

April 2009 General Meeting

April 8, 2009 general meeting. The chairman, Mr. Matt Baldassin, called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. He welcomed all who were present:

- Matt Baldassin
- Carol Brodie
- Ann Carpenter
- Ed Childers
- Hans Christiansen
- John Cuplin
- LaNette Diaz
- Jen Gress
- Helen Kolokotrones
- Jon Salmonson
- Ryan Sutherland
- Margaret Syroid
- Lynn Talarico
- Carole Ulrigg
- Erik West
- Tom Zavitz

We reviewed the discussions from previous meetings leading up to this meeting (there haven't been any formal meetings or minutes for a few months). Mr. Baldassin informed the group that at the last meeting the Leadership Team discussed the agenda for this General Meeting as well as the mailing that we sent out with the survey. Mr. Baldassin explained the purpose of the survey and the mailing. Mr. Baldassin introduced the Leadership Team - Ryan Sutherland (Secretary/Webmaster) and Mr. Hans Christiansen (Neighborhood Forum Representative).

There was no treasurer's report because we don't have a treasurer.

Mr. Baldassin opened the floor for public comment:

- Mr. Jon Salmonson - Franklin to the Fort Neighborhood Forum Representative offered some public comment. He mentioned that it is so difficult, particularly in large neighborhoods like ours and his, to communicate effectively to all residents. It is tough to service folks and to get involvement. He wanted to pose a question for our neighborhood to consider as neighborhood boundaries are considered by the City. Here's the summary of his comment...
 - Southgate Triangle (SGT) and Franklin to the Fort (FtF) are two extremely large neighborhoods where the current boundaries are confusing for residents and difficult for those who live in one neighborhood but have kids in the school of the other. Should we consider redefining the boundaries of FtF (and make it consistent with the Franklin School District) - 3rd St. to South Ave. and Russell St. to Reserve St.? FtF would then absorb the north triangle of the SGT and the SGT would absorb the south triangle of FtF (and make it consistent with the Russell School District). This would make the new boundaries of SGT South Ave. to 39th St. and Russell St. to Reserve St.. Thus both Neighborhoods would be nice rectangles (and in the correct mailing sections – the current northern triangle of the SGT receives mailings for FtF)

Mr. Baldassin then moved on to some new business:

- Election of a treasurer. Mr. Christiansen nominated Mr. Erik West to fill the office and Ms. Carole Ulrigg seconded and the council voted unanimously in favor.

Mr. Baldassin then introduced Ms. Jen Gress & Mr. Tom Zavitz from OPG. They gave a presentation about the city's zoning rewrite process. Please see their website <http://www.zoningmissoula.com> for more information.

Mr. Baldassin then introduced Ms. LaNette Diaz from the Office of Neighborhoods – she gave a presentation on infrastructure funding (sidewalks, curbs, streets, parks, etc) which has been a project of the Community Forum. Community Forum is interested in finding out what residents are interested in considering in terms of funding options for these types of projects.

Mr. Baldassin then opened the floor to discuss issues facing our neighborhoods

- Ms. Ulrigg asked that we re-consider a previous discussion on teenage suicide. There have been a few recent suicides.
- Lynn Talarico mentioned that there is such a huge traffic problem in her part of the neighborhood - Russell & 34th - (mainly speeding) coming from Paxson to Russell on 34th. She thinks that traffic calming devices might be a solution.
- Ms. Talarico also would like to see some improvements to Boyd Park - it really needs some playground equipment. Several residents agreed with this.
- Ms. Brody would like to see something done about the dust around McDonald & Paxson - near the commercial areas.
- Ms. Talarico would like to see something done about the dog noise in her neighborhood.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.