

**South Billings Urban Renewal Association
Board Meeting
Tuesday, February 7, 2023
7:00pm
Public Welcome (Zoom Access Provided)**

Call to Order: Dick Zier, SBURA Board Chair

Courtesies: Welcome Visitors

Jim Tevlin, Scott Hanser, Jeff Muri, Denise Joy, Carolyn Ruckstad, Sara Trautmann, Wyeth Friday, Mike Boyett, Kevin Nelson, Lori Nelson, Frank Fuhrmann, Michael Marino, Kevin Heaney, Andrew Houlihan

Meeting Protocol: Visitors wishing to be recognized should raise their hand. Unrecognized remarks will not be acknowledged. Those wishing to offer public comment will be limited to three minutes.

Agenda Additions/Deletions – Dick Zier

Agenda Items:

1. Approval of Minutes for January 4, 2023 meeting (Action)

Jeff Muri motioned: Carolyn Ruckstad seconded to approve minutes **APPROVED**

2. Status of Board Vacancy (Information)

Jim Tevlin stated an ad was published in the Yellowstone County News for two weekends. Kevin Heaney applied and was vetted for the position.

Scott Hanser motioned: Jeff Muri seconded for Kevin Heaney to fill the vacant board position. **APPROVED**

3. Guidelines for Residential & Community Enhancements (Information)

Jim has made minor changes to the enhancement policy. A map of the sewer lines shows a substantial amount of homes are not connected into the system. Jim suggests making it part of a capital improvement project and encourages discussion.

Public comments included:

- Homeowners cannot afford to pay the system development fee. Commentor suggests creating a sliding scale based on income.
- Commentor is against the idea of funds being used to pay for the system development fees for homeowner.
- Commenter stated there are many other ways to support the southside residents to include: streetlights, sidewalks, lights and/or gates for Optimist Park, street repair, and officers to patrol the area.

Board comments included:

- Member reminded group to stay focused on the residents of the southside being the main purpose of the board.
- Member expresses that paying the fees for the residents sets a precedent for future fund allocation.
- Member states the importance of coming up with a solution to help offset the fees of hooking into the sewer system. States it is a matter of public health and safety.

- Member suggested more research and dialogue be started with the Public Works department and DEQ. Jim will begin to establish a line of communication with these organizations and report back.

4. **January 2023 Consultant Report – Jim**

(Information)

No public or board comments

5. **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

- Commenter asked what the status of the Rec Center is and if it is still being discussed. Board stated that the Chamber is getting actively involved to move this project forward.
- Member stated that the Outlaw Complex deal has closed and will be reopening as a family fun center in the future.
- Member encourages the continued use of Zoom for meetings.
- Member asks that the lights in Optimist Park be looked into as it was the impression of the board that this was already done. Jim will look into this matter and report back.

6. **Adjourn**

Carolyn Ruckstad motioned; Andrew Houlihan seconded to adjourn. **APPROVED**