

## **Lower Rattlesnake Neighborhood Council General Meeting Minutes**

**Date: April 18, 2018**

**Time: 6:00 PM**

**Location: Missoula International School**

**1100 Harrison St**

**Missoula, MT 59802**

1. Welcome with food from The Bridge Pizza.
2. Pam Wright, Rattlesnake Principal discussed Missoula County Public Schools operations and levies. There is an upcoming mail in election for a new levy allowing schools to perform at maximum budget. This is a mail-in election. It would increase taxes a total of \$5. Please don't forget to vote.
3. Heidi Kendall, MCPS Board of Trustees (406-543-2260) opened a conversation about the future of Prescott School. The school is owned by the school district and currently has a month to month lease with the Missoula International School. It is possible that the school will continue renting for another year or two. There was discussion on what will happen to the school when then International School vacates to their new location. The lot that the school sits on is zoned R5.4 which is single family zoning. The lot could be subdivided into 16 lots. MCPS has no plans to reopen Prescott school once MIS leaves. Prescott is not on their radar, they have not discussed its future. The school is not included in any bonds. Heidi encourages the community to start discuss on its future.
4. Bob Giordano give a Transportation Committee updated. They have monthly meetings and the next one coming at the end of May. The Van Buren interchange project is underway. The Van Buren - Front street intersection has been a concern for bikers as well as drivers. The Transportation Committee has sent a letter expressing concerns. A letter has also been sent apposing opening Woodland toward Pee's Farm. They are also trying to form a Trails Association. Please contact Bob or Tom on signing to be a part of that. The association will be identifying shared use trails and make a more walkable corridor.
5. The city of Missoula Engineering spoke about Van Buren Phase III. The project will begin June 1-Mid August. They will be continuing/repairing sidewalks on Van Buren from Holly to Missoula Ave. They will be putting in storm drains. There will be 2 way travel at all times during construction. There will be a new assessment on taxes for the owners in the area. There concern that the boulevards were going to be landscaped like they were 3 years ago, die and have to be replaced. Morgan Valiant has found a seed mix that works well and will have better success. Seeding will happen at the appropriate time. Full detailed plans available online.
6. Chad Bauer from Republic Services gave an update on the Bear Buffer Zone and a special offer on bear-resistant garbage cans exclusively for Rattlesnake neighborhoods. Erin Edge from Defenders of Wildlife spoke first. [www.mslabears.org](http://www.mslabears.org) is where you can report attractants. Chad spoke next. There are 200 Bear Resistant carts available for an extra \$5 a month. No pickup times are changing. You can call 406-543-3157 to get your bear proof can that will be delivered to your door. Jeff from Ordinances said that the Animal control will be coming May-June to the patrol the neighborhood.
7. Q&A with Bryan von Lossberg and Heidi West. There are no season for not being concern about bears in the neighborhood. The Rattlesnake is known for high density of wildlife. There

was concern about the trees being removed during Van Buren Phase III. What options are there to put some back in? You can get a permit to plant one by a certified Arborist. Reach out to Missoula Parks Department. Call Trees for Missoula.

Code compliance are the ones that enforce weed ordinances.

They encouraged people to start writing down and discussing further visions for Prescott school. Maple trees have been cut down in Greenough because they are invasive.

Concerns about snow removal.

**8.** The start of the Van Buren Interchange was discussed by Katie Klietz from Big Sky Public Relations, Shane Stack from MDT Missoula Project Engineer and Robert Vosen MDT Missoula District Construction Engineer. Katie Klietz is the contact for any questions concerning the project. There will be weekly email with up to date information. It will start by late May. Expect closures and delays on the ramps. The East portion will start first. New display boards will show routes. Missoula concrete has an example of what the noise reduction wall will look like. There won't be night work on these projects. Parks said the landscaping in front will be a drylands turf and plenty of additional trees with multiple layers. There will be irrigation to water the new landscape. Parks will find out about chemical spraying for weed control. There will be a graffiti coating on the wall.

**9.** New proposed bylaws for the Lower Rattlesnake were approved.

**10.** Public comment on non-agenda items. House district 91 candidate Connie Keogh introduced herself.

**11.** Items to report to City Council. Paul Hendricks will report to City Council.

**12.** Adjournment