

## **Missoula City Council Parks and Conservation Committee Minutes**

**March 3, 2021  
10:15 AM  
ZOOM Webinar**

**Members present:** Stacie Anderson, Mirtha Becerra, John P. Contos, Heather Harp, Jordan Hess, Gwen Jones, Julie Merritt, Amber Sherrill (chair), Sandra Vasecka, Heidi West

**Members absent:** Jesse Ramos, Bryan von Lossberg

**Others present:** Staff Present: Corena Maurer, Nathan McLeod, David Selvage  
Others Present: Jeremy Keene, William Sloane, Larry Sloane, Fernanda Menna Barreti Krum

### **1. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS**

#### **1.1 Roll Call**

#### **1.2 Approval of the Minutes from February 24, 2021**

The minutes were approved as submitted.

### **2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

### **3. COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

#### **3.1 Appointments to the Open Space Advisory Committee**

**Moved by:** Gwen Jones

appoint Anne Iverson and Kit Fischer to the Open Space Advisory Committee for terms beginning immediately and ending on December 31, 2024.

AYES: (10): Stacie Anderson, Mirtha Becerra, John Contos, Heather Harp, Jordan Hess, Gwen Jones, Julie Merritt, Amber Sherrill, Sandra Vasecka, and Heidi West

ABSENT: (2): Jesse Ramos, and Bryan von Lossberg

**Vote results: Approved (10 to 0)**

#### **3.2 Clark Fork River Restoration and Access Professional Services Contract**

Mr. McLeod gave a slideshow presentation on current river conditions and proposed river access.

Ms. West asked for more clarification and information on levees.

Ms. Merritt asked for more information on permitting.

Ms. Sherrill asked how many people are using the river in a week or in a month.

Ms. Vasecka asked about maintenance funds for the project.

Ms. Anderson asked about a timeline for the project.

**Moved by:** Sandra Vasecka

Approve the professional services contract with RESPEC Company, LLC in the amount not-to-exceed Two Hundred Forty Five Thousand Six Hundred Sixteen Dollars (\$245,616) for the Clark Fork River Restoration and Access and authorize the Mayor to sign.

AYES: (9): Stacie Anderson, Mirtha Becerra, John Contos, Heather Harp, Jordan Hess, Gwen Jones, Amber Sherrill, Sandra Vasecka, and Heidi West

ABSTAIN: (1): Julie Merritt

ABSENT: (2): Jesse Ramos, and Bryan von Lossberg

**Vote results: Approved (9 to 0)**

### **3.3 Missoula City Cemetery Strategic Plan**

Jeremy Keene gave an overview of the Cemetery Strategic Plan.

William Sloane briefly reviewed what he and Larry Sloane would be discussing.

Larry Sloane spoke about past and current cemetery use.

William shared the current mortality trends in Montana.

William shared a current view of the cemetery and possible future expansion.

Ms. Jones asked for clarification on the map view of the cemetery.

Mr. Hess asked the exact acreage of the two presented sites.

Ms. Anderson asked for clarification on the existing and proposed sections.

William shared a the location of possible future utility buffer.

Larry discussed future cemetery development and excess land to divest.

Fencing of the cemetery was discussed.

William thinks the Stories in Stones event should continue if possible.

Larry spoke about adding relevancy to the cemetery.

Ms. Harp asked about the possible residential growth.

Ms. Jones states more interaction in such a beautiful place is warranted. Ms. Jones asked about possible recreation uses for some parcels.

Ms. Jones asked about an underground irrigation system and if that would even be possible.

Ms. West stated one of the challenging things about this site is walking access.

Ms. West talked about national trends where burial sites are not permanent and if this was something that could possibly be practiced here.

Ms. Merritt asked if the cemetery was on its own well. She also asked about cost benefits of a timed watering system.

Mr. Hess asked if there were any new trends in burials that were occurring around the country.

Larry spoke about the green burial concept.

**Moved by:** Heather Harp

Adopt the Missoula City Cemetery Strategic Plan of the Missoula City Council to provide guidance in implementing infrastructure and improvements that will enhance the operations and maintenance of the City Cemetery.

AYES: (9): Stacie Anderson, Mirtha Becerra, John Contos, Heather Harp, Jordan Hess, Gwen Jones, Julie Merritt, Amber Sherrill, and Heidi West

ABSENT: (3): Jesse Ramos, Sandra Vasecka, and Bryan von Lossberg

**Vote results: Approved (9 to 0)**

### **3.4 Easement amendment for West Broadway Island shared parking lot**

Ms. Vasecka left the meeting.

Mr. Salvage gave a brief overview of the request.

Fernanda Menna Barreti Krum states they would like to take over the power at this power line to help provide power to the food trucks.

**Moved by:** Heather Harp

Approve the amended cross access and shared parking permanent easement between Interconnect International LLC and the City and authorize the Mayor to sign, and direct the City Clerk to record the amended easement.

AYES: (9): Stacie Anderson, Mirtha Becerra, John Contos, Heather Harp, Jordan Hess, Gwen Jones, Julie Merritt, Amber Sherrill, and Heidi West

ABSENT: (3): Jesse Ramos, Sandra Vasecka, and Bryan von Lossberg

**Vote results: Approved (9 to 0)**

## **4. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:36am.

Submitted by:

Corena Maurer

City of Missoula Parks & Recreation