



MISSOULA COUNTY COMMUNITY COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT FORM

**Please note and include any anticipated expenditures for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2015.*

Community Council Name:			
Report Date (due May 15):		For Fiscal Year:	FY2015 (July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015)
Prepared By:			
RECEIPT AND EXPENDITURE OF COUNTY FUNDS			
County Revenues	Budget Amount	Total Income	
1. Missoula County Community Council Funds		\$1,000	
2. Other Funds Received (example donations, etc.)		\$126	
EXPENDITURES BY CATEGORY			
EXPENDITURES BY CATEGORY	BUDGET AMOUNT	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	
1. Office Supplies			
2. Printing			
3. Postage/Shipping			
4. PO Box Rental		\$48	
5. Meeting Supplies		\$132	
6. Advertising		\$67	
7. Meeting Room Rental		\$225	
8. Secretarial Assistance			
9. Professional Assistance			
10. Other:			
a. website		\$149	
b. hall rental		\$50	
c.			
d.			
11. TOTAL EXPENSES		\$671	



Please describe how Community Council Funds were used in the past year to achieve your Community Council's work plan and goals, including any events and activities.

We don't prepare an annual budget; that's not necessary. We work on an ad-hoc basis using cash accounting with few expenditures during the fiscal year. Our financial activities are pretty simple and straight-forward. The monthly Treasurer's Reports are posted on our website

The Seeley Lake Community Council was again very active during the past fiscal year, and constituents' attendance at our meetings continues to grow. We used to publicize our meetings through press releases, by putting up posters around town and via our website. We still do that, and we have recently added two new means of drawing people in, which have added nicely to attendance:

1. We established an ever-growing e-mail list, consisting of the "usual suspects" (community activists, elected officials, etc.) and anybody who has signed the attendance sheet that we circulate at each meeting. We send e-mails with the text of our press release and the agenda a week before the meeting and a reminder again the day before the meeting.
2. We start the meetings at 5:30 now with a social half hour, serving premium Montana roasted coffees, teas and delicious croissants and scones. We already received a number of compliments for our fare. Cost is about \$60 per meeting, well worth it.

At every meeting we invite speakers on topics of interest to our community. Some highlights from 2014-15 include:

- A very insightful presentation about the Seeley Lake Water District and the limits to our water supply
- Presentations on the timber industry from the perspective of saw mills and from that of the Forest Service
- Several presentations on the 2014 Parks and Trails Bond
- A presentation on the role of Land Trusts
- Visits and presentations from newly elected officials:
 - Commissioner Cola Rowley
 - Sheriff TJ McDermott
 - USFS Ranger Rachel Feigley

Our June meeting will feature Dave Martin, Chief Technology Officer at Blackfoot, who will talk about Internet broadband access. We think this is an important issue for Seeley Lake. Rural vitality experts say that keeping pace with urban broadband capability is key to a range of important facets of rural prosperity, including educational competitiveness, telemedicine, attracting new businesses, fostering entrepreneurship and engaging youth.

The biggest issue we are currently tackling and which will occupy a good deal of energy this summer involves **traffic** in Seeley Lake.

Originating from community members' comments at one of our meetings, we requested speed limit reductions and more and better-marked crosswalks in Seeley Lake from MDOT. MDOT conducted a study last summer, based on which they recommended minor changes and asked for our response.

Traffic has now become a hot issue at our meetings, and we concluded that we needed more wide-ranging community input than just a few CC meetings. We want to make sure that our views really reflect what most of our constituents want. Duane Schlabach will spearhead an effort this summer to ensure wide community participation in formulating a well-thought out response to MDOT's proposed approach. Depending on how we go about it, we will likely spend some money on this project.

Speaking of traffic, we are grateful for a very quick response from MDOT to our request that signs should be put up at Salmon Lake warning drivers of bicycle traffic on dangerous curves there. Those signs are up now, hopefully preventing accidents.

In summary, we look back on a fiscal year of productive activity. We expect that next year will be "more of the same."

There are other items on our plate, some longer-term, including:

- How and in what form to help promote economic growth for Seeley Lake
- Continue to push for more trails and maintenance on existing trails
- A project for a woodshed to store dry wood to improve air quality during the heating season
- A project for an attractive "Welcome to Seeley Lake" sign
- A project to determine whether a Tourism District might be a good idea for Seeley Lake
- A project to establish a Facebook page for the Community Council

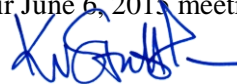
In the next fiscal year we plan to:

- Work on the **Traffic Project**
- Get updates on the **legislative session** from our State Rep and Senator
- Conduct another **Candidates Forum** in 2016. Last year's drew a large crowd.
- Conduct another **Infrastructure Forum**. Last year's was a big success.
We will have about 50 organizations, government agencies etc. The purpose of the Forum is for community members to learn about the many services available to them and to also create an atmosphere for cross-fertilization.
- Respond to community issues as we perceive them and as our constituents present them to us.
- Continue to find interesting speakers for our meetings
- Continue efforts to build even more attendance at our meetings

We think that we are doing an effective job providing a forum and representing our community, and we believe that our constituents respect our work and consider us relevant.

Approved by the Seeley Lake Community Council at their June 6, 2015 meeting.

Signature of Community Council Chair or Treasurer: _____



Klaus von Stutterheim, Treasurer