

# Neighborhood Council 9

Thursday, April 12, 2018

1st Church of the Nazarene, 1727 2nd Ave. South

Barney Danishefsky Presiding.

Council Members present: Barney Danishefsky, Shannon Wilson, Jeff Lauver, Karen Gray and Scott Miranti.

7:00 PM meeting called to order by Barney Danishefsky.

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

New Business:

- Beargrass Village update:
  - Neil Fortier spoke about the cancellation of the project because the soil is in terrible condition and the water table has issues. The Kranz Floral site will have 7 single family homes built on the half block. Construction will begin in August 2018. Three homes will be income restricted. The other four homes will be market rate.
- Tom Moore, Assistant Superintendent of Great Falls Schools:
  - Construction on the update to GFHS should begin mid-June 2018. Tom proposes to send a representative to our summer meetings to keep us up to date on progress of construction.
  - Operation Levy – upcoming vote: Declining enrollment and changes to the area have cut the school district budget. Revenue is not increasing and annual costs for salaries and operational costs are causing more cuts to be made and the shortfall of \$1.5 million needs to be made up for the elementary schools.
  - Question was asked by Mike McNamara (1137 195h Avenue SW) about what the levy will buy. Tom discussed what we will lose if we cannot get the levy passed.

Old Business:

- March meeting minutes read and approved. Scott motioned, Jeff seconded.
- Barney attended the March 20 work session of the city commission. Grants have been submitted for Kranz park for a play structure and amenities. Negotiations are still underway regarding the school district/parks department agreement regarding parking for GFHS.

- Shannon reports that the grants have passed the city council. She gave out photos of the current “handicap park” in Great Falls. The park is in terrible shape and is not truly handicapped accessible. She is advocating for a truly handicapped accessible play area for Kranz Park.
- Scott attended the Police Advisory Board: Neighborhood crime has risen in our area, plus additional calls city-wide. Drug issues have risen dramatically. Police is up to an 80-man force. Neighborhood camera program with private home owners and businesses volunteering to the police that they have cameras and can use it to fight crime. Budgetary issues are keeping the size of our force down. Phoebe Houchins (700 Iron Street) asked if the Air Force police from Malmstrom can help with the shortfall. Officer involved violence has increased in the past year. The department has held more training regarding this. Steve Galloway mentioned the fact that the cameras record over after a short period of time so the program would help with that.

#### Other Business:

- City Commission Work Session: we need to give a report as to activity in the Neighborhood and the council. Barney, Shannon and Jeff will attend.
- Steve Galloway (202 Sun Prairie Road): running for senate seat 12. Introduced himself and gave a bit of his personal history. Running as a Republican.
- Chris Ward (3621 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue S.): Traffic study on 36<sup>th</sup> street. The issue is sheer traffic count, not speed. Passed out informational pages regarding traffic calming concepts.
- Mapril Cleanup: no enthusiasm in the neighborhood. ROTC is doing a great job keeping the area around GFHS clean.

#### Neighborhood Concerns:

- None

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM

- Scott motioned to adjourn and Shannon seconded. Unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted by Karen Gray