

Heart of Missoula Neighborhood Council Leadership Team Meeting Minutes

December 3, 2024; 6pm

Microsoft Teams

1. Introduction and Roll Call
 - a. Present- Melissa Glueckert & Kalina Pritchard (Neighborhood Specialists). Naomi Lichtenberg, T William (T-Bone) Pleasant.
 - b. Naomi Lichtenberg and T-Bone Pleasant joined the Heart of Missoula leadership team.
 - c. Naomi lives in the Edgewater Condos and works at the Missoula Community Theater as well as is on the Downtown SAM grant committee.
 - d. T-Bone lives at the Elks and has been a resident of the Heart of Missoula since 2011. Works the Rhino bar.
2. Minutes for the October and November meets will be approved at a future meeting.
3. Brainstorm Future Agenda items
 - a. Naomi brought forward a few topics a fellow neighborhood would like the team to talk about in the future. Pickleball in Kiwanis Park and River Access.
 - b. The Pickleball court at Bonner Park (a past neighborhood grant) has been a large concern for the university neighborhood. Lots of lawsuits across the nation due to the loud nature of the sport, and residents are often winning these cases. Many residents want more pickleball courts in Missoula however parks and recreation will not be installing more lines unless the recommended sound distance is in place. City legal has recommended this action. Not sure the future of the pickleball court at Bonner park. Not likely to install pickleball lines at a neighborhood park in the Heart of Missoula.
 - c. Some concerns surrounding River Access from a resident in Naomi's condo complex. Neighbor is concerned that river access will open up right behind the condos and there will be a large amount of people in the area. It is public land but not a preferred place from the resident's perspective.
 - i. Team would like to invite someone from Parks and Recreation to a future meeting to talk more about this and to also give updates on the future of Caras park, north riverside parks, and the trails plan.
 - d. Naomi brought up that some sort of art at the entrance to Kiwanis Park would be a cool grant idea for next year
 - i. Kalina gave background from the FY24 grant cycle (last year) regarding a grant application that was submitted for the gateway to Kiwanis park to improve access, lighting, and beautification. They withdrew after Parks said they may be able to bring the project into different projects already happening around the area.
 1. Team would like to possibly invite the Kiwanis group (the grant writers) and ask them to a meeting to talk about their interest for a project.



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- e. Naomi brought up that the bus stop by the library on front street and it is always a mess. The trash is not picked up regularly and clothes are tossed about.
- 4. General Meeting Planning
 - a. Every neighborhood has a general meeting each year (a meeting with the entire neighborhood) according to the city charter. Not been a general meeting in the Heart of Missoula neighborhood since Melissa and Kalina have been at the Neighborhoods Office.
 - b. The neighborhood has quite a bit of funds for a general meeting.
 - i. The neighborhood has \$400 of credit for Big Dipper
 - ii. Approximately \$2000 in the budget spend by June 30th of 2025
 - iii. Lots of gift cards for Ace hardware and Yolks
 - 1. The past leadership team bought the Ace gift cards because they wanted to supply motion sensor lights for the neighborhood as there was a lot of talk of safety concerns due to lack of lights in alleyways.
 - iv. The reason there are so many gift cards on the books is because during Covid the Neighborhoods were unable to utilize their budget so they bought gift cards. However, finance no longer wants the neighborhoods to do this as it is hard for book keeping.
 - c. Things to start thinking about for the general meeting:
 - i. what kind of format of neighborhood meeting? This could be presentation based or community voice based.
 - 1. Naomi suggests a Block party or party in one of the parks would be super fun and to raffle off some of the gift cards. Would like to do more of a festive meeting rather than presentation based.
 - ii. What time of year to hold the meeting
 - 1. Thinking around May and in Kiwanis park
 - d. Could have people from the Downtown SAM project there at a table so neighbors can get information about the project.
 - e. Although the neighborhoods staff has recommended to leadership teams that they forgo mailings because of the price and instead advertise with door hangers, sandwich boards, etc, Kalina suggests the team doing a mailing for this meeting because there is a lot of financial support outside the budget and because the NH budget will be replenished 2 month following the meeting.
 - f. Will plan further at future meetings.
- 5. Community Forum Report
 - a. There will be no community forum for November/December due to the Holidays. Would like to have a representative for the January meeting, it is on the 4th Thursday of the month. Can decide who this will be at the January meeting.
- 6. Missoula Neighborhoods Report- Melissa/Kalina



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- a. The Our Missoula Code Reform and Growth Policy has their draft land use plan out and is going to be at city council Monday meetings and Wednesday committee meetings this month.
7. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items
8. Announcements
 - a. The team will meet in person but have a hybrid option as the city buildings in the neighborhood have the ability to do this. Team will meet at 5:15pm on the first Tuesday of every month.
9. Adjournment