



Missoula Neighborhoods

Heart of Missoula Neighborhood Council Leadership Team Meeting Agenda

March 4, 2025; 5pm

Ryman Street Conference Room (416 Ryman St) or via Microsoft Teams

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1. Introduction and Roll Call
 - a. Present: Naomi L., Linda M., Kalina Pritchard
2. Approve Minutes – [February 4, 2025](#)
 - a. No quorum
3. Presentations:
 - a. North Riverside Parks and Trails Update – Nathan McLeod, Parks & Recreation
 - i. Adopted in 2020, incorporating master plans for Caras, E. Caras, Bess Reed, Kiwanis, and Downtown Lions and Ron's River Trail.
 - ii. Caras River Access, ramps going down to the river – should be completed this spring. Clark Fork Restoration project includes access north and south of beartracks and under the Madison Street bridge. Stairwell to the beach, providing access to recreational use, rock stairs going down to the water. Parking? A lot of multimodal transportation and should see that continuing. Naomi sees a lot of people jumping off the bridge and camping, but near the hotel there are folks recreating. MDT right of way and parks sees a lot of use in that area, identified as a primary access site. It will not be ada because it is too steep. Naomi says she understands that she lives in the city and wants to make sure its accessible to all. Idea is to improve conditions for positive types of use, it will help drive out inappropriate behavior in those areas. Ultimate goal of this project is to reduce erosion, and help the wildlife, create better access.
 - iii. Kiwanis & Parsons – Naomi said there is nothing that can be done because it's a private street



- iv. *It's a private street, so if anyone has an issue, they could ask the landlord (one family owns most of it) to put up a gate at Front St.—though I'm not sure how far that would go. Supposedly, the Downtown SAM project will improve connections between Front St., the trail through Kiwanis Park, and Pattee St., which might help.*
- v. A conversation ensued about the issue spots around Parsons. Linda said during NRSPT plan looking at adding a new street to and fro the park. Kiwanis is required to be park land in perpetuity. Deed restriction when the park was originally donated, it would revert back to the heirs of the donator. Linda said that there wasn't a good way to put a new street through that. Nathan said one thing that could be possible is the trail route could be built in a way for emergency access.
- vi. Linda said they are formalizing the Kiwanis Park entrance as a part of the Downtown SAM project. Gateway, ADA pathway, NMCD project is not an access to the park. Nathan said there is an opportunity to do safer crossings in that area.

- b. Downtown Sam trail widening – creating it to be more of a promenade – Orange Street to Lavasseur. Gateways at Ryman and Pattee, skybridge – ADA access from Higgins. Components that were thought of in the NRPT

4. Items to be Discussed:

- a. Leadership Team roles
 - i. Rotating roles
- b. Grant Ideas
 - i. Naomi idea – colleague has an idea. Redo mural from 1995 in Bess Reed Park that better represents the neighborhood. Maybe fundraise from the holiday inn, possibly write a grant for it. No concept for the idea but we could find something creative. Someone from the city might already have a plan – possibly benches. Second idea, bess reed park going to the tennis courts, strange, jagged area – folks get lost there all the time. Maybe a simple sign to lead folks where to connect to the trail. Linda said we have a wayfinding sign, north riverside interpretive signs, so this could connect. Linda said downtown sam project is to widen the trail to 20 feet. From Orange St to Kiwanis, will be under construction, we would want to wait to redo the mural until the redo has happened. Widened to somewhere within Kiwanis.
 - ii. Wall is the levy so it is maintained by the city and stormwater – Tracey Campbell. Naomi said Nathan had mentioned that there may be other ideas. River side keep it natural, but if it is on the trail side there wouldn't be a restriction. Nathan said we should think about how it would look like with the trail widening. The trail component will be designed sooner rather than later, within the next year or two.



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- iii. Linda gave a few other ideas for projects, murals, expansion of flower baskets, new water fountain, holiday décor, and some other amenities the neighbors might enjoy.
- c. General Meeting Planning
 - i. Discussion pushed to next meeting.
- 5. Community Forum Report
 - a. No report
- 6. Neighborhood Budget
 - a. No report.
- 7. Missoula Neighborhoods Report- Melissa/Kalina
 - a. No report.
- 8. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items
 - a. Linda said the Downtown Missoula crew spent time cleaning up garbage on east front street, talked to property to remove the dumpsters and see if there is another solution. The lock is getting cut and other folks use that dumpster. The south side before Madison street. Across the street from MCT, the bus stop on the next block, there used to be a trash can and now it is gone. Linda said bus stops are maintained by Mountain Line, they possibly removed it. Maintenance crew does garbage removal 7 days a week, we will do power washing soon. Naomi asked if anyone knew about Ken Duce's properties. No movement at this time, Linda said she knew of the plan about 15 years ago.
- 9. Announcements
- 10. Adjournment