

University District Neighborhood Council Leadership Team Meeting Minutes

January 22, 2025; 6:30 pm
University Center, UC215

1. Introductions and Roll Call

Meeting Called to Order – 6:10pm

- Shirley is unable to attend tonight and has been temporarily displaced due to her house being renovated.
- Tim is unable to join us tonight.

2. Approval of Minutes for October, November, and December

- Motion to approve – Amy Hoyt
- Seconded – Jennipha Neilson
- All motioned “I” to approve

3. Presentations

- None

4. Items to be Discussed

Review of the December meeting.

- Feedback through Neighborhoods is Gwen Jones felt it went really well.
- Acknowledgement that we didn’t get the audience that we were hoping for.
- Follow up emails:
 - Some couldn’t find the space in the University Center
 - Email from MT Senate District 47 elected official Ellie Boldman
 - Email from Bob Giordano about crashes on 5th and 6th between Higgins and Arthur
- Action Steps for going forward:
 - Sandwich Boards (UDLT has six a-frame signs which are currently house at the Neighborhoods Office at the City) – who would be willing to keep some so we can do a better job of advertising both the general meetings but also the monthly meetings.
 - Amy is willing to take two signs, Tim would most likely be willing to house one, Jennipha would be able to take two, Rou need to check on her storage space.
 - The team then could come up with designated spaces that these signs would go two weeks before general meeting or listening sessions.
 - Yard signs – is a direction that other neighborhoods like Franklin to the Fort have used that have been very useful in ensuring the neighborhood knows of when they meet and their location.
 - Jennipha would you be willing to share the design you did for the General Meeting with this group so we can make changes and suggestion to it and move to approve in the Feb. meeting so we could have signs printed soon after?
 - Rue motioned for yard signs and Amy seconded the motion



Missoula Neighborhoods

- Kalina inquired on the cost. We can work with [Paw Print](#) at the University of Montana. They have a number of services and options that we could possibly go with and get pricing.
 - If a design was completed and then shared out we would be able to vote on the design in the next meeting in Feb.
 - Reminder we can provide feedback via email communication but not vote.
 - Could we ensure that we have a QR code big on the sign so folks can learn more?
- Would it be possible to Zoom our meetings?
 - Zoom is challenging for working and collaborative meetings. Many neighborhoods have moved away from Zoom due to the challenges it brings. Cameras and mics add an extra layer to think about and may come with additional cost. The online component for voting is also challenging when online.
 - Perhaps if guest speakers come – speakers could be recorded for folks who were not able to attend to view them later.
 - With differing schedules, it is hard to get everyone in a room together and sadly there isn't a way to please everyone.
 - If one meeting were just presentations perhaps we could have MCAT join us and film. This is challenging for Kalina and Melissa to do for all 15-18 neighborhoods but if the leadership team wanted to coordinate this – that's a possibility.
- Are other neighborhood councils like ours? Struggling to get people to come and participate?
 - Some are larger and some have as few folks as two. Each one is different and has their own challenges.
 - There are a lot of options to get more involvement but it is also important to remember not to take on too much and focus too much on getting folks to join in as it is also important for this team to complete the projects that they set out to do on behalf of the neighborhood. Some neighborhoods have had such large leadership teams that coming to a conscience has been challenging, let alone voting with a quorum needed.
 - We can more broadly advertise the monthly UDLT meetings so folks could join if they have comments, ideas or pain points to share. With the caveat that if 50 people show up for public comment on non-agenda items it begins to take away from the business that happens in each of these meetings.
- Perhaps we do a listening session for neighbors between General Meetings – where the information could help guide this group and shape the projects that we do.
- Current schedule of the UDLT meetings. We have our University District Neighborhood Leadership Team meetings the first Wednesday of the month (Sept. – May) in the University Center from 6-8pm and will host the June meeting elsewhere due to building hours changing for the summer at the University. Last year the June meeting was held at Bonner Park.



Missoula Neighborhoods

Map Your Neighborhood

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KMOFtk8xeV0&list=PLaYp9JZofBz3RSYyvL57jo_95G8ziwuTV

- Free Program
- New people move in and out of our neighborhood yearly
- Unless your selling candy or going door-to-door you rarely ever know your neighbors
 - Missoula is almost Scandinavian in the way we live. We live within isolated communities that have limited mixing.
- With the recent natural disasters – it has put into focus what is important
- The first step is to have a large general meeting to present this program to them. We would go through the initial packet and walk through some samples. As well as identify team (block) leaders who will take this information to their individual blocks.
 - Then the next steps would be done at the block level by the neighbors themselves. Our goal would be just to present them the general session.
 - There are twelve videos that guide folks through every step or they can use just the packet.
- This program is not CERT but can lead people into learning more about how they can help their neighborhood in times of crisis.
- This is based on the exchange of knowledge. Do you know who might use adaptive hearing aids, a walker, lives alone, on oxygen, have small children, how about a chainsaw or generator? Knowing this might make a major difference on how you lend a hand in an emergency.
 - The program encourages smaller segments of the neighborhood to meet and really map out who is around you and what their needs and talents might be.
 - The ultimate goal would be that folks knew their neighbors more and also make a plan in case of an emergency.
- Neighborhood Grants are interesting things.
 - Perhaps we could submit a grant that would empower neighbors who participated would get a fire extinguisher or other similar item.
- FEMA might also have packs that would be useful. Jennipha has more information on this option.
- Kalina suggested that we also work with Missoula Emergency Management Services as they are working on rolling out Smart911 to see what of our two goals might overlap and complement each other.
- Perhaps we could think about getting information out to the neighborhood on “Getting Fire Ready” with resources that might also push folks to consider getting to know their neighbors more and thus do the Map Your Neighborhood.
 - Kalina shared that North/Westside Neighborhood has an upcoming meeting with Emergency Management to learn more about what they are doing and how they can collaborate.
 - Jennipha inquired if Emergency Management could join us at one of our meetings.
 - Kalina was going to see if what meeting might work best for them.



Missoula Neighborhoods

- Amy mentioned that information on what to do if... information could be a great gift for neighbors.
 - Including from a group brainstorm –
 - Storms
 - Fires
 - Active Shooters
 - Etc.
- 5. Community Forum Report – this upcoming Thursday is the next Forum and Jennipha is going for the UDTL
- 6. Missoula Neighborhood Report – Kalina
- 7. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items
 - From Emily: Winter Welcome Back Celebration this Saturday from 4-6:30pm with games at 2pm and 7pm
 - From Emily: The Big Event Proposal. Presentation from The Big Event Proposal lead Devin Carpenter at an upcoming University District Leadership Meeting.
 - Jennipha mentioned that Gwen Jones brought street parking up in the University District General Meeting. This is such a hot topic and none of the parking commission folks live in the University District and so don't know what the challenges are. Everyone wants to park in this area and we just don't have enough from everyone. From residents, students, employees, etc. both within the parking district and outside of it.
 - Kalina mentioned that Gwen Jones is very aware of the frustration.
 - Any update on nametags?
 - Leadership changes frequently and so generally it is not something that Neighborhoods invests in but will do some additional consideration into the request and provide an update in a future meeting
- 8. Announcements
- 9. Adjournment at 7:33pm