

**Community Forum Meeting
Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2008
7:00 p.m. City Council Chambers
Moderator, Ray Aten**

Captain John Mullan – Kathie Snodgrass (Rep)

Emma Dickinson –Absent

FarViews/Pattee Canyon – Ray Aten (Rep)

Franklin to the Fort – Jon Salmonson (Alt)

Grant Creek – Don Nicholson (Rep)

Heart of Missoula – Absent

Lewis & Clark – Greg Gullickson (Rep)

Lower Rattlesnake – Carol Elsen (Rep)

Miller Creek – Absent

Moose Can Gully – Lyle Guerts (Alt)

Northside –Absent

Riverfront – Melissa Schmitt (Rep)

Rose Park – Dianna Garrett (Alt)

South 39th – Cathy Deschamps (Alt)

Southgate Triangle – Ann Carpenter (Alt)

University District – John Snively (Rep)

Upper Rattlesnake – Jan Hoem (Rep)

Westside – Absent

City Council Liaison – Jon Wilkins

Neighborhood Liaison – LaNette Diaz

Others Present

Gerald Mueller, Jo Kimery, Steve Loken

Quorum

Quorum is present.

Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Gullickson motioned for the adoption of the Agenda. **Ms. Hoem** seconded. **Ms. Schmitt** commented about not seeing any discussion about the large grant second round and that she had some comments that aren't included on page 2. **Ms. Diaz** replied do you mean the small grant (which is on the agenda). **Ms. Schmitt** was referring to the March meeting minutes. **Mr. Aten** moved for an adoption of the agenda first and discuss this in approval of minutes. **Ms. Schmitt** apologized, thought we were at approval of minutes. **Mr. Aten** asked if there is any discussion of the agenda, being none, vote on above motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

None

Presentations

James Pool—Farviews Pattee Canyon Neighborhood Park Study Findings

The following power point presentation stems from a neighborhood project grant received in 2007. This project was a planning study of which the objective was to gain an historical perspective on the parks in the neighborhood and to gain an understanding of the current parklands and gage the neighborhood knowledge and sentiment of park lands. (See Attached)

James Pool discussed the objectives, history of the area, what is there today, and the survey questions and results and the recommendations.

History: 1945 Far Views was platted and 50 acres set aside for parks. The layout is internal islands with no street access, therefore most parks are accessed through back yards and some have fingers that are access easements. This approach has failed in our neighborhood. There has been no attempt to identify the easements, no one knew they existed, and there has been no regulating body overseeing these parks therefore encroachment by property owners was occurring. These parks became part of peoples yards. In 1964 the city sold an easement to a property owner. The city didn't place a lot of value on these park easements. In 1986 the city board granted a developer the right to use an easement as a driveway to some lots and now it is physically a private driveway. The park did get developed by the developer, but serves as a private park for lots around it, can't get into it. In 1986 the park board recommended that four parks be sold, but this recommendation did not pass. An idea that came out of the study is that some of these parks have lost their easements or don't function well in terms of a continuous system through the neighborhood and it may be best to see if surrounding homeowners would want to own these lands that don't have a lot of general use for the neighborhood. Today we have 11 parks in the neighborhood. Showed examples of the condition of some of these parks: Northview Park is the 'front yard' of the neighborhood. What you see from SW Higgins is a steep hillside with a lot of weeds. It is not developed nor maintained. It has no trails but does have beautiful views. This would be a convenient way to access nearby businesses, Playfair Park, and Lewis & Clark School if there were some improvements and the hazards were removed. The city secured two undeveloped lots to provide street frontage for Ninkpata Park which is currently an unused field and not at a level where people can use it. It is not attractive or hospitable, but has beautiful views. An adjacent home owner has constructed fences and maintained property lines and there is a 15-20 foot easement that allows access, but unfortunately, there is nothing there. We are hopeful that this park will be developed at some point. Takima-Kokaski park is a beautiful area with the creek running through it. You can't really see it but once you get into it, it is very nice. It is very gravelly and the city mows it once a year but it doesn't accommodate much use. Adjacent homeowner's have managed it, put in a hammock and a bench but no signage indicating this is a park—it looks like part of someone's yard.

In order to get an idea of knowledge and sentiment about neighborhood park areas, a questionnaire was sent out to all address in the neighborhood. We got a 5-6% (61 people) response. (Refer to slides for questions and results of responses). Recommendations are presented as well in slide format.

Recommendations: Would like to secure funding for stage II of the project to implement master plan components. Get a plan for weed mitigation and maintenance. Prepare a system wide master plan for parks and trails for connection. Develop a signage plan-where to place and what should they look like. Implement a visible pilot project by putting up a couple signs to start visibility.

Adopt master plan as a neighborhood for some legal standing.

In the longer term: explore partnerships for funding. Get major projects on the CIP list. Explore the feasibility of selling some parcels to improve others.

Questions: **Ms. Hoem** commented on an email solicited by **Mr. Strohmaier** about a group of 35 university students looking to do a one day project this spring, if they tackled one of these parks it may make a difference. James Pool had received that email as well and is hopeful to utilize this group of students.

Mr. Wilkins added that there has been a lot of discussion of having special park districts from council and parks department. This is different than an SID and might be something to look into. **Mr. Snively** extended thanks for the presentation and putting the grant to good use. **Mr. Salmonson** stated this was a great study and presentation.

Sustain a Block—Ginny Merriam Communication Officer City of Missoula

Green Block's Pilot Project needs participation from neighborhoods. This is a project of the Mayor's Advisory Group on Climate Change and Sustainability. It is a residential energy conservation demonstration project that we would like to do in neighborhoods this summer. Introduced other people here involved in this project.

- Gerald Mueller works as an energy and utility consultant, but had the suggestion for this project as a citizen.
- Linda Jordan, Projects Manager in the Mayor's Office
- Steve Loken is a member of the steering committee on the project
- Greg Gullickson is involved in the project as well with Mountain Water

Gerald Mueller commented he has a long-standing professional and personal interest in energy conservation. Prices are going through the roof, not just gasoline, but wholesale price of electricity this month is almost double what it was a year ago. Natural gas prices at the wholesale level are about 35% higher as well. As consumers, there isn't much we can do to affect price. As utility customers, we pay what the Montana Public Service Commission sets as rates or what our co-op board sets. This doesn't mean that we can't affect how much we pay for energy however. What we pay is a product of what the price is per unit and how much we use. We can have input in how much we pay with the efficiency of our use of gas and electricity. Most of us wouldn't know what specific actions make sense in the amount of savings you would get from the costs that you would spend to save them. Some of us don't have extra cash to invest in energy saving measures like adding extra insulation in our attics. This leads to the project which the Mayor has helped to lead with the green house gas advisory panel in partnership with Northwestern Energy, which is the primary supplier of natural gas and electricity in Missoula. The utility is willing to audit the energy use of natural gas and electricity at no cost to the homeowner and to install the cost effective energy use savings measures determined from the audit. The homeowner gets to reduce costs of electricity and natural gas without paying and going through a lot of trouble to figure out what to do—it will be figured out for them. The city is a partner in the program and will help circulate the information that comes out of this project; about what makes sense to do and what individual benefits can be. This is a win-win opportunity, what we need is someone who is willing to volunteer the blocks, to help pick who will be the initial recipients of this program. It involves more than electricity and natural gas. Mountain Water and Allied Waste Services are also partners in this program, so there will be information provided on how to reduce use and save money on your water bill and how to reduce the amount of solid waste that you generate. We have an opportunity to offer and Ginny will talk more about the details and what we hope to get from you. Ginny Merriam referred to the packets distributed and walked through the included documents. The blue sheet describes the conservation measures in the project—what is included and what is not included. The water and trash services are adjunct programs in addition to this that homeowners can take advantage of. All that Northwestern Energy dictated, is they are willing to do eight blocks of house. It was suggested by the steering committee that four two-block areas be done to get a mix of houses—older and newer houses with the stipulation that houses must be built 1990 or prior. What we need, and are hopeful that neighborhoods will be interested in doing, are sponsors that are willing to say that they would like to do this in these two blocks and have my house be part of it. Then take application packets to neighbors and talk with them about the program and get them on board. There are two applications in this packet, one for the 'leader' of a two block area (Coordinator) and individual resident application. The deadline is on the green coordinator application and is May 22. We are glad to provide as many packets as are needed. They are available in the Mayor's Office or via April 24, 2008

city website www.ci.missoulamt.us Green Blocks link. The documents are in a word format that you can access and type into it and print it out.

Ms. Garrett asked how long the households will be monitored. **Ginny Merriam** stated the initial audit would be conducted right away and would like to have selections in place by June 2. Audit and putting in place measures will be ongoing through the summer, and then Northwestern reviews consumption the next Spring—so about a year. Allied Waste and Mountain Water programs will be reassessing in three months. **Mr. Nicholson** asked what is the potential gains made from doing this, what has happened in the past from other folks that have done this already? This will be the first of its kind in the state, so there is no measure to go by. **Gerald Mueller** said it depends on the existing condition of the house. That is one of the reasons to use homes built before 1990, chances are they don't have as many energy efficiency measures in place. **Steve Loken** added that in picking vintage houses, many have not undergone weatherization programs yet with Northwestern Energy. There may be homes with owners that have not had contact with weatherization efforts at all, some that have, and some that have done some weatherization work but may not have done as much as they could. The company is looking forward to not only introducing capturing energy conservation savings but going to next level. Don't know what those savings will be, that is why this program is initiated to see what can be achieved. Start with an eight block area in Missoula and transfer to other cities across the state. **Mr. Nicholson** surmised his understanding that the intent is to perform an audit for the past 12 months let's say and make the changes and in a year from now see the actual facts and publicize those differences. **Steve Loken** responded that is correct. Previous consumption and charges can be determined from previous billings from meter readings. National averages indicate anywhere from 20-40% reduction. **Ms. Hoem** commented that this is a fantastic idea and opportunity. You want people to come to you, do have any suggestions of getting people involved other than going to the website, is there any other information they need to have. **Ginny Merriam** explained we are hoping that you, as representatives of your neighborhoods will be able to talk to your neighbors about this and get the word out through you. A news release will be out next week, *The Missoulian* is interested and television and *The Independent* will probably follow-up. Anybody can come to the Mayor's Office and get packets or ask questions. **Ms. Hoem** stated most of the neighborhood councils have had their spring meetings and so don't have this contact with the people that you'd like them to talk to, so you do need other ways of getting information out. **Mr. Salmonson** asked, by blocks, are you talking a linear block, eight houses along one block. **Ginny Merriam** responded a block is a square block. **Mr. Aten** needs a clarification, and expressed there is a golf course in my neighborhood that is surrounding a golf course with a lot of houses in it, I don't think that is what you mean. So for those people who live on a cul-de-sac or unusual block, can you give some sense of the number of houses you consider to be a two-block area in a sense that could they apply since they are not in a rectangular block. **Ginny Merriam** commented that is a good question, as we have been planning this project, Northwestern Energy has not been picky about any dimensions and numbers. There is some flexibility in this. Blocks in different parts of town will have different numbers of houses on them. I don't think we are going to be picky and counting. **Mr. Wilkins** commented about having at least 90% in that two-block area on board to qualify is that correct? **Ginny Merriam** said yes. **Ms. Schmitt** asked if it matters if the homes are rented or owned. **Ginny Merriam** said it doesn't matter as long as it is strictly residential, no businesses are included. **Linda Jordan** further commented that there is a preference, in the criteria establish of importance in establishing a baseline is to use rentals that are occupied most of the time, those that have a low occupancy rate. **Ms. Diaz** asked do you get participation from the renter or do the renters need participation from the owners. **Ginny Merriam** stated permission is needed from landlord. **Mr. Wilkins** expressed liking this program. He has someone in mind in the neighborhood who might be interested in organizing this. If I just give her a packet is this enough for that first step. **Ginny Merriam** said everything necessary is in the packet; we will leave some on the table for you to take tonight. I would like to add that The Northwestern Energy part of this audit will go beyond the 'regular' audit that you get when you request an audit in that they will be paying for some of the energy saving measures. So there is

financial participation from the utility that you don't get outside of a project like this. We are pretty excited about it. **Mr. Aten** asked for the deadlines again. **Ginny Merriam** replied, the coordinator must deliver the complete application packet by 5pm to the Mayor's Office Thursday May 22. So it is about a month from now and it means enlisting the participation of the neighbors in your two blocks and having each of them fill out an application. The applications are not complex. The four two-block areas will be chosen by June 2.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Schmitt indicated that on the neighborhood project grant funds she had some comments that aren't outlined in the minutes. I disagreed with the recommendations and I was interested in having more support for a couple of the projects that didn't get funded and those comments aren't reflected in the minutes. **Ms. Diaz** remembers more discussion than what is reflected here, so those comments could be added and brought back for approval. **Mr. Snively** moved to table the approval of minutes until the next meeting. **Mr. Gullickson** seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Discussion, **Ms. Snodgrass** I thought I may have made the motion on the Whitepine Sash endorsement, and Mr. Christiansen seconded.

Liaison Report-Ms. Diaz

- Reminder of the **Community Building Training** this Sat. 9am-3pm at Bethel Baptist Church. Bagel breakfast, coffee and juice as well as lunch and childcare will be provided. If you want to attend and haven't RSVP'd please call the office, especially if you need childcare. This training will cover working with the media and **Ginny Merriam** will providing that section, and **Maxine Jacobsen** and myself will be presenting a neighborhood toolbox, which is looking at a framework for neighborhood change, how to move through the processes to implement anything from the Farviews Pattee Canyon Parks Study to a neighborhood project to helping revitalize an area. The framework will be presented and then we will look at how to get and keep people involved. How to be a facilitator and how all those pieces move through the framework and help neighborhoods get the job done.
- Funds allocation approved in August of last year and a procedure was adopted stating that any unused funds that neighborhood councils feel they are not going to use by June 30, if they could state in an email for example, that you are going to use \$200 of the \$500 in your budget (this is the \$800 general budget) then the rest of that \$300 moves into the Community Forum Fund. Any neighborhood group can access that—Community Forum as well as the Office of Neighborhoods. The goal is to utilize all of the monies received. It shows that we (a) need the money that we receive and, that (b) at some point in the future we may need more. We can't make either of those arguments if we continue to have funds left over. I have them from FV/PC, Grant Creek, F2F, Cpt. John Mullan. The due date is coming up next week April 30. I just need an email stating what you will be using of what you have left. You can refer to the budget printout in the binder, if there is something not on it yet let the office know. I will start making calls to those NC's who haven't submitted that email. Once that pool is in Community Forum, an email stating the need of those funds requested will be sufficient. We have until June 30 to utilize those funds. **Ms. Hoem** commented that a lot of people donated money to the Fodor event and has that been taken out of their balances. **Ms. Diaz** replied no, it has not. If you've given money, you will want to keep that in your account. When the invoice is submitted it will be paid out of each neighborhood account. You will need to account for that donation amount in the email. **Mr. Wilkins** commented that Lewis & Clark will be using their funds. **Ms. Diaz** stated she needs that in writing to be official, get someone from the neighborhood council to submit it. **Ms. Schmitt** asked if Riverfront has submitted officially. **Ms. Diaz** replied not officially, I am assuming all of it would be used according to the email solicitation asking for input, but I need an official email.

- Reminder of Bylaw update. In January of 2007 the Local Government Study Commission realized that the NC ordinance that said that businesses, etc. could vote was not in line with the City Charter. This went out to a citizen vote to update and reflect the City Charter in a package. Since it did not pass, NC's ordinance doesn't fit with City Charter. So all NC's Bylaws that reflect that businesses, churches, and other entities can be voting in the neighborhood have to be changed. Some of you have done it, F2F, Cpt. John Mullan, Grant Creek, don't think Upper Rattlesnake, Rose Park isn't but will do at meeting, FV/PC is, Southgate I believe is. I will send out reminders again. Lewis & Clark has not, University is doing in the fall, and Moose Can Gully is fine. Lower Rattlesnake and Riverfront I still need yours. If you want to change more of your bylaws, any language besides this, has to be reviewed by Jim Nugent the City Attorney before it can be approved.
- Update on letter to support not rezoning Whitepine Sash. Letter states that CF held their meeting on 'x' date and voted unanimously to support the Northside/Westside NC's in its opposition to rezoning and state that it is a community wide public health concern. It was submitted to planner Janet Rhoades so that went to the planning board on record and so it will go on record to everybody at this point.

Committee Reports

Small neighborhood grant from Riverfront NC for ice cream social—John Snively

Request for \$200 made by Lindsey Doe from Riverfront neighborhood for an ice cream social picnic in conjunction with recruitment to neighborhood action and activity involvement sometime in the spring or summer and this request is to help defray the expense of that event. Mr. Snively asked Ms. Diaz if there was support for this circulated via email, she responded that two people supported, not a quorum, it is before this body without a recommendation, not because it wasn't supported, but not of all of the emails were responded too. Bob Jaffe switched with Jason Weiner so therefore no recommendation came from that change. There was a question as to utilizing money from the general fund because of budget reallocation procedure. I spoke with Lindsey and she spoke with the rest of the group. They will be utilizing what is left in their budget because they are having a few different events, the Dakota project in May and an ice cream social and outreach in June, so they will be utilizing all their funds. Mr. Snively reported that he did not respond to the email and would like to put it before CF now for a motion. **Mr. Gullickson** moved to approve the small grant application from the Riverfront NC for the social. **Ms. Garrett** seconded. **Ms. Snodgrass** asked Ms. Schmitt if she thinks this is a good idea. **Ms. Schmitt** stated definitely yes, Lindsay is spearheading these events. She has recently come on board to the LT and is bringing a lot of energy and we need more participation from our neighborhood so I strongly support her motivation and energy to organize these events and I appreciate CF's support of these events as well. Motion passed unanimously.

Bus Tour Committee Report—John Salmonson

Two members met along with Ms. Diaz to discuss possibilities.

- Came up with complete streets, an item that affects almost the entire town, to look at examples of completed and not completed areas and get opinions of what constitutes good additions and what are shortcomings. This would not be examples of just streets, but also curb, gutter and sidewalks, bus stops, lighting, and importantly bike lanes—the complete streets concept. **Ms. Snodgrass** added that other ideas were discussed. (See below)
- Should there be one or two bus tours per year. The committee did not find a way to get all neighborhoods included in one bus tour without making it 10 or 12 hours long, so it is the committee's recommendation that we stay with two bus tours but reschedule them so the first one could be the second weekend after school is out-around June 21-and the second one would not be in September because that is a busy month so maybe October.

- Potential bus tour themes. Along with complete streets, came up with new development and affordable housing topics for bus tours. There have been a lot of new developments, and most neighborhoods either have a place that is filling in or else they are expanding outward. We would like to take a look at the new and completed areas and how the infill and hop scotching is playing out in relation to the rest of the neighborhood, how is infrastructure being affected and how all that is meshing together. With affordable housing, would like to look at the varying types, how it is integrating or not into various neighborhoods, and explore the issues of concern throughout the city around affordable housing.

Ms. Snodgrass continued with asking for validation and guidance on these three potential subjects for the tour and informed that the committee will be meeting again the week of May 5 to discuss things further, so we have some time to decide on themes, but June 21 is coming up soon so we need guidance on which subject to focus on. **Ms. Diaz** spoke to the process and what typically happens is the committee brings suggestions to CF for feedback. The neighborhoods are split (grouped by location) with the June tour focusing on half and the October tour focusing on the other half with the same theme for both tours. After CF provides suggestions today, when the bus tour committee meets in May, they will put together a proposal and budget for the tour. So today want feedback on the three themes-complete streets, affordable housing and the new developed areas. Looking at June 21 for the first tour and early October, but avoiding a Saturday football game, for the second tour. **Mr. Gullickson** asked if going for a Saturday instead of the evening. **Ms. Snodgrass** replied yes.

Mr. Nicholson commented this is a refreshing change, there is a lot of infrastructure in Missoula that is in terrible shape and it is a good thing for this group to get out and take a look at it. There is a lot of controversy over infill and examples of both pro and con projects with some meat to them is a good idea and no better group than this to get out on the land and see it. My only suggestion would be that we publish in advance what we are going to see and what is on the agenda for that particular tour. I would be interested in knowing about it ahead of time.

Ms. Schmitt suggested going with the third option of new development in particular with what's happening with the zoning rewrite. They have been looking at a lot of different design standards for infill and development and that might be a useful way to get out and look around at what's happening in other neighborhoods, for better or worse. **Ms. Hoem** likes the new developed areas and help people to have something to look at, how does it fit in with what was on the ground in the neighborhood and looking at infrastructure and impact on schools and those kinds of things. I think that is really appropriate for what is going on in the city right now. **Ms. Garrett** agrees that it is really important for what is going on. It may be nice to get the perspective from, not that we want to advertise specific developers, but to have somebody who is in that line of business on the tour as well to answer more technical questions would be helpful. **Mr. Wilkins** thinks this is a good idea but will leave some neighborhoods out; there are no new development areas in the Lewis & Clark neighborhood. **Ms. Diaz** asked what about the Lewis & Clark Villages. **Mr. Wilkins** responded that has been there over five years. **Ms. Snodgrass** asked don't you have a few little infill lots that have come up recently. **Mr. Wilkins** replied not in Lewis & Clark, we really don't have any new development. **Ms. Diaz** suggested the tour of Lewis & Clark neighborhood could show that it hasn't been impacted and compare that to areas that have been. **Ms. Snodgrass** added that might be a really useful thing to see. **Ms. Schmitt** commented that five years is fairly recent for a development, anything within ten years is recent. **Ms. Diaz** stated we might have to put a time limit on what is considered recent. **Mr. Wilkins** stated that infill has been shown for the last five bus tours and I think it is getting kind of old actually. **Ms. Snodgrass** commented that four people like the new developed areas and one thinks they might be left out, is there any preference. **Mr. Wilkins** I think you might want to add to it, but I'm not sure how. **Mr. Aten** suggested including affordable housing in that. **Ms. Snodgrass** you mean combine the two. **Mr. Aten** replied yes. **Ms. Hoem** added that if you are

looking at new developments it might be automatic to look at sidewalks and streets and see if those things are there for the new development and what is available for the rest of the neighborhood. **Ms. Schmitt** stated there is a lot going on with affordable housing. The mayor has a task force that is investigating different ways to achieve affordable housing and it might be a good idea to see what it looks like, if we can identify it. **Ms. Carpenter** commented that it is interesting that when you get infill and affordable housing how the other houses in the vicinity go up for sale. **Ms. Deschamps** asked if this would include revitalization. I've seen a lot of that on the north side and I have seen new listings on the MOR where new houses are being built on small lots that are fairly energy efficient. **Ms. Snodgrass** agreed, the north side has some stuff going that could fit into the either the affordable housing or the new development topic. Most of the neighborhoods have examples that would fit into any of the three that is why we choose those topics. **Ms. Elsen** commented why we don't just keep it open so that each neighborhood could decide which one it will focus on. **Ms. Snodgrass** that is an idea, but we thought it might be more helpful to people to be able see and compare and contrast the same source of issues in all of the different neighborhoods, that is why we try to come up with an overriding theme. We don't have too though. **Mr. Aten** proposed to vote now and get a sense of what the majority might desire about these three options and I suppose people could vote more than once if that would help. **Ms. Snodgrass** replied yes, that would be helpful. **Mr. Aten** asked for a vote on complete streets, 8 in favor; for newly developed areas and their affects, 7 in favor; and for affordable housing, 5 in favor. **Ms. Diaz** added how about adding who thinks the neighbors should choose. No response. **Mr. Aten** asked if there is anyone opposed to the June 21 and an October date. **Ms. Hoem** asked which part of city would be in June and which in October. **Ms. Snodgrass** said that needs to be determined, any suggestions. No response. **Mr. Nicholson** suggested staying away from grizzly games in October. **Mr. Wilkins** suggested whoever went first last year goes last this year to mix it up. **Ms. Snodgrass** replied that sounds good. Thanks for your input.

Budget Reports-LaNette Diaz

Look over your budgets, we went over the reallocation and Community Forum has a balance is \$100 and something, I don't have it in front of me, but that amount will grow as we reallocate.

New Business

Captain John Mullan and Westside NC's boundary relocation- Kathie Snodgrass

All agree on where the boundaries should be it has to be approved with city council and the map needs to be redrawn. **Mr. Aten** added that since it is an undisputed boundary with two existing neighborhoods it comes here for a recommendation from CF which is then directed to City Council. **Ms. Diaz** referred to the map to indicate the change. **Ms. Snodgrass** went to the map and showed the areas with the mix involved, so it was decided to use Reserve St. because it is such a good delineator (hard to hear verbatim, no microphone). **Mr. Aten** paraphrased that this is a recommendation from both neighborhood councils for a boundary reallocation and are asking for the support from CF and so you've moved. **Mr. Gullickson** seconded. Discussion. **Mr. Wilkins** stated that this has been a problem before the neighborhood council was established with OPG as little annexations came along. I support this immensely and will push for the referral. Motion passed unanimously.

Large Project for CF (discussion and vote on in May)-LaNette Diaz

There are minutes in your binders that have the summary of the planning done in January and February. In February we ended with one of the big items being to work on one large project as CF. We started looking at UFDA and people trying to think of how do we get the most public input into UFDA and how can we make sure that the public meetings were best represented (in June or July) and others have said there are other things going on that we should be involved in and I've gotten some emails on that. One of the main pieces that came out in February was that you would like to see CF evolve from where it is (continue to do what it does now) into trying to look at larger projects that CF can be involved in. This is

a discussion to see what your ideas are so that we can vote on something to focus on next month. The Office of Neighborhoods would be of assistance in helping research things, bring different ideas from other cities, talking with different departments about how CF can be involved if it involves a different department, any of those kinds of things. Tonight is about what are your ideas.

Ms. Hoem would like to see CF go forward on UFDA. It is scheduled to be completed by end of summer and then public meetings would be held. Concern is that throughout the summer it is difficult to have NC meetings because people are busy and gone. The open discussion would be happening until the fall, so it would really take up CF's time until October or November and then we could work on a different big project. UFDA is so important and it's going to affect all of us long range in how growth will happen in our neighborhoods. We need to stay on top of that and keep NC's informed. **Ms. Diaz** asked what is CF's role in helping UFDA go forward—what would that look like. **Ms. Hoem** stated what has happened so far is that NC's have seen the mapping and research put on paper but don't know what policies are coming down the road. What grows out of Envision Missoula and UFDA will be combined and become the comp plan amendment. It is important for us to get an update monthly as new things happen—to be up on these two issues—which are short term, ending in September, which I don't believe gives us enough time to inform our NC's about the actual policy. **Ms. Elsen** agrees with Ms. Hoem. I don't think people realize or understand that there is going to be an amendment to the growth management plan presented in the summer that needs public input. There is so much information and people get mixed up. The maps are wonderful but people don't realize those maps are merely informational. **Mr. Millar** commented in his presentation that Van Buren Street will be maxed out in 2025. Didn't have the opportunity to ask the question will the proposed growth max it out or will the population as it is max it out. PG is getting organized and doing something city wide—that amendment will affect all our neighborhoods in growth management and neighborhood plans. If we want to have voices, now is the time to be alert. **Mr. Wilkins** agrees that UFDA is important and would like keep in the mode that CF is in now. He would also like this body to think about SID's—whether it is for sidewalks over at Franklin to Fort, street maintenance or lighting. With the tight budget a lot of things aren't getting done and this might be a way to pay for things. You can have special improvements on parks, transportation or lighting. There are numerous things that might fit each of your neighborhoods and it would be nice to have OPG explain how that process works, what it means, and what it could mean for your neighborhood. **Mr. Salmonson** commented that in terms of UFDA, we all filled out the 1/2 sheet of paper and that is the response that they have from us. We might figure out a specific way, go to the neighborhoods, do some kind of information gathering or brainstorming to get a concrete list of priorities or some specific ideas and with a target date come back to the CF and have a signed official document to pass on to OPG. I certainly agree that in terms of completing the sidewalks, the SID is the only way we have ever done things and I think we should stop thinking that way. In terms of sidewalks we should go to the responsible party which is the car, the vehicle makes us walk to the side, so charge it. We can legislate that in Helena and codify that and we can all in our neighborhoods go to our legislators and talk about this as an issue. Find some way of indemnifying people with alternative modes of transportation for the effect of the automobile. We should maybe stop subsidizing the automobile. **Mr. Aten** proposed asking all of our neighborhoods what they consider to be the kind of funding they want to do for lots of different kinds of issues. Some feedback indicates that SID's are not really a practical solution for a lot of issues. It would be nice to know what our neighbors see as the way to pay for the lunch that's not free. **Mr. Nicholson** added that the spending habits of government need to be cleaned up before finding more money sources. Secondly, the commission that was hired to simplify, consolidate and help us with our zoning regulations. I think we need to be vigilant about that growth and careful about it. I thought the maps were great but by the time I got done looking at them, (the presentation was fast) I walked away confused, I don't what the maps told me when all said and done. I think we need to back over that again. I think that neighborhood by neighborhood the land that is available for growth needs to be pointed out, not by the big city wide map. I need to see exactly and specifically where is the land that is available. The idea of looking

carefully at UFDA and where that comes up in terms of policy is what we need to look at. **Ms. Snodgrass** commented that the UFDA presentation was held at the NC meeting last night and this was the second time she saw it. I feel that the whole project needs to be looked at more before it is approved. I don't see them improving the infrastructure; you want to build eight houses per acre but how are they going to get in and out. We saw that out Flynn Lane, it became a nightmare with Pleasant View and then 44 Ranch Estates and so on. I understand we will need more housing, but we also need the roads to get people in and out. Miller Creek is another example. I am uncomfortable with the short timeframe on this project. **Ms. Diaz** stated that she has enough information and it looks like UFDA and how to pay for things given the growth that's happening are important. Next month I will bring forward some of the different ideas we have. If someone has a specific idea on how you feel CF can impact either of those things please email it and we will vote on what we can do as a CF and go from there. **Mr. Aten** commented that he has heard tonight from many that our NC's will not be meeting again for quite awhile. As you may know, **Ms. Diaz** has been encouraging us all to meet much more frequently as a NC, in fact even monthly—start having more regular meetings. **Ms. Diaz** added that starting with quarterly meetings is option to monthly and go from there.

Ongoing Business

Neighborhood Council Updates

- Riverfront—**Ms. Schmitt** has nothing to report.
- Lower Rattlesnake—**Ms. Elsen** commented on the wonderful agenda at our last meeting, had the UFDA presentation, report on Greenough Park, report on Mt. Jumbo and the efforts to repopulate it with native plants. The Lincoln School reclamation fund raiser is Sat. the 26th at The Loft 7-9 PM, tickets are \$25, there is a silent auction and food provided by Red Bird. This supports buying Lincoln School to save as a community center. **Ms. Diaz** added there are two Loft's—this is the new Loft on Main Street.
- Moose Can Gully—**Mr. Guerts** has nothing to report
- University—**Mr. Snively** reported they had their spring meeting on April 3. Had the UFDA presentation, which was good, but brought forth a lot of information to digest, for that reason I am in agreement that we should go forward with UFDA study and publicity campaign. **Gregg Wood** reviewed the Higgins/Mount/Beckwith roundabout that is going to be starting later this year. It has been delayed a few months due to right-of-way acquisition issues. A proposal to help fund the Fodor event in May was approved.
- Lewis & Clark—**Mr. Gullickson** would like to encourage everyone to get people involved in this sustainability green blocks program. I am the CF representative on the Mayors Task Force and am excited that they opted to include us as such a large contributor to this program. If you yourself or people that you know in your neighborhood can spearhead these blocks in getting people signed up it would be appreciated. I know the timeline is short, but this is a good opportunity and most people when they hear it think it is a really good idea.
- South 39th Street—**Ms. Carpenter** expressed her disappointment in granting so many variances in putting up buildings. There are many blind corners particularly around South Avenue to get to Brooks Street. I am surprised we haven't had major accidents because the buildings are right out to the sidewalk and unless you have a periscope on your car, you can't see if traffic is coming.
- Farviews/Pattee Canyon—**Mr. Aten** reported their general meeting was held on April 10, UFDA was presented. The city council reps. Wilkins and Hellegaard presented what is going on in that arena. Talked more about the South Campus Master Plan.
- Rose Park—**Ms. Garrett** reported their general meeting is scheduled for May 15 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church at 6:30. Have a full agenda. Will have presentations on the Rose Park Master Plan and the Beckwith/Higgins roundabout and other issues the neighborhood feels are important. Elections will be held for LT. Update on Triangle Park—last week a group of teenagers wearing 'Volunteer At Work'

t-shirts were actively working on it. The park is looking great and I encourage everyone to drop by and take a look.

- Upper Rattlesnake—Ms. Hoem reminded folks about the Eben Fodor's visit on May 20th thanks to the NC's who contributed, Lower Rattlesnake, Moose Can Gully, University, Grant Creek and Franklin to the Fort all gave support in one way or another, we are about \$70 short but Harold and I will kick that in. The event will be May 20th at the Missoula Children's Theatre community room upstairs (Main St. entrance). As soon as the flyers are finished they will be sent to everyone next week. Grounds are being torn up at Lincoln School to put in sewer. We will be planning our NC May meeting shortly.
- Grant Creek—Mr. Nicholson reported that the UFDA presentation with Roger Millar went really well and there were about 100 people in attendance at the general meeting. This was a very good turnout. Elections were held for officers and I was elected as the CF Representative. Update on neighborhood projects: 1) Trying to spruce up the grass and shrubs on the road islands at the I-90/Grant Creek interchange. The sprinkler system doesn't work and we are trying to get the city to give us a hand with that. We will continue to make applications for funds to help us do that through the neighborhood project grant program. 2) We have high hopes for a right turn lane onto I-90 from Grant Creek. The traffic really backs up in the morning. About four feet of the existing island would need to be removed to install and would be fairly inexpensive to put in place. Think we have the city/state convinced to work on this. 3) Mr. Walter has been pushing the Grant Creek Trail relentlessly. There is an active committee for the project and most of the right-of-way has been donated with the goodwill of neighbors and volunteers have conducted engineering plans. Thus at no cost to the city at this point, the trail is progressing. In the eyes of Donna Gaukler, if we could get the trail from I-90/Grant Creek to Snowbowl Road, this would be one of the better trails in the city. Grant Creek Road is dangerous for pedestrians and cyclists, it is curvy and narrow. There are a lot of deer killed on this road; it is a miracle no people have been yet. This trail really needs to be built. 4) Have been doing fuel reduction projects but ran out of money so we are about half done. All of these projects have been initiated by Brian Walters; he is a good guy to have in your neighborhood.
- South 39th Street—Ms. Deschamps reported the general meeting held last night, April 23rd, was not well attended unfortunately, would still like to have pizza party to attract more to the meetings. Jeff Stevens has been working to get improvements—some trees and benches—in an undeveloped park. Challenge for the trees is that there is no access to water and they need to be watered to get established. The adjacent neighbors expressed they would like the benches to face toward the park and not back yards. The UFDA presentation was held at the meeting. Waiting for parks and rec to replace a couple sections of the fence that were taken out due to someone sliding into it awhile back on 23rd where it intersects a trail. Superintendent Jim Clark attended the meeting to speak about the high school building reserve levy. There is confusion about the taxable value of one's home being used and not the market value. Explained that the money will be used for 'greening' the schools and replacing old equipment.
- Captain John Mullan—Ms. Snodgrass reported that earlier this month a LT meeting was held and determined which positions elected officers would hold. Discussed budget, discussed strategy. Tentatively scheduled next LT meeting for May 14th to set priorities.
- Franklin to Fort—Mr. Salmonson reported that at the NC meeting a week ago, passed Bylaws, held elections, had an UFDA presentation and next month we will begin with the first of what we believe will be monthly meetings, or as close as we can come to it. There are a number of things in the neighborhood: attempt to get a letter out to comment on the Miller Creek EIS which will affect the south end of our neighborhood. If there are other neighborhoods in that area that want to comment, the deadline is May 1. The preferred plan eliminates a trail along the edge of the golf course and makes a number of changes that don't work well for any other mode of transportation than cars. It is a strange configuration that you end up with. If you get a chance to look at it, or view the dvd recording with all the maps and explanation you could still have some time to possibly comment. Last week the

Russell/3rd Street EIS meeting was held with the city/state/federal engineers present to talk about the upcoming upgrade. This was an informational meeting to answer some questions about conflict of design. There have been a series of these meetings. This process has been ongoing and doesn't look like it will have a quick resolution. The EIS will be coming out in September and then public record open for official comments. This is another thing to keep attune to. We are continuing on our complete streets program and will be releasing information as new steps occur in the near future.

- City Council Report-Jon Wilkins stated that on Monday the RSS (Residential Standards Safety) committee's work on an ordinance and the two resolutions that go along with it will be on the floor. This is a program to inspect residences for safety features like smoke alarms, egress windows, hand rails, and furnaces. A ceiling height restriction was taken out of the ordinance. Not mandatory but a volunteer initiated program. Cost is \$15 for trip charge and \$20 inspection fee. If the unit passes the inspection, a certificate is awarded which can be used in their advertising. The University has donated \$5000 and another \$1000 from different property management agencies were committed. I was also advised on Weds. that the Missoula Organization of Realtors (MOR) have come up with 100 carbon dioxide monitors that can be given out. Mold tests will be given out as well. I think it is a good ordinance, if you interested in making sure we have good residential and rental safety in Missoula would you come out and support it. Saturday is a big day, the Kiwanis annual pancake breakfast will be held. One program they support is the middle school basketball program, they support the Poverello Center, St. Joe's and the Watson home as well. This is a good organization to support and they have the best pancakes and sausage. I'll be flipping pancakes at St. Anthony's Church for the event which I think starts at 7 am and goes till 2 pm, cost is \$4 for adults \$3 for 17 and under, and preschool kids free. I have tickets. Also it is budget time and a couple twists have come up that I would like input on. One is borrowing to replace heavy equipment instead of taking it out of the CIP general fund. This is on big ticket items like fire engines and dump trucks.

Monthly report to City Council–moderator prepare

Mr. Aten commented that he has a good idea of what to report on to City Council; the two presentations, reminder about Bylaws, the letter we submitted, what's happening with the bus tour, our support of the boundary reallocation, and mention the two major projects we are considering-UFDA and funding mechanisms. Ms. Schmitt made a motion to allow Mr. Aten to summarize our meeting and present to City Council. Ms. Hoem seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Moderator for the next meeting will be Carol Elsen

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Ross

Christine Ross
Secretary
City Clerk's Office

Far Views Pattee Canyon Neighborhood Parks Study

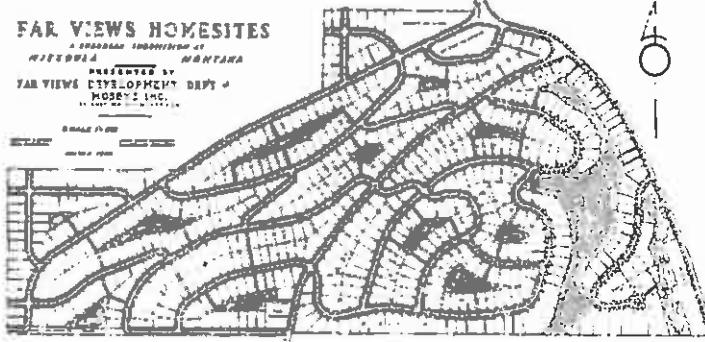
Objectives:

- Gain Historical Perspective
- Gain Understanding of Current Conditions
- Gauge Neighborhood Knowledge and Sentiment
- Consider Opportunities for Improvements
- Propose Implementation Actions



Far Views Pattee Canyon Neighborhood Parks Study

History



*F*AR VIEWS is a carefully planned, master-planned community development within the Missoula city boundaries. Under the capable management of John Ray Pattee, landscape architect of Spokane, Far Views offers you all the wonderful home-site features needed for your new home.

Far Views Pattee Canyon Neighborhood Parks Study

History

"These accessways were not easily visible and the back yards abutting the common park grounds tended to stretch out into it in some places or to be jointly kept as a play area. So they were in effect private rather than public parks."

-Individual account taken from Parks & Recreation Department archives



Far Views Pattee Canyon Neighborhood Parks Study

History

1964- One of two public access easements to Tioratis Park sold to adjacent homeowner.

- taken from *Parks & Recreation Department* archives



Far Views Pattee Canyon Neighborhood Parks Study
History

July, 1986- City Park Board granted the right to the developer to access four lots through an easement to Wastemaga Park provided he develop the park.

November, 1986- Name of Wastemaga Park changed to Penland Park.

- taken from *Parks & Recreation Department* archives



Far Views Pattee Canyon Neighborhood Parks Study
History

1987- Park Board recommends that the City sell seven undeveloped park areas. These included four parks in Far Views Pattee Canyon neighborhood: Hernayagen, Oziya, and Tioratis

City council votes against doing this.

- Park Board minutes, taken from *Parks & Recreation Department* archives



Far Views Pattee Canyon Neighborhood Parks Study

Today



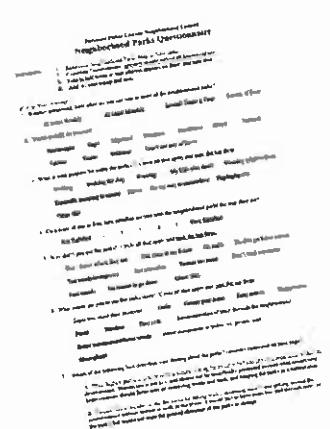
Eleven Parks:

- High
- Whitaker
- Northview
- Ninkpala
- Penland
- Tioratis
- Oziya
- Highland
- Hemayagan
- Takima-Kokaski
- Woodbine

Far Views Pattee Canyon Neighborhood Parks Study

Parks Questionnaire

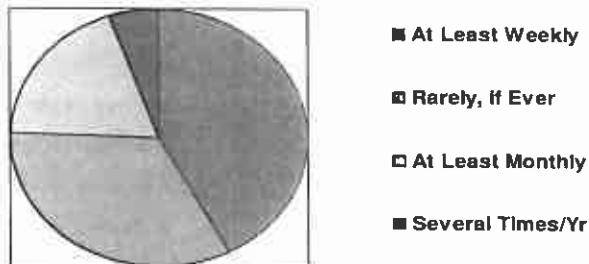
- 61 Responses!!
- Some common ground
- Some conflicting desires



Far Views Pattee Canyon Neighborhood Parks Study

Survey Results

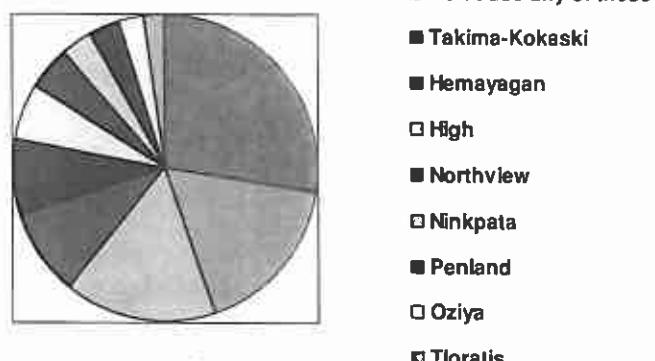
Q: How often do you use the neighborhood parks?



Far Views Pattee Canyon Neighborhood Parks Study

Survey Results

Q: Which parks do you use?



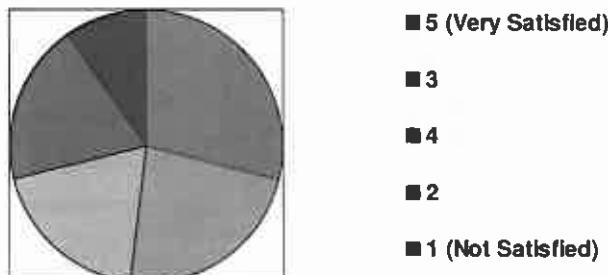
Far Views Pattee Canyon Neighborhood Parks Study Survey Results

Q: What is your purpose for using the park(s)?



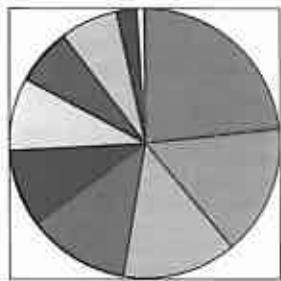
Far Views Pattee Canyon Neighborhood Parks Study Survey Results

Q: From 1 to 5, how satisfied are you with the neighborhood parks the way they are?



Far Views Pattee Canyon Neighborhood Parks Study Survey Results

Q: Why don't you use the parks?

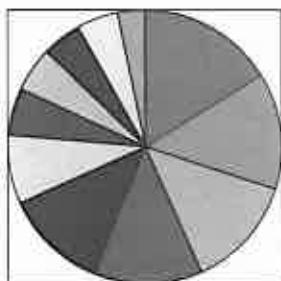


- Don't know where they are
- Weedy/Overgrown
- Hard or No Access
- No Trails
- Too Steep to Use
- No Reason to Go There
- Don't Lead Anywhere
- Not Attractive
- Not Near my House
- Feel Unsafe



Far Views Pattee Canyon Neighborhood Parks Study Survey Results

Q: What would get you to use the parks more?



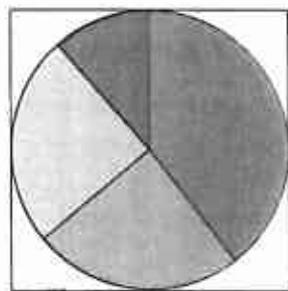
- Signs that show locations
- Better Maint./Fewer Weeds
- Better Desig. Private v. Public
- Interconnection of Trails
- Trails
- Easy Access
- Benches
- Dog Park
- Playgrounds
- Grassy Play Areas
- Ponds



Far Views Pattee Canyon Neighborhood Parks Study

Survey Results

Q: Which best describes your feelings about the parks?

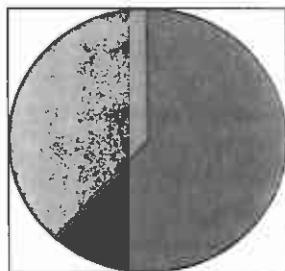


- Want to use for walking around neighborhood, would like more trails but otherwise keep current character
- Highest purpose is visual relief and separation, human use not key, remove weeds and keep natural
- Develop better access, trails, and simple amenities like benches and signs to promote more use, Some active recreation area is also appropriate
- Parks have unrealized potential for a much wider range of active and passive uses, improvements should focus on amenities like lawn areas, b-ball courts, playgrounds

Far Views Pattee Canyon Neighborhood Parks Study

Survey Results

Q: Would you consider supporting an SID for park improvements if you felt it were reasonable and beneficial to you?



■ Yes

□ No

Far Views Pattee Canyon Neighborhood Parks Study

Recommendations

SHORT TERM (1-2 years): Phase 2

- Secure Phase 2 funding
- Determine status of disputed parcels
- Remove existing physical barriers to access
- Engage City/County on plan to mitigate weeds, control overgrowth
- Prepare system-wide Park/Trail Master Plan
- Develop a Signage Plan
- Implement Visible Pilot Project
- Adopt Parks Master Plan as a Neighborhood

LONGER TERM:

- Explore civic partnerships to help fund improvements
- Get major projects onto City's Capital Improvements list
- Systematically Implement master plan components
- Explore desireability/feasibility of selling selected parcels

