

Moose Can Gully Neighborhood Council
General Neighborhood Meeting
Tuesday, March 16, 2010

Meeting was held at Chief Charlo School and was called to order by Lyle Geurts at 7:10 p.m.

Present were: Mary Lou Chigbrow (Treasurer) Dick Haines (City Council Member)
Jo Kimery (Secretary). Renee Mitchell (City Council Member)
Lyle Geurts (CF Rep) And 10 Neighborhood Citizens
Linda Frey (President)

I. Lyle briefly covered three topics and gave an overview of each:

- * Neighborhood councils in general, how they operate, their activities and benefits to citizens;
- * The Missoula Active Transportation Plan
- * The Map Your Neighborhood Program

II. The city council members, Dick and Renee, told us some of the activities being worked on by the city council, and held a question and answer session.

City council issues included:

- * The recent zoning regulations that were passed included a stipulation that houses can no longer have a garage that protrudes beyond the front facade of the house (toward the street). These are being called "snout-houses." This regulation, largely unnoticed before, has caused a huge amount of turmoil among contractors and new home owners, alike. Consequently, the city council passed an emergency ordinance that allows for snout houses to be built for 6 more months, while the council works to come up with a permanent solution.
- * An East Missoula subdivision developer was required to include a public trail in their overall plan, against their wishes. A lawsuit ensued, and the judge ruled in favor of the developer.
- * It was announced that if we notice bad potholes in the road, we can call Dick or Renee, and they will pass the message along to the proper dept. The city is trying hard to fix them promptly.
- * An ordinance has been introduced that rules against discrimination of gay and lesbian persons. Dick observed that he feels it should include veterans, as well. City council is still considering this matter.
- * There is still no plan on if, when, or how to resolve problems with Hillview Way.

Concerns brought forth by citizens:

* Citizens living on Gharrett are very concerned about the amount and speed of traffic on their street. Cars are going by much too fast and there are more than usual because of the construction on Miller Creek Road. Renee and Dick announced that they understand there is a problem, because there are really three projects going on with Miller Creek Rd. First, there is the installation of the roundabout at the junction of Lower Miller Creek and Upper Miller Creek roads. Second, the road from that junction over to Linda Vista Blvd. is being redone. Third,

Upper Miller Creek Road is being repaved from the junction clear on up the hill. The impact of all these projects is that people are often driving Gharrett instead.

The Public Works Dept. is putting on a meeting for people concerned about the impact of the construction; it will be March 25, 7:00 pm at the Linda Vista Golf Course Clubhouse. We are encouraged to attend. In the meantime, Dick and Renee will check into having the City police do more patrols on Gharrett and into putting up more speed limit signs.

III. Lyle announced that we will have a day set aside to work on our local trails. The "Improve Neighborhood Trails Day" will be Saturday, April 10th, from 9 am to 1 pm. We will meet at Chief Charlo School, with our work gloves and shoes, and rain gear. Refreshments will be provided.

IV. Lyle announced that one of our guest speakers, Bobby Grillo, was unable to attend this meeting as planned.

V. Morgan Valliant, Manager of Missoula Conservation Lands informed us of his role in managing local trails and beetle killed trees. He said that:

- * The mountain pine beetle problem is really beginning; in Moose Can Gully itself his dept. has already removed all the diseased trees. There are three noticeably dead trees that were left standing because beetles have already left them, and they provide habitat for song birds.
- * He suggested we be on the lookout for "pine trees that appear to have been shot with a shotgun and have sap coming out the holes." There are several treatments that can be effective and we are encouraged to report these trees to his dept.
- * His workers are working on thinning trees on Mt. Jumbo, the Rattlesnake, and other areas.
- * He announced that sometime in April the fire department will burn the slash piles from Moose Can Gully cleanup.

VI. Lyle gave a brief overview of the Community Forum.

Lyle adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m. and invited us to partake of more treats.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Kimery, Secretary