

EXTRAORDINARY EVENTS FOR OGREN PARK ALLEGIANCE FIELD MINUTES

April 2, 2012

Meeting convened at 4:40 pm

Those in attendance were:

Committee Members:

Dale McCormick - Riverfront Neighborhood Council
Matt Ellis – Facility Manager
Ellen Buchanan - MRA
Gwen Hoppe – Missoula Community Forum
Alex Taft – City Council

Others present

Jared Amoss – Missoula Osprey
Nola Hunter – Missoula Osprey, to take minutes

Matt welcomed everyone to the meeting and indicated that this would be the new committee in place for the Extraordinary Events under the new lease with the city for the stadium.

Linda McCarthy from the MDA was absent as was the Mayor's Designee who is yet to be appointed by the mayor.

The new lease was discussed. The requirements and changes were reviewed. The gate in the neighborhood will no longer be closed for 3 day events unless the attendance is over 2000 per day. Neighborhood concerns about the attendance based clause and the gate closure were discussed. Ellen stated that assumptions were before the stadium was finished and the new lease attempts to make the gate closure better reflect the impact. Matt pointed out that the multiple hour clause was ineffective. There are people in the neighborhood that complain every time the gate is closed. Dale mentioned that some people don't believe in on street parking for those attending the events; though we all agree they have a legal right to park there and because people go fast down Hickory to get to the events, the gate is effective for the neighborhood.

Matt stated the Osprey realize we have to be good neighbors for the ballpark to work.

The committee was reset so that there were seven people at the table. The previous committee never had full attendance.

The MRA manages the lease. Alex noted that the lease can be amended through the proper process.

Gwen doesn't feel like the neighborhood or the Parks & Rec had any say with the changes. Matt informed that the Parks & Rec department does not manage the stadium and is not a party to the lease agreement. It was also pointed out that the new lease went through a full public process and hearing.

A question was raised about the new parking lot. The Osprey has joint use of the lot with the city.

The Osprey has one concert scheduled for 2012 so far and it was not approved through the established voting procedures due to a 48 hour turn around time. Gwen Hoppe and Dale McCormick voiced concern that they were not notified until after the booking. The promoters contact Mountain Baseball when dates are available. It is a really competitive market here in Missoula and the promoters leverage against each other. Alex Taft noted that everyone should be contacted by email or phone. Gwen stated that the committee should decide what might be inappropriate and what impact the Extraordinary Event will have on the neighborhood. It was agreed that email votes can still be achieved as long as the entire committee is included and the proper information is provided.

Dale felt like the committee should give feedback after the events occur.

Jared brought up the fact that we understand the need to minimize neighborhood impact on events. As a result, the Osprey filter event requests and only brings events we think will work to the committee.

Matt suggested we continue to meet on an as needed basis. Dale thought we should perhaps meet early in the season and again later to wrap up the year. Gwen felt like the minutes should be posted, typed up and sent to Melanie at the Mayor's office. Ellen also warned to be careful that a post doesn't negatively impact the ability to get the event. Alex noted that you need to protect your business interests and felt that updates should be sent to members. If they want the minutes posted then Ellen suggested that the committee approve them before that happens.

Matt noted that anyone on the committee can call a meeting if something warrants it. Other than that we will still proceed with email vote.

Dale posed a question about the city now owning the facility and how that would change the amount of events? Matt stated that it has to, and that Mountain Baseball needs a real increase in events and more uses of the stadium to meet new lease obligations. Ellen noted that the motivation is different now and staff will be working to help bring in more revenue. Matt stated we are having an open house to introduce the public to different uses for the stadium.

The bluegrass concert was solidified. The parking commission has approved use of parking facilities to help with impact for the concert and we will have shuttles again. This will be a family friendly event. Dale thinks there should be a workable model for concerts. Sometimes the sound tests are louder than the actual concert. The same system for noise will be in place and it will end around 10 p.m. Railroad trestle does help with some of the noise.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:57 p.m.