

University District Neighborhood Leadership Team Meeting Minutes

November 14, 2023 6:30 PM UM University Center, Room 224

1. Introductions and Roll Call The meeting began shortly after 6:30 PM with Darcy Caron, Chair; Rick Caron, Jenny Mostafavi, Shirley Morkrid and Aaron Hedges. Esteban Castillo, Director of Fraternity and Sorority Involvement, and Emily Ferguson Steger, Director of Campus Engagement were in attendance. Also present were Pam McSloy, Anne and Erick Green, Timothy Jacobs, and Vickie Watson.

2. Approve Minutes for October, 2023 Minutes from the October 3rd UDLT and the October 10th General Meeting were not available for approval.

3. Program Presentations

Jenny Mostafavi shared her grant proposal for "Map Your Neighborhood," a comprehensive program aimed at creating a resilient and well-prepared community. The initiative consists of activities, training, and the creation of a neighborhood disaster preparedness map. Proposal objectives include educating residents with essential disaster preparedness and response skills, fostering relationships among neighbors, thus creating a strong support system, and developing a neighborhood-specific disaster preparedness map.

Included in the proposal is the Missoula CERT team. Timothy Jacobs provided a lengthy overview of the valuable training they could provide to enhance the neighborhood grant proposal. The CERT program, overseen by FEMA, equips community members with skills to respond effectively to emergency situations. Trained CERT members can provide vital support during disasters, improving overall community resilience and reducing the strain on first responders.

Anne and Erick Green shared their grant proposal for signage in and around the Clark Fork Native Prairie adjacent to the Riverfront Trail. Signage would include an explanation of the prairie's history, plant identification, and maintaining the prairie. Missoula Parks and Rec has agreed to help install the signs and maintain them in the future.

Both proposals received full support from our leadership team.

4. Items to be Discussed

- a. Bonner Park Grant Update- Darcy Caron shared that the bike rack has been installed at Bonner Park.
- b. The UDLT unanimously agreed to fully support the *Map Your Neighborhood* and the *Clark Fork Native Prairie* grant proposals.
- c. Reviewing comments and suggestions from the University District General Meeting was postponed until December due to limited time.

5. UM Representatives Report Esteban Castillo reported on the success of the Greek Life fall leave raking for community residents.

6. Missoula Neighborhoods Report Kalina and Melissa were not in attendance due to a council meeting.

7. Public Comment on Non-agenda Items

Rick Caron raised a concern that sending out postcards was not an effective way to bring people to our general meeting. He would like to consider not sending out postcards but purchase sign boards that could be set up throughout the neighborhood. There was some discussion and Darcy Caron indicated she would add it to the agenda for December to continue the conversation.

Rick Caron indicated he has heard from someone from the UM Athletic Department that is interested in finding volunteers to shovel snow for elderly and disabled university neighborhood residents.

Darcy Caron shared with the team that she has been selected to be part of the community working group for the Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails Comprehensive Plan: (PROST Plan)

6. **Adjournment** The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.