

1. Introduction and Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Clint Whittle-Frazier (Franklin to the Fort), Gracie Sanford (Lower Rattlesnake), Bill Watson (River Road), Jennipha-Lauren Nielsen (University District), Danny Gundlach (Riverfront), Judy Molland (Upper Rattlesnake), Claire Battaglia (Lewis and Clark)
Staff: Kalina Pritchard, Melissa Glueckert

2. Approve minutes from February 16, 2024 and March 1, 2024

Moved to approve by Jenny, 2nd by Gracie. All in favor.

3. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

No Public Comment.

4. Public Comment on Grant Applications

None.

5. Presentations:

a. FY 2025 Neighborhood Grant Applications

Bellevue Park Trees

Total Budget- \$6,000

Requested- \$6,000

This project was ranked at #3.

Jenny- What species of trees are being planted?

Kalina- They have been working with Parks and Recreation. The trees would be ones that are already approved by Urban Forestry. The tree placements in the master plan. But I can check in with Parks regarding this question.

Gracie- Is this the best use of our funds? Is there funding already for this possible already?

Kalina- The NH Leadership Team worked with Parks to use allocated money to put in a bridge and connect that trail system with some money put away from a fund. Giving NH funds to these projects help push them along.

Claire- Trees grow slow so it might be better to help push this along.

Judy- How important is the community support?

Kalina- Very! This project has a few letters of support and a petition.

Jenny- How do the water bags work?

Kalina-They are filled by the city and can be reused.

Dearborn & Leaster Traffic Circle

Total Budget-\$8,606

Requested-\$2,701

This project was ranked at # 2.

Gracie-The master gardener has commitment with upkeep which is important.

Judy- This is practical, I use this road and really see the need.

Jenny- I have the same concerns about water and upkeep

Kalina- They have a plan for upkeep. The master Gardener will help with this.

Dykes Bed at the Missoula Iris Society Garden

Total Budget-\$5,826.51

Requested-\$1,626.51

This project was ranked #7.

Judy- I would have liked to see a bit more of a description regarding the project. I feel I did not get all the information I needed.

Clint- I did like that they were specific with the materials they listed. This also is not a ton of money and doesn't ask for the full 6 thousand.

Judy- They did not get the Two Rivers Leadership Team's approval.

Kalina- There is not an active Two Rivers Leadership team so this requirement is waved. They did however get community support, including a petition.

Gracie- This hit all the marks for me and I scored it fairly high.

Claire- I don't think it was a bad project but it does not feel like a need compared to some of the other applications, seems more like a want.

Bill- I like the idea a lot. But did not feel like this fit the needs. I felt there were more important needs that were being asked.

Jenny- Was this garden impacted by the storm this summer? Is this to help repair?

Kalina- This was not touched in the grant, so I would say no. Parks and Rec will not be scoring this one because it is not P&R property, but support is from Fort Missoula.

Pheasant Run Park Improvements

Total Budget-\$12,000.00

Requested-\$6,000.00

This project was rated lower with the committee, but higher with staff.

Jenny- I do not like the idea of wood chips because it is not accessible to children with assistive devices. I would be more in support if this was a rubber material.

Danny- I did not see the parks support in the application for this.

Judy- There was no letter of support attached.

Kalina- They did have a motion of support at the general meeting. We will check in with Parks and Rec then come back with some more answers.

Rose Park WWII Memorial Replacement

Total Budget-\$17,000

Requested-\$6,000

This one was ranked #5.

Jenny- This one made me a little uncomfortable because of the idea to have sponsors on the plaque. I would rather have the people we are honoring be the only people.

Claire- I felt like the funding was not necessarily appropriate from the city. I would like to rather have some money go to the funding within the park.

Clint- I needed more details, they didn't talk a lot about the details of the damage and ranked it fairly low because of this.

Judy- There was not a whole lot of community need and so I marked this down.

Bill- I also felt this funding should come from elsewhere.

Grace- I scored it highly. I don't feel strongly enough to advocate for this to have money though because of what everyone else has been saying.

Daniel- I rated this high however I did struggle with seeing the need and benefit. I would rather see the money go to a safe crossing.

South Third Street Crossing RRFB

Total Budget-\$20,000.00

Requested-\$6,000.00

This is the highest rated project with a ton of community support.

Gracie- There is a lot of NH support, is there a different avenue for funding this?

Kalina- I am not sure if it would be done without this grant but Council Groves has put a majority of the funding which why this project was supported by public works and mobility.

Daniel- The matching funds are pretty incredible, plus the new bakery is on that corner can increase traffic in the area.

Claire- Matching Funds is so great, this really increases the walkability of the neighborhoods especially with increase in housing.

Jenny- Did this hit all the requirements from transportation?

Kalina- Yes, in the application they have support from transportation. Needs minimal Montana Department of Transportation. Maintenance sustainability will be done by PW&M.

Sculpture Park

Total Budget-\$53,881

Requested- \$6,000

This was rated fairly high.

Gracie- I saw a ton of community support and benefit in this project.

Claire- Where do the artist stipends come from after these sculptures are rotated out?

Jenny- I have concerns about the fact that the money is going towards the stipends, instead of something like the pedestals. Especially because these sculptures are for sale.

Gracie- Maybe we could offer them funding for the plaques or pedestals.

Kalina- We can ask that question.

Claire- I will also feel better if we were purchasing something that stays with the city.

Clint- I agree.

6. Items to be Discussed:

a. Grant Scoring and Recommendations

Group likes the idea to fund the RRFB grant (\$6,000) and L&C traffic circle (\$2,701.00) in full.

Claire- If P&R is actually matching for the Pheasant Run Park Improvements I would be in favor of funding in full.

Grace- One thing to consider in these applications is the want from the neighborhood. For lower rattlesnake we really wanted a sign and although maybe it did not increase benefit it was really wanted.

Gracie-For the rose park project, would partial funding do anything? Is this a safety concern?

Jenny- I would like to maybe see if we can fund the trees at half the amount.

Judy- Can we fund some applications at partial funding?

Kalina- I will reach out to the applicants and see if they can move forward with the projects at partial funding and still accomplish the goal of their projects.

7. Announcements

The committee will be meeting again in March to discuss final recommendations.