

Franklin to the Fort Neighborhood Council Meeting
Notes from 5/25/2010
7-9 pm at Friends Meeting House

Attendees: Jason Aylward, Jon Salmonson, Mike Greathouse, Judy Hewitt, Ed Childers, Julie Merritt, Patricia Hogan, and Erin Scott

Items not on the agenda: Jon mentioned the talked-about boundary (and thus name) change for Franklin to the Fort. Short discussion followed and a meeting with Southgate Triangle needs to be arranged to see if there is any mutual interest in pursuing boundary changes – annex or divide or explore other options.

Julie Merritt thanked the Council for use of the signs to support the PTA fundraising sale for the benefit of Franklin playground. They raised about \$2000. There was a Walkathon last week and the teachers donated part of their appreciation money to the playground equipment fund.

Treasurer's Report: Balance remains at \$768 general fund and \$1,158.45 mailing fund. Discussion of potential expenditures scheduled later in meeting.

Alderman Report: The work on Brooks between Mount and Higgins will be paving and curbing. It will not be widened.

The petitions for a city-wide vote on the ordinance banning discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity or expression in the areas of employment, housing, public accommodations, or educational institutions have not yet met the legal requirements. Their efforts continue.

There's another big truck load coming through Missoula on the way to Billings. This is not part of the Kearn project previously discussed.

The mayor is presenting another budget on Wednesday – will be broadcast at 3 pm on Channel 11.

There's a rezone request for 2012 North Avenue – next to Hellgate Tool. The Planning Board denied the request. Owners have not met current conditions at this time.

Jon reported on the Transportation Policy Coordinating Committee (TPCC) discussion of the upcoming TIGER grant; applications are due in August. We could reapply with our previous request which failed or develop a new one. TTAC (Transportation Technical Advisory Committee headed by Steve King) is preparing a plan. This grant will require a 20% match. TIGER1 was for sidewalks and 3 underpasses – 2 of which were under Russell and 1 under Reserve plus some trail construction. TPCC & TTAC are part of the MPO (Metropolitan Planning Organization of which there are 3 in the State.)

Jon read an e-mail into the record he'd sent the Mayor. See Attachment A.

Franklin School Playground: Julie discussed the fundraising efforts of the Franklin PTA to obtain new playground equipment. This is for the large recreation yard on the West side of the school. The fall zone is not up to code and needs to be enlarged which requires special wood chips, excavation, etc. They are applying for one of the large neighborhood grants. The playground is considered a neighborhood park with a service area of $\frac{1}{2}$ mile radius. The 80% of median income within this service area does not make the school competitive for some grants. Use of CBDG for parks or playgrounds is not settled. Missoula has been designated as a Playful City and there could be some funding available from there. The playground equipment at St. Joseph's on Stephens and Paxson on S. Higgins are examples of what we'd be getting, estimated at \$45,000 plus build costs. Those schools did extensive fundraising for those projects plus a lot of donated labor with the Playground Equipment company overseeing and assisting with the installation. Julie requested the support of the neighborhood council for the project.

Jon summarized some of the neighborhood grants received: the Garden of Eaton, the Pocket Park received 2, looked into trail use and boulevard trees. Jon moved to send letter of support to the Franklin PTA for the grant application. Mike seconded it. There was short discussion on whether this would or should preclude a grant application from the council. They are due in September and in the past there's been a total of \$18,000 available across the city with a \$3,000 **maximum** per grant. Julie assures us this project will be definitely moving forward to use the monies and presented some timelines. Vote was taken and passed unanimously. Jon will write the letter of support to the PTA.

Erin Scott Neighborhood Liaison Update Bus Tour: Erin brought a flyer for the Sustainability tour on Saturday, June 12. The deadline to register is Monday, June 7. Meet for lunch at 11:45 in Greenough Park and the bus will leave promptly at 12:30 to tour the 5 properties on the tour, returning to Greenough at 4 pm. Registration can be online at www.missoula-neighborhoods.org or by phone at (406) 552-6081 or by e-mail to escott@ci.missoula.mt.us. There will be public announcements for this event.

Erin also had a print of the Neighborhood Council brochure and some possible marketing logos. She requested input on the designs and received some at the meeting.

Funds: Jon reported briefly checking into a stamp which would cost \$35 for 3x3. He did not have a firm size to work with. A logo would be an additional \$60. A logo should be simple and easily reproducible. Although the original thought was for the neighborhood council brochure, it could have multiple uses and on various formats. Erin mentioned the last-minute brochure changes eliminated the space originally planned for individual NC's identification. The printing is going to occur within the next 3 weeks and funded at that time (this Fiscal Year). There does appear to be room on the brochure in the center of back panel and also some area in the map. The back panel space appears to be about $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $2\frac{1}{2}$ ". We discussed how many we would want for Franklin in addition to our share of the original order. It was suggested Erin's original bulk order be divided on basis of neighborhood population rather than just the number of neighborhoods.

Jon moved to **order 1000 additional Neighborhood Council brochures** from our regular mailing budget. Mike seconded. Erin will order and bill the appropriate budget fund. Vote was taken and motion was approved.

Jason knows a graphic designer and will discuss logos with her. There was general discussion and some drawings of what a neighborhood logo could look like. Patricia and Mike both had drafts using Franklin School's skyline or the gates design with the dates.

Jon moved to authorize the expenditure of **\$50 for purchase of a stamp** to identify the brochures for Franklin.

Plans for the **Franklin Neighborhood Council Picnic/Barbeque/meeting** were discussed. Erin was to check on the deadline for all City Printing for the month – Might be June 11th. Jon will check on dates Franklin park is available during the last week of July or 1st week of August; Sunday July 25 preferred over July 18 or August which gets into Fair and back to school time. Mike is making a list of non-perishables that could be purchased by end of June – some canned goods, paper products – he will also check on what is left over from last year. Erin needs receipts by June 30. Our next meeting is June 22. Patricia volunteered to help with purchasing but will need a list with quantities and other essential information.

Jon mentioned the F2F Infrastructure plan is on the OPG website and showed us the accompanying maps that are in the map file from Dave Gray. There are a total of 10 maps. Jon suggested we get copies for our use and to assist in showing residents the details of the neighborhood. Erin said she can have them printed and assess us as necessary.

There was a motion to move the State of Sidewalks and Active transportation plan update to the next meeting on June 22. This was seconded and approved. Jon will send out the information on the Pedestrian bicycle counts which we can also address at the June meeting. We should firm up agenda so there's at least 2 weeks for it to be posted on the city's site, allowing Erin some time to get it posted. This will be our quarterly meeting?

Meeting was adjourned at about 8:45 PM.

Judy Hewitt

Attachment A
5-25-10

Mayor Engen,

As you know, I have been pursuing sidewalks and the means to finance them. The first TIGER grant application was unsuccessful. A second application was discussed at last week's TPCC meeting. Several Committee members spoke and seemed to favor a new version of the old grant with a new portion aimed at planning. I spoke in favor of a clean, simplified application for sidewalks. Sidewalks, using a 20 or 25% match from the adjacent property owner and in the gross grant amount of 18 or 19 million would go a long way toward getting the whole job done.

I believe a demonstration project showing the before and after effect of sidewalks on both livability and economy would be valuable here and across the country. The Gulf situation may have the effect of focusing minds on something other than wheels. I think of sidewalks as civic potty training. Missoula, with 66% of our streets unsidewalked, is a case of a civic dirty diaper. But I have learned again and again, at TPCC most recently, that Missoula's leadership does not want to spend time on something so pedestrian (forgive me) as sidewalks.

Please help influence the TTAC committee assigned the task of putting together the new TIGER 2 in very short order. Sidewalks paid for solely by property assessment have an excuse for not getting done. When the opportunity arrives to reduce the cost by 75 or 80%, what can possibly be the excuse for not doing it?

Thank you again,

Jon Salmonson