

Conservation Lands Advisory Committee By-Laws

ARTICLE I – PURPOSE

The Conservation Lands Advisory Committee (CLAC) will make recommendations on and oversee implementation of the Missoula Conservation Lands Management Plan and the 1955 Greenough Park Decree (see attached Decree). CLAC is a subcommittee of the Missoula Parks & Recreation Board (MPRB) and is subject to all of its rules and regulations. CLAC will report directly to the MPRB, which advises the Missoula Parks & Recreation Department (Parks). The MPRB is responsible for all actions of CLAC and may require this subcommittee to perform some functions, provide information, or give specific advice on certain topics.

ARTICLE II - MEMBERSHIP

Composition - CLAC will have 9 voting members, one of which shall be a member of MPRB. CLAC will be composed of those with expertise and/or interest in the following areas: ecology, wildlife biology, botany (especially MT native plants), silviculture, recreation resource management and sociology, wildland restoration, conservation, environmental law, local history, health, recreation and education. Initial appointments to CLAC shall include at least one member from each of the following committees that CLAC will be replacing: the Mount Jumbo Advisory Committee and the Conservation Lands Technical Working Group. In addition to the 9 voting members, a representative from the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks and the Lolo National Forest will be included as non-voting members.

Residency – Up to three CLAC members can reside outside of Missoula City limits but within the Missoula Urban Area Open Space Plan boundaries (which is approximately a 4.5 mile radius of the City) and the remainder shall be City residents. Ideally, CLAC will be a geographically diverse group. Appointed members will serve three-year terms and may be re-appointed for as many terms as seems prudent. Initial appointments to form CLAC shall begin in May, 2011, and shall run for three years, with the initial terms being staggered to provide that the terms of three members of the committee expire annually. After the initial appointments, terms shall expire on Oct. 15 of each year with the replacement or re-appointed members beginning their terms on Oct. 16th.

Appointments - CLAC members will be appointed as follows: 9 members by the MPRB.

Officers - A Chairperson will be selected from members of CLAC by majority vote and will serve for a period of one year. Responsibilities include preparing the agenda, conducting meetings in an orderly fashion, directing discussion, appointing committees and acting as a representative of the Board when necessary.

A Vice Chairperson will be selected from the members of CLAC by a majority vote and will serve for a period of one year contemporaneously with the term of the Chairperson. The Vice Chairperson will serve in the absence of the Chairperson.

A secretary may be selected from the members of CLAC by a majority vote and will serve for a period of one year. Responsibilities include accurately recording and typing minutes and sending them to Board members prior to the next meeting and to the Mayor's Office for website posting.

Resignations & Vacancies - Resignations or vacancies shall be filled as soon as practical by the MPRB.

ARTICLE III – MEETINGS

CLAC will meet at least four times per year and will take at least one field trip in addition to the 4 meetings. The Conservation Lands Manager (CLM) will act as the Parks staff liaison to CLAC and will work with the CLAC Chair to set the committee's meeting/field trip schedule and agendas.

ARTICLE IV – POWER & DUTIES

The role of CLAC is to promote the Missoula Conservation Lands Management Plan to the general public and advise and assist the MPRB regarding implementation of the Plan, including but not limited to education, outreach, advocacy, fundraising, volunteerism, reviews and other efforts in support of the Plan goals and guiding principles. CLAC will make recommendations to the MPRB on how to best comply with the 1955 Greenough Park Decree. The MPRB will, in turn, advise the Parks Director. CLAC may request attendance of and information from Parks staff other than the CLM, subject to approval by the Parks Director.

Requirements of CLAC:

- 1) All CLAC agendas and minutes will be provided to the Parks & Recreation Department and the Mayor's Office for posting on the City's website. All CLAC meetings shall conform with the applicable Montana public meeting rules and regulations.
- 2) CLAC will submit an Annual Report to the MPRB, which will also be sent to the Mayor and Missoula City Council Conservation Committee. The MPRB may ask CLAC members to testify at public meetings concerning the recommendations made in the Annual Report.