:

Will there be undue pressure from City, State and Federal Governments for projects? Are you considering low income housing? Are you considering the social impact of high-density housing? No top-down mandate from government. Low income housing is definitely in the works. High-density impact is a challenge that people everywhere must face-Missoula will rise to the challenge.

5. Poverello Center updates: Amy Allison Thompson, Executive Director

The center serves four to five hundred meals a day using donated food; shelters 175 persons in winter and 150 persons sheltered during summer; provides two year housing to help veterans get on their feet, plus has 20 more units for veterans; provides medical help; have a Homeless Outreach Team (HOT) of girls that approach the homeless people to help them get out of the cold. They are trying to do clean-up and other projects in an effort to be considerate to neighbors. Amy invited neighbors to tour the center.

Community Comments and Questions:

I do not feel safe in this neighborhood since Poverello moved here. Our neighborhood culture has changed. Are you presently working with the motel owners near there? Answer: That issue has just come up. We are looking at that.

6. Election of Leadership Team Members: Jane Kelly

Three new volunteers for the Leadership Team. Coby Gierke motions and Dave Mikolajczyk seconds to accept new members to the Leadership Team. Everyone present vote Aye.

New members: Vickie Mikolajczyk, Mikyla Veis, and Randall Gunn.

7. Q & A with City Council—Bryan Von Lossberg, Mirtha Becerra, and Heidi West answered questions from the neighbors. Lisa Beczkiewicz of the County Health Department reported that the Invest Health group canvassed the neighborhood, and everyone wanted sidewalks so they will do more research through the neighborhood.

Heidi West announced that the West Side Park Plan Meeting is on Jan. 29, 2019 at Lowell School and Free Community Dinner at Burn Street Bistro is on Feb. 10, 2019 at 6:00—8:00 pm.

8. Announcements: Tony Rollin talked about the CERT program (Community Emergency Response Team. He solicited volunteers after the meeting.

9. Adjournment: Jane Kelly was asked how to adjourn the meeting and said, vote with your feet!



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Housing Policy for Missoula

City Neighborhoods
Winter 2018



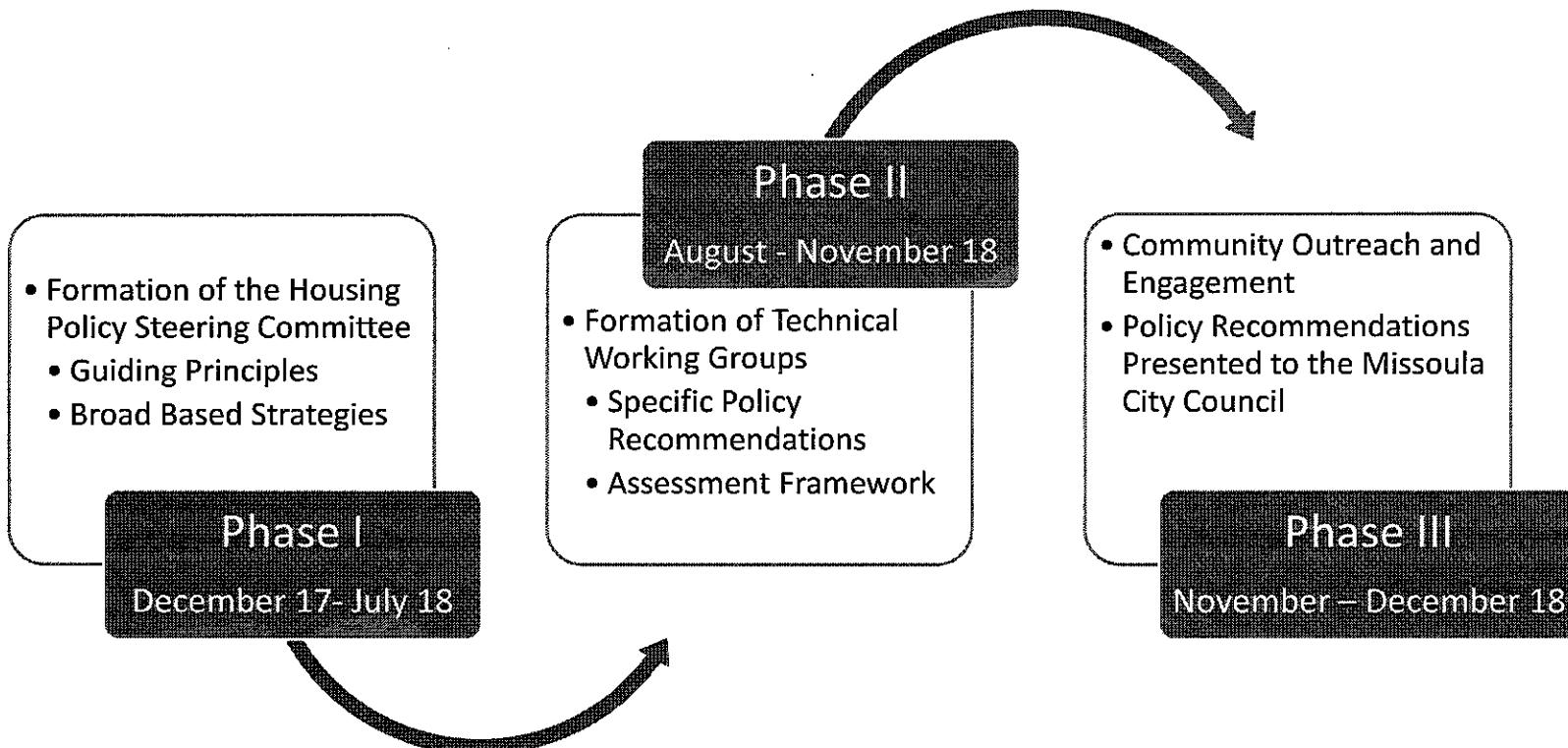
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Housing Policy Vision

Homes build strong communities.

- Safe and healthy homes are the foundation of childhood **educational** success.
- A diversity of home types and affordability levels allow for a robust and thriving **local economy**.
- Safe and healthy homes support individual and community **health**.
- Access to homes we can afford enables Missoulians to **improve our circumstances and thrive** in our community.



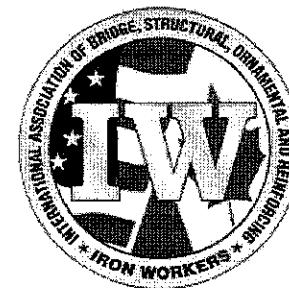
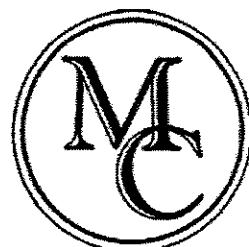


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Housing Policy Steering Committee Membership



Homeword
Sustainable Communities for All



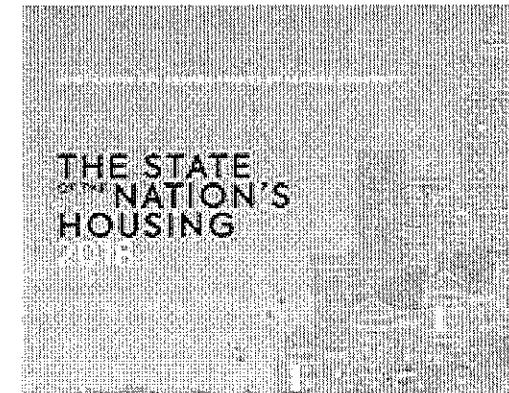
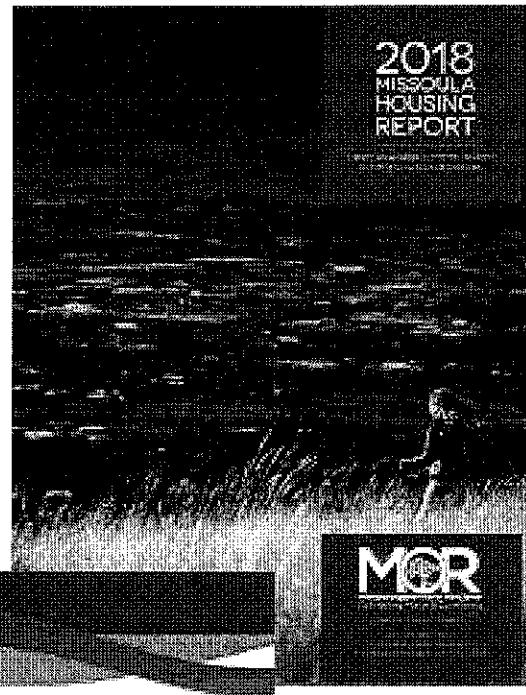
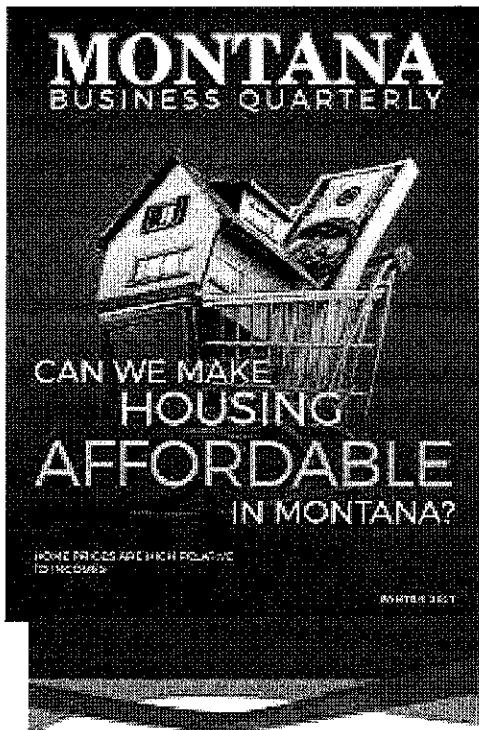


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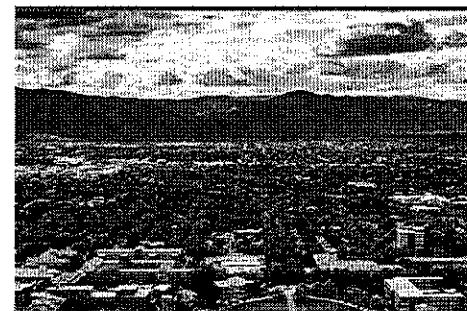
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Education and Research



MAKING MISSOULA HOME
A Path to Attainable Housing

January 30, 2018



OUR MISSOULA

Leading award-winning research

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Broad Strategy Recommendations



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Regulation and Code

- Create affordable housing development incentives
- Explore ways to promote ADU construction
- Increase coordination between the city and county in response to affordable housing needs
- Create a plan for targeted infrastructure development
- Incentivize townhome developments



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Preserving & Creating True Affordable Housing

- Develop agreed upon definitions for affordable housing
- Better leverage Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC)
- Develop affordable housing preservation programs



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Innovation & Capacity Building

- Collaborate to expand capacity
- Work with local partners to expand approaches to housing development, grow programs of nonprofit providers, and increase construction capacity
- Convene diverse public/private sector working groups to implement housing policy and program goals
- Clearly define an assessment framework and data tracking

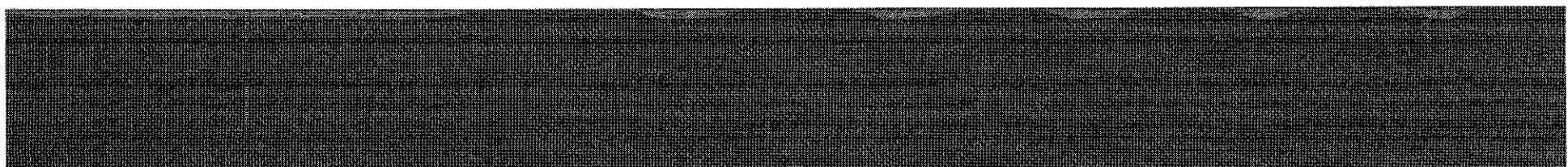


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Public Education & Outreach

- Explore strategies and messaging for an affordable housing community education and advocacy campaign
- Recommend a strategy for an advocacy effort to push for changes to state-level policies impacting housing development





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Funding and Revenue

- Create a housing trust fund and explore options for a recurring local funding source
- Examine ways to better leverage Tax Increment Financing (TIF) to support housing goals

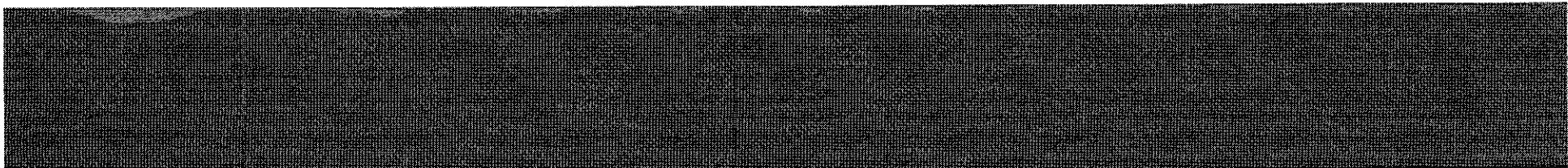


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Special Topics

- Inclusionary Zoning
 - Explore how it might apply to Missoula in the future
- Target Populations
 - Explore gaps and needs within target populations including seniors





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We Want to Hear from You!

Our Office: 400 Ryman St. (enter on Pine St.)

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Email: mjames@ci.Missoula.mt.us

Website: www.ci.missoula.mt.us/housing

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/cityofmissoula/>

PEOPLE OF THE POV

PROVIDING FOOD, SHELTER, HELP & HOPE TO MISSOULA'S HUNGRY AND HOMELESS.

JANUARY 2019

www.thepoverellocenter.org

A PATH THROUGH THE POV: STEPHEN'S STORY

The new Poverello Center is a lot safer than the old Pov. Drug dealers no longer hover in plain sight. I know, I was one of them.

I got out of treatment in June and arrived at the Pov broken and homeless. A bed came with a 9pm curfew. 7 days a week after breakfast everyone is out the door by 8am. Every morning for the last 5 months I've had the privilege to go write my story at the University Library, then I return to the Pov for lunch, walk to the noon NA meeting at the 4D club and then return to volunteer for the Pov. Over these past few months as part of the Pov's Resident Volunteer program I have painted most of the inside of the building. Staying busy writing and volunteering, and being walking distance to the "4D Club" recovery and community building has helped me stay clean and sober.

While in treatment my journal writing became my life story. Lucky for me, Barry Maxwell and another volunteer named Amanda, holds a creative writing workshop at the Poverello every Friday. With



the Holy Spirit's love, Poverello structure and support, narcotics anonymous guidance, Barry's advice, and Julie's (librarian at the University) kindness I have been able to transfer 1000 journal pages into a 300 page memoir.

While living at the Pov I co-exist with others suffering from some form of hardship. People are here because of bad luck or bad decisions. There are people with mental challenges and people facing addiction. There are veterans struggling with the consequences of going to war. There are lots of reasons people are here but what I have learned is that we are all in this together and have to take care of each other.

Two years ago, the Whitefish paramedics saved my life on two separate occasions when I

overdosed. Not long ago, early one morning, I was unlocking my bike in front of the Poverello and an ambulance was parked there. A paramedic had his back to an oncoming SUV. I saw what was unfolding and shouted "Get out of the way!" Bam! The SUV smashed into the parked ambulance. The paramedic barely stepped out of the way. The blessing is I feel I was able to pay back those paramedics two years ago. Now I am paying it forward by staying clean and helping others work their 12 steps.

Forever Creative, Forever Changed,

Stephen

STAFF FOCUS: LOUIS RUIZ - LEAD DIRECT CARE STAFF

The true heroes of the Poverello staff are the the folks who are at our front desk and work day to day with our clients. Louis Ruiz is one of our two Lead Direct Service Staff. For the past 2 1/2 years he has taken the lead in conducting housing assessments with new clients,



supporting existing clients with their housing goals and generally caring for all the people who come through our doors. Recently he has been our point person in implementing our new client database that is integrated with other services providers in Missoula and across Montana.

Louis loves working at the Poverello Center because there is always something new happening here and he gets

to help make Missoula a more just community by helping our most vulnerable neighbors.

Amy Allison Thompson, Poverello Executive Director, says about Louis, "You can really see how much he cares for our clients and the Pov's Mission each time you see him sit down and talk with someone who has come through our doors."

Thank you Louis for all you do for the Pov!

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT:

"I fell in love with all these great people."
- Keegan Flaherty

Keegan got started with the Poverello in 2012 at the beginning of the capital campaign for the new building. She was hired through a contract with ALPS to provide technical assistance and coordination for the campaign. Throughout that process Keegan fell in love with the people and the mission of the Poverello Center.

Keegan reflects on her work, "I fell in love with all these great people working their asses off

to build that shelter. And I also really appreciated what the Pov was doing and how they approached their work."

Keegan joined the board in 2015 and stepped down when her term was up in December of 2018 after serving two years as the board President. She is most proud of her work in helping to hire the Poverello Center's current Executive Director, Amy Allison Thompson, and helping build the Pov's fundraising strength through some large donor asks. Keegan was also known for bringing in a stack of pizzas or a plate of cookies for staff to show her appreciation for the hard work they do.

"Since I became the Executive Director Keegan has been instrumental in helping us build the capacity of the Pov both to more effectively serve our clients but also to be a financially secure organization. She did this with both her strategic thinking



and her ability to help us raise the money we needed to get there." said Amy Allison Thompson, while describing Keegan's impact.

Now that she is off the board Keegan is going to take a year off serving on nonprofit boards while she launches her new nonprofit consulting business Flaherty Consulting (www.flahertyconsult.com). The whole Poverello family thanks Keegan for her years of service and wishes her good luck with her new endeavor!

Pov by the Numbers:

In 2018 the Poverello Center provided

56,807

nights of shelter to

1,394

unique individuals who were experiencing homelessness.



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*Help plan for the future
of Westside Park!*

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 29
5:30 - 7 PM
LOWELL SCHOOL, 1200 SHERWOOD**

- Check out the proposed master park plan.
- Learn more about the playground project.
- Supervised games/activities for kids.
- Refreshments.
- Visit missoulaparks.org for more info.



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