

City of Missoula
Moose Can Gully (MCG) and South 39th Joint Neighborhood Council Leadership Team Meeting

November 13, 2019 6:00 PM

Jack Reidy Conference Room, 140 W Pine Street, Missoula

MCG Present: John Nugent - Chair, Janet Van Dyke, Carol Garlington, Betsy Weber

MCG Absent: None

South 39th Present: Jeff Stevens - Chair, Paul Kilzer, Ruth Burke

South 39th Absent: Dave Bell, David Touchette, Rosemary Hubbard

City Staff Present: Jane Kelly, Office of Neighborhoods, Program Coordinator

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by John Nugent. This meeting was rescheduled from October 29th due to severe weather. Because it is an extra meeting, reading of minutes was deferred until the next regular meeting.

1. Neighborhood Priorities Questionnaire

Jane Kelly presented on-line Neighborhood Priorities Questionnaire responses received through Sept 30, 2019. Information was collated by the Office of Neighborhoods into three lists cross-referenced to each other.

- List of all respondents, their neighborhoods and email addresses
- List of responses received by each respondent
- List of responses organized by topic

Discussion followed about how best to follow up on concerns expressed in the questionnaires.

Decision was made to summarize responses by topic modeling the document, "Neighborhood Concerns University District, April 2, 2019" written by Jane Kelly. This document presented University Neighborhood priorities by topic, response count and actual text of responses. For each priority, language followed about action current being taken or action needed by the neighbor in reporting a complaint.

Decision was made to write a joint MCG/South 39th document of "Neighborhood Concerns" but separate MCG and South 39th priorities for our neighborhood lists and color grid.

A copy of our document could be sent to all neighbors to show how their concerns can be/are being addressed (where feasible) and serve as a summary of our priorities. Action language was proposed to include details such as, "you need to call to report this" and "you will not receive a call back" from Office of Development (Jane checking on this). Jane will get approved language from city departments.

Discussion followed about whether to respond specifically to those who completed the questionnaires or all neighbors, by newsletter or postcard or post on website. These questions will be answered after costs are reviewed.

Carol offered to put our on-line questionnaire responses into the model format for our upcoming regular (November 25, 2019). She will ask for help if needed from those offering (Ruth Burke, Betsy Weber).

2. Neighborhood Project Funds Large Grant Proposals

NOTE: These proposals were both submitted prior to deadline. The October 29th meeting prior to deadline was postponed by severe weather.

- a. **Splash Montana Utility Box Art Project** – Jeff Stevens presented his \$2300 grant proposal for artwork to cover the large utility box near Splash Montana on Bancroft. Artwork would be that of prior utility boxes, reproduced on a vinyl wrap. Missoula Public Art Committee has approved the proposal.

Discussion:

- Paul expressed concerns about the cost of art in view of other city needs (e.g. dirty restrooms in Caras Park; sidewalks and ADA ramps laden with road grit from prior winter), the history of these grant-funded art projects being lost when traffic signal boxes are replaced, and the concerns voiced by Missoula residents about their increasing property tax burdens. Jeff stated his belief that public art brings a lot of value to our community.
- Members noted that this proposal is for a project outside of our neighborhoods and that it was not previously discussed at our joint MCG/S 39th NC Leadership Team meetings.
- Ruth and John expressed concern about the competition for grant funds this year and worry that this proposal would reduce the money available for our Deer Study proposal (b).

Jeff recused himself from the meeting. Carol moved to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded. Three members voted in support and signed their names to a letter of support that Jeff had prepared. Three members voted in opposition.

In favor:

Moose Can Gully: Carol Garlington, Janet Van Dyke, Betsy Weber

South 39th: none

Opposed:

Moose Can Gully: John Nugent

South 39th: Paul Kilzer, Ruth Burke

Abstain: South 39th Jeff Stevens

- b. **Urban Deer Study** - Paul Kilzer and Ruth Burke presented their \$6000 grant proposal for a study of urban deer issues and options, in collaboration with University of Montana scientists. This proposal has been discussed at previous meetings, and members reviewed a draft on-line prior to submission.

Paul reported attending Lewis & Clark and Farviews/Pattee Canyon Neighborhood Council Leadership Team meetings (on 10/2/2019 and 10/3/2019) where there were shared concerns about Missoula's urban deer. Follow-up letters (see attached) from these Neighborhood Council Leadership Teams were included with the Urban Deer Study Grant application. Also, there were meetings between Bryan von Lossberg, Paul, Ruth, and Dave Bell to discuss the urban deer issue and NPF Grant application. They agreed on the importance of partnering with UM scientists. Members noted the thoroughness of the research and application, written by Paul, Ruth, and Dave Bell.

Carol moved that the urban deer study proposal be approved. The motion was seconded, and those present voted unanimously in support.

In favor: Unanimous

Moose Can Gully: John Nugent, Janet Van Dyke, Carol Garlington, Betsy Weber

South 39th Street: Paul Kilzer, Ruth Burke (Jeff Stevens was not present for vote)

Opposed: none

3. Public comment on non-agenda items

John Nugent reported that a petition is being circulated via “Nextdoor” about Hillview Crossing.

4. Adjourn – 7:05 PM by John Nugent, MCG Chair.

Next meeting November 25, 2019.

Minutes by Betsy Weber MCG Leadership Team/Secretary