

Lewis and Clark Neighborhood Council-Bancroft Ponds Steering Meeting Minutes

Date: September 18 Time: 4:00 PM

Location: Lewis and Clark Village Community Room 3000 S Higgins Ave Missoula, MT 59801

Present: John Conner, Terry Conner, Colleen Biehl, Dave Westfall, Beth Sipes, resident, Sherry Winters, Elementary Educator, Naomi Alhadeff, National Wildlife Federation, Karen Gasvoda, Office of the Neighborhoods

1. Welcome to Beth Sipes from the neighborhood who came as an interested resident.
2. August 21, 2019 meeting minutes were approved as posted.
3. General Meeting Review – Dave Westfall relayed that 30-40 people attended the meeting. Morgan Valliant gave an update on Bancroft Ponds Park. 2 new residents, Susan Schott and Tammy Cunningham, were elected to be on the Neighborhood Council. The neighborhood will not have any calming circles installed. Traffic safety is still a neighborhood priority.

4. Discuss current Action Items:

Phase 1 - Improved Trails Project: Items to be completed – John Conner has talked to Morgan Valliant who said to check out stone benches at Mutual Materials. The stones will run around \$250/each with \$100 for hauling and placing, 3 benches will be placed along the Bancroft to Stephens Trail. There is money still left after the stones purchase. The remaining money will be used for trail repairs or improvements.

Birding area update – Some pine trees have been planted in the birding area with markers for the fence. Molly Dillingham from Parks will coordinate the planting to begin tomorrow Sept. 19 from 2-5pm. All are welcome to help.

Dogs off Leash and other animal safety matters - Colleen Biehl has been advised that perhaps this issue should be presented to the city council. After discussion, it was felt that the more education is needed about the wildlife that chooses to live in the park. This issue will be discussed in a few months to see what the neighborhood can do.

Phase 2 - Outdoor classroom – John Conner led the discussion on the Large Grant Application for the classroom. Colleen Biehl will assist with Sherry Winter as the education advisor/language and Naomi Alhadeff as editor. Sherry will invite other educators from different age levels to participate. The design will be amphitheater with stone benches the size of the benches above, so 2-3 children can sit on one and a “desk” for the instructor. The grant is due Oct 29. By Oct. 16 the final draft will be done.

5. No public comment on non-agenda item

6. No announcements

Jane Kelly, Neighborhood Coordinator
Karen Gasvoda, Neighborhood Assistant
Lewis and Clark NC Leadership Team
L&C Bancroft Ponds Committee

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