

**Neighborhood Council 4 Minutes Amended**  
**Heritage Baptist Church – 900 52<sup>nd</sup> Street North**  
**February 22, 2018**

**Council members in attendance:** Sandra Guynn, Rudolf Tankink, Judy Tankink, Trey Torres.  
Council member absent: Gregg Matsko

**Others in attendance:** Patty Cadwell, Todd Seymanski, Maria Porter, Sara White, Richard & Susan Ashley (sign-in sheet attached)

Chair Sandra Guynn opened the meeting at 6:30 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**New Business:** Maria Porter, CDBG Administrator distributed a Community Grant Survey. She is trying to gather community input and stated that surveys will be available until March 15<sup>th</sup>. CDBG grants are approximately \$700K annually. Home Investment Partnership Grants are approximately \$180K annually. NeighborWorks also offers revolving loans. She introduced Vista Volunteer Sara White.

Todd Seymanski, City Forester provided an update on the City of Great Falls urban forest project and the parks and boulevard districts. He answered questions. Todd provided an informational handout on the Park District Levy which will be on the May 8<sup>th</sup> ballot. (see attached)

**Petitions and communications:** Trey mentioned the ground squirrel and prairie dog seemed to be problematic last year. Richard Ashley stated there was a traffic study on 52<sup>nd</sup> Street and was curious if there were any results from the study. Patty will check with the City.

**Other Business:** NC4 chose August 7<sup>th</sup> to attend the City Commission Work Session.

**Committee Reports:** Sandra gave an overview of the January 31<sup>st</sup> Council of Council meeting and stated that Chief Hester from GFFD provided information and also the park director provided information on park districting and the proposed park levy. Andrew Finch, Traffic Planner addressed the City's transportation plan. There was a recap on the CDBG funding.

**Old Business:** Sandra made motion to accept minutes as amended. Seconded. MSC  
Sandra made a motion that we approve the bylaws as presented. Seconded. MSC

Next meeting March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Meeting adjourned at 7:58.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Tankink, NC4 Secretary



### **Park and Recreation Master Plan**

The Park and Recreation Master Plan was adopted by the City Commission on November 15, 2016. The Master Plan is available online at: <https://greatfallsmt.net/recreation>. The Master Plan included an intensive public process to ensure a complete understanding of the community's priorities; including Town Meetings, 84 focus group meetings, a statistically accurate survey, and an on-line survey open to the entire community. The Park and Recreation Master Plan identified \$12.6 million in deferred or critical maintenance projects with a recommendation of 1-5 years for completion.

### **Our Park Facts:**

- 82% of people used a park within the last year
- 57 developed parks, 775 acres of developed land
- 53 miles of recreational trails
- 36,000 trees on boulevards, parks and golf courses
- 9 undeveloped parks, 140 undeveloped acres
- 300 acres of conservation lands
- 52 buildings/facilities and a compost site

### **Potential Options**

Potential options to address the issues identified in the Master Plan include, but may not be limited to, significant increase in general fund support, continued deferral of maintenance, potential sale of City park land, significant reduction of services, or a city-wide special assessment district, which has been placed on the May 8, 2018 election ballot by the City Commission.



## Park District #1 Subject to Electoral Vote

The City's general fund has been unable to adequately fund parks and recreation. In recent years, there has been minimal funding for capital improvements and major projects. The Master Plan recommended the creation of a City-wide Park District to supplement current funding and create a sustainable funding source for the purpose of providing park and recreation system services:

- Park District funds may be used for parks, forestry and trails for capital improvements, staff and operations.
- Park District funds may also be used for maintenance/improvements to recreation and aquatics facilities.
- Park District funds may not be used for programming.

If the creation of the Park District is approved by the voters, the proposed assessment amount for the District would be \$1.5 million annually for the first three years. The assessment method would be based on taxable property value. The estimated 2018 assessment for a property with a 2017 Market Value of \$100,000 would be \$22.92 per year. The assessment may be adjusted annually; it would be considered in the budget setting process, and must be set by resolution and adopted by the City Commission.

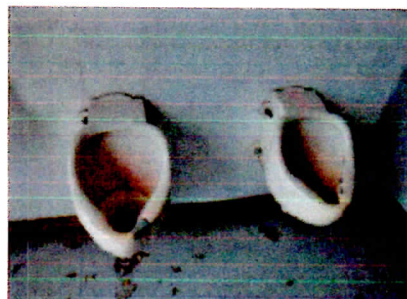
Projects planned for first three years include:

- Trail improvements, with additional private matching funds
- ADA restroom improvements
- Picnic pavilion & tables
- Electric City Water Park bathroom improvements
- Replacement of Elk's Riverside Park trail
- Multi sports dugouts/backstops
- Tree trimming and replacement
- Equipment and irrigation upgrades

If the District is not created, the other options of; significant general fund support, continued deferral of maintenance, significant reduction in services, or potential sale of City park land would be considered by the City Commission in the future.

For up to date information  
call 771-1265 Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm  
or visit <https://greatfallsmt.net>

# VOTE MAY 8, 2018



2-22-18

NC4 Sign In

Judy Tappin  
Nancy Caldwell

addresses  
on file

Jandra Gupton

TREY TORRES

Tommy Seymour

Great Falls

MARIA PORTER

City of GF

SARA WHITE

RICHARD ASHLEY

4231 7TH AVE N.

SUSAN ASHLEY

4251 7TH AVE N.