

March
2005

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Neighborhood NEWS

Citizen Representation: *INC & Study Commission Meeting*

On Tuesday, March 8, the Study Commission and Inter-Neighborhood Council members met to discuss public participation, neighborhood organizing and possible changes to how citizens are represented. The Study Commission asked the INC to come prepared to begin a dialogue based on three questions:

Do you feel that within the existing form of government (e.g. a council-city manager form with at-large representation and no directly-elected mayor) provides adequate access to citizens who wish to be heard by and involved in local government?

If not, what changes to the *form* of local government do you feel are necessary to achieve better access for citizens and representation of diverse perspectives within the city?

What are your thoughts on the pros and cons of formalizing the role of neighborhood councils within city government, for example by providing for structured neighborhood communication with the commission in a city charter?

The discussion between the INC and the Study Commission focused on a need for better communication between the local government, city staff and general public as well as the need to keep participation simple. The Study Commission will continue to discuss Citizen Representation during upcoming meetings and encourages the public to share their ideas or experiences in other communities during these meetings. The Study Commission may propose changes to our current form of local government in August 2005. Citizen representation will be the topic of their discussion on April 12 & 20 beginning at 7pm in the City Commission Room at City Hall. The public is encouraged to participate. For more information – call 582-2383 or email StudyCommission@bozeman.net.



Two City Commissioners and the City Manager attended a recent neighborhood meeting.

city projects

Code Corner: *Fences*

Fences are built for a variety of reasons – aesthetics, privacy, dogs – but require thought before being constructed. The height of fences cannot exceed 4 feet in the front yard and side yard fences can be constructed up to 6 feet. If a resident would like to construct a fence between 6-8 feet, they must obtain a building permit to ensure the fence has the strength and integrity required for public safety. Fences are not allowed to exceed 8 feet in the City limits.

Consider these important points before constructing your fence:

The finished side of the fence must face out to the public or neighbor (see photo for violation);

Residents are responsible for the weeds and grass in the alley behind the fence and in the boulevard along the property line;

The City owns one foot inside the sidewalk and fences must be at least one foot from the edge of the sidewalk;

Residents on corner lots with alleys and streets have a special responsibility to provide a vision triangle for motorist, bicyclists and pedestrians safety;

Residents in the Conservation Overlay District require a further review of their fence design and a Certificate of Appropriateness before the fence may be constructed.

The Planning Department has developed a publication on Fencing to assist residents in identifying appropriate and creative fences which meet the City's codes. The publication is available at 20 East Olive Street and questions regarding fences can be answered by calling 582-2260.



What is CTEP Funding?

Community Transportation Enhancement Program

The CTEP program reimburses cities and counties for small projects that enhance local transportation systems. The Federal Highway Administration allocates "enhancement" funding to state departments of transportation, which award enhancement funds to cities and counties relative to population. CTEP funds public projects such as landscaping and street-scapes, bicycle paths, crosswalk safety features, and bike/pedestrian safety education tools. Many small projects have been funded by CTEP dollars in Bozeman, matched in part by City funds. Examples of



CTEP projects are plentiful: planted meridians on North 7th Avenue, vintage-style streetlights on Main Street, "Welcome to Bozeman" entryway signs, and a shared-use pathway on Highland Boulevard. The most recent project completed with CTEP dollars was this fall's signed bicycle route network and placement of 15 new bike parking racks at public places. In 2005 you will likely see a re-landscaped Soroptimist Park, a new roof on the historic East Willson School building, and new vintage lighting at the Emerson Center. Also in process are plans to create paved bike/pedestrian pathways and safer crossings on Huffine Lane and East Main Street, and to partially cover costs of landscaping at the new Library site.

For more information or to inquire about eligibility criteria for CTEP projects, contact City Grants Administrator Sara Folger at 582-2260.

spotlight

Community GIS:

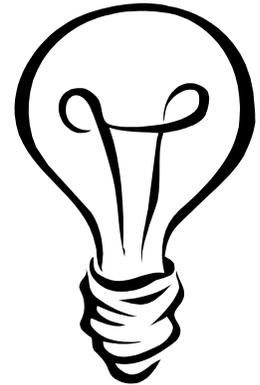
Geographical Information Systems

What is a GIS you ask? It stands for **G**eographical **I**nformation **S**ystem. Five years ago the City of Bozeman began a program to map all City information on a computer for use between departments as well as the public. Hand-drawn paper maps have been converted into a digital format and missing information has been gathered in the field.

Visit the City's web site (www.bozeman.net) and you will find a link to the GIS Department. There you will be able to view maps which we have completed and even use an "Interactive GIS" to view digital data – no special software needed! This marks a new way for the City to view and analyze public information. You will be able to view data as 'layers' on top of one another. Think of these 'layers' as transparencies with which you can overlay in any combination. For instance, you can observe how lot lines, zoning boundaries, and park land relate to each other. One can even explore our new aerial photography (taken in April 2004). The combinations are endless.

The GIS is most often used to get an idea of the 'big picture'. You will be able to view data in comparison to other information not possible before. Give it a try. And don't hesitate to contact me directly with any questions or concerns (Jon Henderson – GIS Manager – 582-2250).

@ Our Library



USED BOOK SALE!
March 19, 20 and 21
 Drop off your gently used books at the Library, or call 582-2408. You'll find a wide selection of fiction, nonfiction, cookbooks, travel and children's books at low, low prices! Sponsored by AAUW & Friends of the Library.

Inter-Neighborhood Council: *Recognized Neighborhood Criteria*

The Inter-Neighborhood Council (INC) is a citywide coalition of neighborhood groups committed to providing safety, knowledge and guidance for Bozeman's neighborhoods. It is comprised of representatives from each of Bozeman's organized neighborhoods. INC also functions as a support network and advocate for neighborhood issues and fosters a sense of cooperation and understanding between neighborhoods in the City of Bozeman. INC is a vehicle allowing neighborhoods the chance to exchange ideas, information, and problem-solving techniques.

INC Participation Requirements

Defined neighborhood boundaries. The boundaries of your association should be identified and reflect your group's view of their "neighborhood".

Include ALL residents. The INC requires all residents to be included. Homeowners, renters, students, newcomers or old timers must be invited to participate in your association.

Elect two representatives and an alternate to INC for one-year terms. The year term is designed to ensure continuity and accountability.

Hold (at least) one public meeting per year. A single meeting a year is the bare minimum to keep your organization afloat.

Established method to disperse & gain info from residents. The INC requires your association to be able to share information with residents and to appropriately gather their input with a method adopted by the group.

If you would like to receive information on how to organize a neighborhood—contact the Neighborhoods Program at 582-2258.

Bozeman Creek Neighborhood Association

Keep Our Neighborhood Beautiful! Please plan to join your neighbors on April 30th to participate in Bozeman Clean-Up Day. Free garbage bags and maps will be available at the west side of Christie Field beginning at 8:30am. A BBQ and music will follow at noon at Bogert Park. Join your neighbors, bring the whole family and enjoy a spring day while doing good for our neighborhood! For more information or to help organize the event—contact KC Cassidy at 586-5303.

Friends of Bozeman Creek Capital Campaign—A BCNA-endorsed capital campaign to acquire public open space along Bozeman Creek between Kagy and Ice Pond Rd with the help of Gallatin Valley Land Trust. Community members and businesses can make tax deductible contributions to conserve some of the last remaining open space along Bozeman's only stream corridor. If you would like to make a contribution or to learn more about the campaign to turn the Bozeman Creek conservation vision into a reality—please contact KC Cassidy at 586-5303.

Marwyn-Lindley Neighborhood

A Name Says A Lot— which is why it took the residents near Lindley Park a little extra time to come up with their new name—Marwyn-Lindley Neighborhood. Residents are currently researching bylaws and will bring a proposal to the next neighborhood meeting to receive feedback.

Clean-Up Day Scheduled— We need a neighborhood volunteer to help coordinate Bozeman Clean-Up Day for our neighborhood! It is a small commitment and a good way to visit with our neighbors. Call Duane Burkencas if you are willing to help at 586-2169.

New Hyalite View Network

Bozeman Clean-Up Day— A neighborhood volunteer is needed to help coordinate Bozeman Clean-Up Day for New Hyalite View on April 30th! If you are willing to help our neighbors keep our neighborhood clean—please call Dana Huschle at 595-2244.

Northeast Neighborhood Association

Great Turn Out!

The Northeast Neighborhood Association held their annual meeting on March 10th. Thank you to all the neighbors who helped to distribute newsletter and made time in their schedules to attend the meeting. We had a great turnout! We will be planning another neighborhood meeting in the next 2-3 months to hold elections and discuss the Mill District Proposal in greater detail. If you are interested in running for President, Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer—contact Tracy Oulman at 582-2258. If you would like to obtain the handouts from the meeting—you may also contact Tracy.

The NENA Fairgrounds Subcommittee has postponed their monthly meetings indefinitely due to low attendance. Questions can still be sent to northeastfairgrounds@hotmail.com. The subcommittee is looking for an outreach person to manage the emails coming into the email account. If you are interested in helping the neighborhood stay informed on this issue—send an email to the hotmail account with a subject line of COMMUNICATION.

Beautify the Neighborhood—Bozeman Clean-Up Day is on the Way! Our neighborhood has a long and impressive history of participating in this community event. This year the event will occur on Saturday, April 30th beginning at 8:30am! The nearest garbage drop off sites in the NE are located at Bogert Park and at Beall Park. Free garbage bags are available at the Swim Center the week prior to the event. A free BBQ and live music will occur at Bogert Park beginning 11:30am. Plan to join your neighbors and bring your family!

Northwest Network

No news was reported.

Southeast Neighborhood Association

A Neighborhood Event and a Community Effort - SENA needs a volunteer to help coordinate Bozeman Clean-Up Day efforts in our neighborhood. This volunteer will attend one meeting in April, pass out garbage bags and maps on the day of the event—April 30th between 8:30 and 9:30—and will complete an evaluation form for the Neighborhoods Program. Call Pierce Mullen at 587-3455 for more information or to help coordinate this event!

neighborhoods

City of Bozeman-
The most livable place.

20 East Olive Street
P.O. Box 1230
Bozeman, MT 59711-1230

Phone: 406-582-2258
Fax: 406-582-2263
Email: toulman@bozeman.net

Contact Information

City Commission

P.O. Box 1230
Bozeman, MT 59771
Phone: 582-2321

Commission: Andrew
Cetraro (Mayor), Steve
Kirchhoff, Lee Hietala,
Marcia Youngman &
Jeff Krauss.

County Commission

311 West Main Street
Bozeman, MT 59715
Phone: 582-3000

Email: commis-sion@co.gallatin.mt.us

Commissioners: Bill
Murdock, John Vincent,
Joe Skinner.

Dessert Dialogues

An evening of fine desserts and conversation benefiting the MSU libraries will be held at 7:30pm on March 22 in the MSU SUB Ballrooms B and C. The event will feature local authors, scholars, musicians and specialists as "conversation hosts". Each host will lead a dialogue with five to seven guests as they enjoy a selection of desserts and wines throughout the evening.

Conversation hosts will include David Quammen, Joel Jahnke, Chrysti the Wordsmith, President Geoffrey Gamble as well as 10 other engaging hosts. Reservations must be made by March 16th and tickets are \$25. For more information or to make a reservation – call 994-3119.

Spring Break Programs

The Recreation Department is offering a variety of activities for adults and kids alike during Spring Break week! Something is going on every day, but here are just a few highlights:

Mystery Tour – follow the clues, solve the mystery and reap rewards!

Tuesday, March 15, 1-3pm

Grades K-5, pre register at the Swim Center, 1211 W. Main and the activity will take place at the Lindley Center.

\$3 City of Bozeman residents / \$4 County Residents

Pizza & Movie - Be at the Swim Center by 11am – the movie will start at 11am-12:30pm followed by pizza and a drink.

Wednesday, March 16, 11am-3pm

\$1 slice of pizza and drink.

Bear Float & Inner Tubes – join us for a float in the pool and rootbeer floats to follow.

Thursday, March 17, 1pm-3:30pm

\$2.50 kids & seniors / \$3.50 adults or free with a Swim Center pass.

Neighbors Needed

Senior Advisory Board Member – The Senior Advisory Board has an opening for a citizen interested in the issues facing Bozeman seniors. Recent topics discussed by the board have included senior trail access and Senior Center parking needs. For more information or to request an application – call the Clerk of the Commission at 582-2320.

Recreation & Park Board Student Representative - Do you know a high school student interested in our parks and trail system? The Recreation and Park Board has a position vacancy for the Student Representative. The Board reviews and makes recommendations regarding the City's recreation, parks and trails. For more information or an application call- 582-2320.