

River Road Leadership Team Meeting

Friday, April 15, 2011 at 7:00 AM
Missoula Plans Exchange

1. Call to order
2. Roll Call
 - Jeremy Flesch, Chairperson
 - Dax Kuehn, Vice Chairperson
 - Andrea Kuehn, Special Projects
 - Chance Eaton, Secretary
 - Jesse Neidigh, Community Forum Representative
 - Melissa Steinike, Treasurer
 - Not Present: Robin Spaziani, Communications
3. Minutes from March 2nd Leadership Team Meeting
 - To be voted on at May Leadership Team Meeting
4. Follow-Up from March 31 Neighborhood Meeting
 - How did people find out about meeting
 - i. Discussion about the effectiveness of sandwich boards, post cards, word of mouth
 - ii. In future neighborhood meetings, attendees can indicate how they found out about the meeting on the sign in sheet
 - Effectiveness of postcard mailing
 - i. Community Service Detention Facility hand delivered Neighborhood Meeting postcards
 - ii. As heard in introductions, about half said postcard was one form of learning about the meeting, though some in their introduction didn't state how they learned
 - iii. There were issues with the quality of the delivery of the postcards—some placed in mailboxes, porches, etc. and the entire neighborhood was not covered. Two homes out of 4 Leadership team homes did not receive a postcard. Significant portions of River Road and adjacent streets were not covered. At least one small street off of Davis (Craftsman Place) was not covered, although the Detention Facility indicated the streets off Davis had postcards delivered.
 - iv. During the time of the deliveries, Dax Kuehn communicated almost daily with Community Service Detention Facility on instruction and delivery issues
 - v. Discussion about the cost – approximately \$400 to mail out postcards for meeting notifications – when mailed through the post office
 - vi. Suggestion to consider applying for additional funds and to next time go through post office

- vii. Currently, a multi-pronged approach does appear to work; email, sandwich boards at major entrances, additional signs at other location, post cards
- Other thoughts on Neighborhood Meeting:
 - i. There was considered to be a good attendance
 - ii. Since there was a large number of people on agenda it pushed the meeting longer
 - iii. Suggestion made for a formal announcements at future meetings to help set up the meeting speed , such as asking questions at the end of the presentation
 - iv. Discussion on future education campaign for the River Road Neighborhood; what are the boundaries, what is the River Road neighborhood about, what do they do, etc. This info could also be included in the next newsletter.
- 5. Lafay Park Neighborhood Garden – update by Andrea Kuehn
 - The Neighborhood Garden is currently weeded, and a few things planted
 - Andrea would like to do a monthly weeding via email notification, which would also be an opportunity for neighborhood members to meet and work together
 - An idea was suggested to use additional signage in the park to inform about people about the monthly weeding
- 6. Sidewalk Committee – Process, Cost & Financing
 - Discussion:
 - i. The sidewalk issue is likely to be contentious, since it is dealing with private property and potential individual cost issues
 - ii. Questions raised:
 - 1. ...what are the costs, and does everyone pay the same amount per household
 - a. ...understood to be differentiation in funding based off income
 - 2. ...how does the city deal with the issue of some residents wanting sidewalks, and others that don't want the sidewalk
 - 3. ...how did Franklin to Fort deal with the same issue when they had sidewalks put in
 - 4. ...which streets would be prioritized by River Road Neighborhood
 - a. ...Public Works has prioritized sidewalk development at River Road, Davis, Wyoming Curtis
 - Goal as stated by Dax Kuehn:
 - i. One of the main goals is to get funding up front and as much as possible, and this can be started by writing a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
 - ii. With access to additional funding, it will be easier to have a conversation with neighbors if there is money that can offset any costs
 - Guidelines
 - i. Committee is being developed that will begin to work on this issue, several people from the Neighborhood meeting noted on the sign in sheet that they were interested in participating

- ii. Dax Kuehn will be heading up the sidewalk committee
- iii. It is in the plans to still sit down with Franklin to the Fort neighborhood to learn more about how they addressed similar issues when they had additional sidewalks developed in their neighborhood
- iv. River Road Leadership team will recommend a body of questions for the sidewalk committee, as well as provide guidelines and timelines
- v. This will give the needed structure so the Sidewalk Committee can better succeed. These questions and guidelines will be voted on at next meeting.

7. Milwaukee Trail Connection – Update

- Update Email from Dave Shaw, and everything still looks to be on schedule. It is estimated to be completed by mid July if there are no significant disruptions
- River Road would like to begin planning for Milwaukee Trail Connection Celebration, with Bentley Park as a possible location, due to trail presence. Would like it to be celebrated with the community at large, as well as city leaders on the council.
- Since the City Parks and Recreation has planned and managed the trail connection, the Leadership Team will seek ways in which they can partner in the celebration
- Discussion about neighborhood involvement with future trail issues, such as education on trail rules and manners as well as enforcement issues

8. Community Clothesline Project

- There is a group looking to put in clotheslines in community, which will help get people outside, create less damage to clothing, and reduce the need for dryer utilities
- Discussion that we can help him get the word out through the website or blog

9. Sandwich Boards

- The currently used sandwich boards have a couple of concerns. One, there are several neighborhood names, and making the community message confusing. It is also difficult to change the print on the boards. Second, it is difficult to change the sign out and time consuming
- Suggested that the boards be looked at for improvement and fixing the multiple titles
- If not successful, suggested to apply for reallocation funds to possibly get new boards

10. New Business

11. Next Leadership Team Meeting

- May 4, 2011, 7:00 AM – Missoula Plans Exchange