

Neighborhood Council | 5.7.24 | @ University Center 224 | 6:30 – 8:30PM
Attendees: Shirley, Vicki, Darcy, Tim, Jennifer, Melissa, Ray and Emily – Guest: Jen Elison and Bradley Elison

Elison's came for Community Comment (residents at Ronald & Gerald on 6th)

Update from their last visit to University Neighborhood Council in March.

- They have been in contact with [Jodi Pilgrim](#) – the Parking Service Manager for the City of Missoula about the parking issue around Hellgate High School.
 - One of the main issues is unlike the other two Missoula Public High Schools – Hellgate offers their students no parking outside of street parking.
 - Currently while the City is aware of the issue it is not on the docket for addressing the issue at this time.
- Informal Neighborhood Meeting will be happening in May 22nd in the ally behind the condos (Ronald/Gerald – 231 S. 6th St. E.) to continue this discussion and improve the situation.
- School Resource Officer has been very helpful when it comes to the students smoking weed in their rigs during their lunch, free periods, early outs and late starts.
 - Student bad behavior is continuing:
 - Weed smoking/vaping
 - Trespassing on people's properties
 - Climbing trees
 - Sitting on lawns
 - *new occurrence is a student brought a BBQ grill and set it up on the neighbor's lawn to cook lunch. When the students were approached to move it – they argued with the resident on where they wanted them to go – as they were making lunch. Then when the neighbor indicated that they would need to call the police – the student indicated go ahead my Dad is a cop.
- Missoula Police have been called numerous times and just don't show up or show up so late that the issues are no longer happening.
- The Elison's lived on 6th street for seven years before moving to 5th street last year.
 - They and other neighbors have also talked to Jodi Pilgrim from the City of Missoula about how fast people travel down both 5th and 6th street.
 - The challenge is that both 5th and 6th street are part of Hwy 12 and thus putting roundabouts and/or speed bumps are harder discussions to navigate.
 - Historically it felt like ¼ of the student body brought cars to school and now it appears to be 80-90% of the student body increasing not only the issue of parking but also bad behavior in the neighborhood.
 - Possible thought – to ask Missoula Police department to come and post at Gerald and 5th/6th around 4pm and issue tickets. By

doing it a couple times – people start to change their behavior even if the officer is not there.

- This is a concern that folks will actually get killed on these streets. It is not a matter of if it is a matter of when.
- Darcy – suggested perhaps a meeting between the new MCPS Superintendent, Hellgate Principal and the neighbors would be beneficial in finding solutions for everyone.
- Brad Elison – suggested signs that read: “Drive like your dog lives here”.

University Neighborhood Update on Parking

- Starting in July parking fees for residents, employees (of neighborhood business like Tandem), and contractors will see increases to \$45 annually for the first two cars.
 - Additional permits per residences will be higher than \$45.
- The Missoula Parking Commissions is planning on implementing a 1-hour free policy in University Neighborhood District
 - This can not happen until they increase the number of City personnel for parking patrol
 - Currently there are only one parking patrol person for the City
 - This might go into effect in January of 2025
 - The parking patrol system will read license plates so that no car (that doesn't have a neighborhood permit) can park in any part of the University Parking District for more than 1 hour within a twenty-four-hour period.
- Some concerns raised by Jennifer:
 - Short term rentals like bed and breakfast's, Airbnb and others haven't been considered
 - If we don't have the enforcement why is the Parking Commission making new rules?
 - Think about increased frequency of street sweeping
 - Extend the parking district to Higgins
 - Consideration for contractors/service folks needs to be addressed
- Jodi Pilgrim has been taking notes from folks and working on solutions that meets a variety of needs.
 - Example: free parking has moved from proposed 2 hours to just an hour.
- Jen brought up if the city had continued talks about changing 5th or 6th to two-way.
 - The glass packs and speeds that folks are using are a danger to neighbors and pedestrians.
 - Ben Wies had responded to the question about changing the directions of the streets and/or adding roundabouts or speedbumps.
 - The challenge is that these roads are still part of the hwy and so it would take a much longer discussion for this to take place.
 - Hire another cop? Right now if you get towed during street sweeping it is for free. Why not add a cost to it?

- Why not boot more people parking illegally in University Neighborhood?
- 7:02 PM Tim moved and Jennifer seconded approving the April minutes.
- We will vote on March's minutes once they have been able to be reviewed – at June's meeting.
- Updated on Bonner Park
 - Signage update
 - 10am – 7pm – new hours are posted
 - Darcy has also posted this on Next Door
 - If things don't change – the pickleball lines will be removed by Parks and Recreation
 - 1 week after the sign were sent a list of times that people used the court outside of the posted signage was sent to a lawyer.
 - Darcy has talked to Donna at Parks and Recreation
 - Signs are not in an obvious spot on the main door but instead on the fence were folks might miss it. If they could be hung on the door it might make more people notice the change of hours.
- Debrief from April's Clean Up Day
 - Worked well going door to door
 - Big shout out to Tim, Rick, and everyone else who were able to assist in putting the door hangers on.
 - Tim really enjoyed going door to door and meeting his neighbors, he had good discussions and meet some great people.
 - Going forward it would be nice to have more people help with distributing the information.
 - Day of Event
 - Rain didn't help but the turnout was still okay
 - Nicer day would have meant more people at the park – and thus more people to swing by the event.
 - Riverbank Run happened in the morning
 - Printing
 - Vista couldn't guarantee the door hangers until April 22nd
 - Alpha Graphics was quite expensive to do the printing
 - A parent from Darcy's school ended up doing them
 - UPrint – a great suggestion from Kalina – was cheaper but Darcy had re-designed the door hanger each time for each company and just didn't have the time to re-design it again. Next year
 - Printed 1500 and had a small amount left over – but Darcy left them on top of some of the mailbox clusters for folks who lived in complexes that didn't allow solicitation.
 - Pre-planning is key for doorhanger distribution
 - Packets with a map, pen, and hangers would be great

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- Maps indicating buildings that don't allow solicitation, have locked complexes or indicate specific spaces for fliers to be hung, would be nice
 - Could we get coffee coupons or something that we could handout to those who help with the doorhangers or with the Neighborhood Clean Up?
- Jennifer – could University Neighborhood District start at listserv?
 - Melissa – we have the ability to send out emails from City of Missoula Neighborhoods
 - These emails can be personalized
 - Currently Neighborhoods does not have the bandwidth to run each [Neighborhood](#) page on their site but if we provide the content they would be able to add it to the page.
 - Moved to discuss during the June meeting
- Darcy – A Frames are in – but we need to look for something that will protect the posters that are in them when they are out.
 - Right now they are using tape to stick the posters in them
 - It would great if University Neighborhood would like to come up with a design (logo) to have put on a plexiglass cover – perhaps even with a boarder.
 - These covers run around \$50 per plexiglass and since there are four signs with eight sides that would be around \$400 to purchase.
 - Jennifer has some ideas that she will bring to the June meeting from other councils that she has served on.
- University Neighborhood Council has \$1.07 remaining in the 23/24 year funds.
 - Any ideas, if any, to spend it on?
 - New budgets will be released in July
- Vickie Watson
 - Hellgate fundraiser – Hellgate Sing for the Night event
- Next Meeting will be on June 4th in Bonner Park or Russell School
 - There are no meetings in July or August
- October 8th will be the next University Neighborhoods General Meeting in the UC Theater
- [Community Forum](#)
 - Darcy and Rick went to the last one
 - Neighborways creating an east/west boulevard starting near Franklin and running to the University.
 - Protected walk/ride way with candle stick and planter box barriers
 - Many of these neighborhoods don't have sidewalks
 - 4' divided space for bikes and walkers
 - Reducing traffic in some spaces from two lanes to taking turns
 - Narrow roads are safer roads
 - One side street parking proposed in these areas
 - Why are some corners in University Neighborhood not sidewalked?
 - Open Space Committee with Parks and Recreation (PROST)

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- Survey good – can we send it out on our neighborhood blast to ensure people can do it?
 - Melissa believes that Parks and Rec is working on sending it through Neighborhoods listserve but will check.
- More listening sessions through the summer
 - Next one in June is at the Senior Center if folks would like to attend
- Goal to get more Missoulians to complete the survey
- Neighborhoods Update (Melissa)
 - Missoula In Motion (Sunday Streets): Sept. 8th in University District
 - Melissa will check on cardboard trash bins that are used at concerts to be put out in University District during big events
 - Trash in the University District
 - Are there things that the City might do to provide dumpsters for University District during the move out season?
 - Many folks moving out in the spring leave things like couches, chairs, etc. on the side of the road which greatly impacts the neighbors and the neighborhood.
 - Melissa indicated that the City of Missoula doesn't own a dump and thus the solution is harder to come by.
 - Emily reminded folks that UM Sustainability has been trying to address this: Campus Thrift and clothing closets on campus on campus.
 - Emily FS will check with UM Sustainability to see if there are plans for the concerts to have recycling and bins nearby so folks don't litter the area. She will update when she has more information.
 - Traffic Circle Audit
 - Melissa is doing an audit of the traffic circles in Missoula but also specifically University District.
 - The goal would be to determine which of these are being taken care of.
 - If they are not being taken care of, then finding out who the original adopters were and if they are still interested.
 - If they are uninterested in continuing or they are no longer in the area – then she will begin the process to determine if there are new folks who might be interested in adopting them.
 - If you are interested in adopting a traffic circle you can learn more [here](#).
 - There are \$150 grants and tools/hoses provided by Neighborhoods to help maintain these roundabouts.
- June City Council Report

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- It's that time again when University Neighborhood Council is invited to do their Neighborhood Update Report with [City Council](#) on June 3rd @ 6pm at City Council Chambers
 - What does University District want to report on?
 - Parking issue
 - Trash
 - Pickleball at Bonner Update
 - Who is planning on doing the update?
 - Shirley is checking her schedule as she would like to do it. If not, Darcy will be able to provide the update.
- Concerns about Grizzly Bears in Missoula and surrounding area
 - Trash on the ground which includes fallen fruit
 - Bear Resistant Garbage Cans are currently being required in the Rattlesnake (April 30) area and might soon be required throughout Missoula
 - This is a deterrent to scavenging bears
 - Grizzly Disposal and Republic Services both offer bear proof trashcans – for a charge.
 - Issue:
 - Tim has found that his parents, who live up the Rattlesnake, struggle with the latches on the bins. This is an issue as more of these trashcans are required.
 - Are there bear proof ADA cans?
- Vickie Watson
 - I'm here to talk to my neighbors about an independent scientist who wishes to run for the Public Service Commission.
 - It is important to re-evaluate our Montana government and its structure every so often.
 - What is working and what needs to be changed
- Jennifer
 - This Old Frat has two Mansfield Fellows staying at their place right now
 - They are hosting a meet and greet on 5.8.24 at 6:30pm so the neighbors can meet these two amazing individuals.
 - There will be lots of Persian food at this reception 😊
- Emily
 - Commencement is happening on May 11th
 - Yellowstone has notified her that they plan to start filming end of May and into June in the University District Neighborhood. They will be renting a parking lot on campus (Dornblazer) beginning May 24th.
 - They notified Emily due to filming that will be happening around the Fraternity and Sorority Houses.
- Meeting Adjourned 8:29pm

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