

Neighborhood Council #7

January 8, 2018

Gibson Room, Civic Center, 7:00 p.m.

Council Members in attendance were: Lisa Meyers, Gudrun Linden, Sandy Rice, and Troy Lane. Council Member Andy Blewett was absent. Neighborhood Council Coordinator Patty Cadwell was also present. Others present: Barb Walden, Outgoing Neighborworks Great Falls Executive Director Sheila Rice, Incoming Neighborworks Great Falls Executive Director Sherrie Arey, Candidate for House District 25 Jasmine Krotkov, City Council Member Mary Moe, Student Observer Mary Brown and Officer Matt Fleming of the Great Falls Police Department.

7:00 p.m., Lisa Meyers called the meeting to order and led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

New Business:

Election of Officers:

Troy Lane nominated Lisa Meyers for Chair, seconded by Sandy Rice, carried unanimously.

Troy Lane nominated Sandy Rice for Official Delegate, seconded by Gudrun Linden, carried unanimously.

Gudrun Linden nominated Sandy Rice for Secretary, seconded by Troy Lane, carried unanimously.

Election of Committee Representatives:

Council of Councils, Chair Lisa Meyers agreed to represent Neighborhood Council #7

Troy Lane nominated Gudrun Linden for the Brownfield Committee, seconded by Sandy, carried unanimously.

Troy Lane nominated Lisa Meyers for the Police Advisory Committee, seconded by Gudrun, carried unanimously.

Troy Lane nominated Sandy Rice for Downtown Safety Alliance, seconded by Gudrun, carried unanimously.

Troy Lane nominated Gudrun Linden for the Downtown Development Committee, Sandy Rice nominated Andy Blewett for the Downtown Development Committee. The vote tied 2-2 so the election for the Downtown Development Committee was postponed to the February meeting, when all five Council Members should be present.

The Review of District 7 Neighborhood Council By-Laws was postponed until the March meeting because the Council Members have not had time to read and review the By-laws.

Office Matt Fleming, representing Officer Adam Hunt, gave the quarterly Community Policing Report, complete with graphic charts to show the incidences. He explained the DDACT statistics, which are used to focus police resources on high traffic and crime concentrations. DDACT is a pro-active tool used to allocate resources. At this time, Neighborhood #7, as a high crime area, has two extra officers assigned as available.

Old Business:

December minutes were approved. One minor correction was noted: the date of the next Council of Council meeting is scheduled for January 31, not January 30, as reported in the minutes.

Gudrun reported that the minutes of the Downtown Development Committee are available online and recommended that the Council Members review them. As part of the Downtown Development, Sheila Rice presented some of the activities in the area that Neighborworks Great Falls are working on.

Gudrun reported on the Brownfield Committee. Lillian Sunwell has requested meeting with Council #7 and will be invited to the February meeting by Patty Cadwell.

The Police Advisory Board has not met since December.

The Downtown Safety Alliance has not met since December.

Other Business:

Patty Cadwell noted that mandatory Board, Commission and Neighborhood Council Training is scheduled for January 22 or January 23. Members must attend one of the two sessions. Members should let Krista Artis (kartis@greatfallsmt.net) know which session the member plans to attend.

Each Neighborhood Council is invited to attend a City Commission Work Session. Work sessions precede each Commission Meeting. Mary Moe hoped that there could be more neighborhood participation in the Work Sessions as it is a good opportunity to approach the City Commission with specific concerns. Patty will present possible dates for Council #7 to attend as a group at the February meeting.

Petitions and Communications / Public Comment

Gudrun commented on the continuing problems with the Chelsea Apartments near her house. Sheila Rice said she would look into the ownership and see if the Chelsea Apartments might be a project for Neighborworks Great Falls. Sheila did note that "You can't buy something that is not for sale"

Troy asked what could be done about the United Materials trucks using 8th Avenue North and Park Drive streets regularly. There is a section of the Code that is titled "Trucks Prohibited Where" and Patty said that there might be state enforcement rather than city on those streets. Troy, Gudrun and Lisa all said they would research what could be done.

Sandy and Andy requested that a member of the City staff be invited to address Council #7 regarding the steps needed to start the process of getting a roundabout at the problem intersection of Park Drive, 8th Avenue North and 6th Street. Patty said she would invite Andrew Finch to the February meeting to address this idea.

Mary Moe reported to Neighborhood Council the reasoning behind the denial of the Conditional Use Permit for M & D Construction by the City Council. She wanted Council #7 to know why the City Council denied the CUP request since both Council #7 and Planning Board had approved the request. The CUP was not a good fit for the mixed-use neighborhood and the City Council did not want that area to become reindustrialized. Sandy noted that there was an excellent news article covering this decision on the local news blog *theelectricgf.com*. Motion to adjourn by Troy, seconded by Gudrun, carried unanimously.

Next Meeting, February 12, Gibson Room, Civic Center, 7:00 p.m.

Agenda: Election of Representative to Downtown Development Committee, Review of By-Laws, Suggested City Council Work Session date, invited guest speakers Andrew Finch and Lillian Sunwell.