

Upper Rattlesnake Neighborhood Council

Leadership Team

*Mick Owens: Co-Chair
Emily Plant: Co-Chair
Rhonda Holle
Bob Luceno
Doug Grimm
Susan Snetsinger*



Officers and Representatives

*Secretary: Vacant
Treasurer: Susan Snetsinger
Community Forum Representative
- Mick Owens
Community Forum Alternate
- Susan Snetsinger
County Representative
- Vacant*

Leadership Team Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, May 19, 2011
Location: Messiah Lutheran Church
3718 Rattlesnake Drive

Attendees:

URNC Leadership Team:

- Mick Owens, Co-Chair
- Emily Plant, Co-Chair
- Susan Snetsinger
- Rhonda Holle

Other URNC Members:

- Harold Hoem
- Don Sims
- Susan Barmeyer

Office of Neighborhoods:

- Jane Kelly

- The meeting was called to order by Mick Owens at 6:40p, who noted that a quorum of Leadership Team members were present (four of six).
- Introductions and Welcome to Guests
Each attendee introduced themselves to the group.
- Susan Barmeyer of the Healthy Start Council described her organization and distributed a flier entitled "What Neighborhoods and Neighbors Can Do to Strengthen and Support Families." (See p.3)
- Harold Hoem provided a brief update on the status of the "Rattlesnake Valley Transportation Summit Study", and provided several copies of the Study (also available online). Mr. Hoem encouraged the Leadership Team to follow-up with the various City of Missoula entities that may use the Study going forward. A next step may be a meeting including the Leadership Team (or representatives thereof), Harold Hoem, Doug Harby (City of Missoula Construction Project Manager), and other appropriate City of Missoula officials.
- Designation of a URNC Secretary
No one voiced interest in this position at this time, therefore the position remains vacant. Until filled, Secretary duties at meetings may be rotated among Leadership Team members.
- Designation of a URNC Treasurer
Susan Snetsinger voiced interest in this position, and was designated as Treasurer by the Leadership Team.
- Recruitment of Additional Leadership Team Member or Members
Mick Owens opined that the Leadership Team should consist of an uneven number in order to avoid tie votes, and asked that everyone attempt to identify additional candidates for membership, including at least one from the Duncan side if possible.

- **Leadership Team Terms and Next Elections**
To assure continuity of leadership as the URNC improves its operations, the newly-elected Leadership Team agreed to serve until October 31, 2012. An URNC General Meeting will be scheduled for October, 2012, for the election of the Leadership Team to serve from November 1, 2012 to October 31, 2014 (two-year terms).
- **Appointment of a County Representative**
The question arose whether this position should be a member of the Leadership Team to serve as the primary contact for Missoula County residents living outside the city limits in the Rattlesnake Valley, or should be a County-only Rattlesnake Valley resident appointed by those residents to serve as liaison with the URNC Leadership Team. This issue will be resolved by clarification in the URNC Bylaws revision.
- **Leadership Team Meeting Schedule**
Meetings will be convened as needed.
- **Plans for the URNC Budget Balance**
The budget will be reviewed in the last week of June and the balance expended or used as pre-payment to the Town Mailer.
- **Jane Kelly distributed copies of the current URNC budget report, Neighborhood Request for Reimbursement/Payment Forms, Neighborhood Council Request for Reallocated Funds forms, the URNC Bylaws and the Missoula Community Forum Agenda for May 26, 2011; also spoke about the Neighborhood Large and Small Grants programs and the upcoming Neighborhood Days and Sunday Streets events.**
- **Review and Revision of the URNC Bylaws**
Mick Owens distributed a “Bylaws Matrix” which summarized certain elements of all Neighborhood Council Bylaws, and will create draft Bylaws for Office of Neighborhoods and Leadership Team review and comment. This document will be placed in Google.docs wherein all may insert their responses and ideas for revision. Once all have had an opportunity to comment, a Leadership Team meeting will be held to discuss those comments and to produce a draft document for URNC (collectively) to review, provide comments, and vote on at an URNC General Meeting. Once the URNC has approved a draft, the Office of Neighborhoods will guide the Leadership Team through the process of approval by the City Council.
- **URNC Purchasing Procedure**
Jane Kelly and Mick Owens are working on this procedure.
- **Upper Rattlesnake Pedestrian and Bicycle Trail Feasibility Study (Feasibility Study)**
Dave Shaw, Parks & Trails Design/Development Manager in the City of Missoula Parks & Recreation Department, has submitted a “Capital Improvement Program Project Request Form 2012-2016” (to the Office of Planning and Grants?). It is our understanding that Caroline Lonski, URNC member, and Donna Gaukler, Director of Parks & Recreation, are working this issue. The Leadership Team and URNC collectively roles are to be determined going forward. Emily Plant will research the status of the \$27,000 which the Cornerstone developers pledged for improvements along Upper Rattlesnake Drive.
- **Speed Limit on Upper Rattlesnake Drive**
Emily Plant is working with Wayne Gravatt, City of Missoula Traffic Services Coordinator, to complete a speed study on Upper Rattlesnake Drive (none done in the past). An additional approach is the installation of “Share-the-Road” signage at strategic points in that corridor. Emily Plant will pursue this issue with the appropriate entities.

- **Bear Attractants in the Rattlesnake Valley**
One approach would be the creation of an “Our Rattlesnake Wildlife”-type educational program for Rattlesnake Valley residents.
- **Public Comment**
Other than the presentations by Susan Barmeyer and Harold Hoem at the beginning of the meeting, no comment was provided.
- **The meeting adjourned at about 8:20p.**

Special thanks to the Messiah Lutheran Church for their hospitality, to Susan Snetsinger for volunteering to take meeting notes, and to Jane Kelly for her support and guidance.

What Neighborhoods and Neighbors Can Do
to Strengthen and Support Families

Susan Barmeyer
Healthy Start
721-3000, X 1022

- Start a neighborhood group. Focus on safety, neighborhood improvement, or just having fun!
- Create spaces in your neighborhood where adults and children can gather – benches near a basketball hoop or jungle gym, for example.
- Hold gatherings of adults and kids throughout the year - picnics, barbecues, pumpkin carving, or game days.
- Organize a neighborhood book swap. Ask neighbors to donate books they've already read and have everyone come to find new books.
- Start a neighborhood check-in program. Form small clusters and check in with each other on a regular basis. If someone needs help or support, gather a group to pitch in and help out.
- Have “Safe Houses” that are clearly marked where kids can go if they need help.
- Drive slowly so that it's safe for kids to play in front yards.
- Take walks through the neighborhood on a regular basis and admire the flowers, get to know the dogs, acknowledge the kids, and talk to neighbors.
- Learn the names of all the kids on the block. Remember that the sound of skateboarding or other play means that kids are doing something constructive – they're getting exercise and not getting into trouble.
- Adopt a senior citizen on the block and watch out for him/her. Kids can help!
- Get the kids on the block involved in drawing up a neighborhood map and creating a phone tree network.