

Miller Creek Neighborhood Council Leadership Team Meeting Minutes

March 19, 2024; 6pm

Fire Station #5

Attendance: Jack Walton, Alex Fregerio, Kalina Pritchard, Diane Bickers, Medora O'Connor

We do not have a quorum for this meeting.

3 members of the Missoula Fire Department were present to discuss the upcoming Levy for the Fire Dept. Facts presented were:

1- Missoula population has grown 17% since 2008. City limits have increased 30% without additional Fire stations added. Currently the Response Time to an emergency is inadequate.

2- The call volume in 2008 was 6,000. In 2023 there were 12,000 calls.

3- Staffing has not had additions since 2008. 20 more Fireman are necessary to effectively meet the added demands. More Fire Stations are necessary to be in new positions to shorten the Response Time. A standard house Fire needs 28 Firefighters. A complex structure Fire requires 43 Firefighters.

4- Property Fire Insurance rates may increase with an inadequate Fire Department.

5- Training of Fireman is a consistent process that gets interrupted by any 911 Calls.

6- there are only 2 ladder trucks for all of Missoula.

7- the Mobile Support Team responds to mental health crisis calls. Police, Firefighters, and Emergency Rooms benefit from the Mobile Support Team.

April 27th is Neighborhood Cleanup Day. The dumpster will be delivered on the night before, and it was suggested that a sign be placed on the dumpster saying it is for Yard Waste only. Alex will be the Lead on this project. Hours of the Cleanup are to be Noon to 5pm. Gift cards will be given to encourage participation. (12 \$20 gift cards, was suggested, total expense \$240)

Budget information:

1- Miller Creek has \$985.

2-Funds will be renewed on July 1st (approximately \$1,700)

Kalina reported that City Council has added Neighborhood Leadership reports to their agenda. These will be on a rotating basis with 2 Neighborhoods reporting each month. Miller Creek Neighborhood will give a report: April 15th, July 1st, September 9, and December 2nd.

Comments not on the Agenda:

Alex suggested ways to raise Neighborhood awareness of the Miller Creek Neighborhood Leadership Team meetings and encourage neighbor participation, for example: putting a kiosk in Jeffrey Park for Neighborhood Announcements, thus eliminating messages being taped to mailboxes. Kalina suggested we propose specific locations and/or addresses for the kiosk. Then grants could be written for the project. The Park and Rec department would need to be contacted for approval. We will collect more



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ideas to accomplish the goal of more awareness, whether by work days, learning of neighbor's needs, etc.

Meeting Adjourned.