

Miller Creek Neighborhood Council General Meeting Minutes

Sept 2, 2025; 6pm

Marilyn Park

Attendance: Jack Walton, Alex Fregerio, Bob Campbell, Medora O'Connor, Tom O'Connor, Kalina Pritchard, Melissa Glueckert, and 42 Miller Creek Neighbors

Alex spoke about needing new Miller Creek Neighborhood Leadership Team members and that interested persons should attend Monday November 3rd Team Meeting at Fire Station #5, 6pm.

He talked about putting a message board in parks to post maps of trails/ exits from Miller Creek Neighborhood, meeting information, programs offered by the city or Park and Recreation department.

Bob Campbell spoke about the Land Use Plan within Missoula: transportation, Zoning Ordinance, trails, Open Space, and the Development Code being more user friendly. There will be Open House discussion times set by the Community Development department for public comment. He encouraged use of the Engage Missoula website. The City Council has set speed zone restrictions around schools. SID boundaries for another Miller Creek Round-About are still in discussion.

Marirose Kuhlman, Habitat Coordinator spoke about the deer culling project in Helena. Her office has Landscape Design workshops and reduced cost of native plants. She spoke about pollinators and their habitat needs. Solitary Bees are ground nesters and that's why what we spray on the ground affects the population of pollinators. She had many handouts for additional information. Native seed packets are available in her office at 1075 South Ave West.

Bear Smart Missoula: Chris Servheen, Bear Biologist, Radley Watkins, Conservation District, & Charley Shane, Health Dept, spoke to us about the 3 phases of bear management, with Phase 1 in the Rattlesnake area, Phase 2 in the Pattee Creek area, and Phase 3 in the Miller Creek area. 500 calls/year of bear conflicts with humans. 4 bears killed per year, 9 trapped and relocated, \$50k spent on bear management per year. Bear buffer zones are mapped in the 3 phases. Garbage bins will be replaced by bear proof bins in each phase. If a resident does not have a garbage pick-up service, they still are responsible to obtain a bear proof bin.

The Bear Smart management plan includes moving the bears to maintain a genetic balance. Long term is to lock up trash, no bird feeders, and protect BBQ grills to avoid attracting bears. In the winter, bears hibernate high in the mountains.

Kalina Pritchard, Neighborhood Specialist
Melissa Glueckert, Neighborhood Specialist
Miller Creek Leadership Team

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Missoula Neighborhoods

8 gift cards were raffled & given out to attendees with 7 gift cards being saved for next year's meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Medora O'Connor, Secretary

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