

Minutes from Extraordinary Events Committee Held July 15, 2008

Meeting convened: 5:35 pm

Those present were:

Dale McCormick representing the Riverfront Neighborhood
Joe Easton representing Play Ball Missoula
Gwen Hoppe representing Missoula Community Forum
Matt Ellis representing Facility Manager

Also present were Jared Amoss who is the General Manager of Ogren Park @ Allegiance Field, and Nola Hunter from the Missoula Osprey who came to take the minutes.

Minutes from last meeting were voted on and approved by all present.

Matt Ellis ran the meeting, and began with a review of the extraordinary events that had taken place since the last meeting which was held on April 3, 2008.

Matt began with the country music concert which was held on July 4, 2008. One or two calls to the police occurred while the band was doing a sound check. The concert started at 6 pm. Matt did a follow-up with the city and police for any complaints. The Osprey messages were also checked for any noise complaints as well. We did not receive any from any source. The concert ended at 10:05 pm and the fireworks were over by 10:30 pm.

The nest with the Osprey was filmed and the birds were not disturbed by the concert.

The concert could be heard out by the parking T, and the police had sound meters to monitor the noise level.

Gwen Hoppe had checked with some of her neighbors, and the only complaint they had was when the sound check was being done. Gwen asked about the size of the crowd. Matt responded that the crowd size was approximately 2600.

Dale McCormick questioned about the lights being on all night prior to the concert. Matt answered the question. It was due to the stage and equipment being built and then torn down for the concert. It is surprising how much equipment it takes to put on a concert. The walking trail was also closed from 4 pm to 12 am due to concert trailers being unloaded and loaded.

Jared Amoss indicated that there were no ruts or damage done to the field. Matt indicated that the promoters really seemed concerned and caring about the stadium, and seemed to want to protect it.

Joe Easton mentioned that traffic in the neighborhood was his concern, but it did not seem to be an issue. There were some complaints about the gate being there from fans.

Dale brought up that in the past there were conflicts between the neighborhood and game goers. Neighbors like Keith Blackwell who feel the need to have control of the neighborhood. The gate seems to have helped.

The second event that took place at the stadium was the American Legion Tournament. Matt asked if there had been any issues with that event and with how long the gate was closed?

Jared Amoss said there had been some complaints from the out of town folks regarding the gate, but once it was explained to them they were ok with the issue.

Matt stated that a positive point was we had been selling out the parking lot, and not parking any more than normal in the neighborhood.

Joe asked if there had been any complaints about people parking in the yellow on Cregg Lane from the police? Matt indicated that none were noted from the police.

Gwen brought up the issue of the game goers safety walking down Cregg Lane. The issue was not addressed.

Dale thought that the sound issue was better, and sounded better within the park as well. Was the sound monitored for the concert? The peanut inning is the loudest. Matt noted that the sound company had been out and rebalanced all the speakers and the individual speaker control. The cordless mikes seem to project more. And, in regards to the concert, the police did have sound monitors, and were told to do readings if they got any calls about the noise. They never did get a call.

Matt brought up some upcoming events that were happening at the stadium which did not need extraordinary event approval, but just for general information. Missoula Youth Homes is having their annual fund raising dinner at the park. U-13 tournament will be on the weekend. And the Diamondbacks open try-outs is scheduled for a Wednesday during the daytime. Future upcoming events will be discussed at future meetings.

Dale inquired if the Osprey organization would be pursuing future concerts? And if this was being looked at as a source of revenue? Matt responded to the question by replying, "A little of both. We do want revenue. Dierks was a trial run. It is a great venue for concerts. The stadium is buffered more than Caras Park. The sunken diamond and buildings help with the noise level."

Gwen thought it would be nice sometime in the future to have an addition of trees put in between UBC and the concrete wall behind Free Cycles beyond parking on Walnut to help with the sound issue.

Future meeting schedules were discussed, and for upcoming events an email vote was decided would work unless something major came up, and then a meeting would be called. The timber framing project would be the next biggest thing, and they will need to get a permit to sleep over at the park. It is a three day project.

Dale stated that traffic impacts not sound would be issue with the next two events.

Matt asked if there was any new business. None was noted, and the meeting adjourned at 6:23 pm.