

Neighborhood Council 4 Minutes
Heritage Baptist Church – 900 52nd Street North
August 23, 2018

Council members in attendance: Sandra Guynn, Rudolf Tankink, Judy Tankink, Gregg Matsko, and Trey Torres

Others in attendance: See attached

Chair Sandra Guynn opened the meeting at 6:30 PM

New Business:

Jo Viviane Jones, Family Services Manager with the City-County Health Department provided an overview of the Toby's House Crisis Nursery and distributed a handout (see attached). Toby's House is committed to the prevention of child abuse and neglect by providing immediate refuge and safety for children. Board Chair Leesha Ford also provided input on the building and funding. The expected opening is April of 2019.

Petitions and communications: Sandra reported that construction for the new Ace Hardware store has begun.

Committee Reports:

Sandra and Gregg reported that she represented NC4 at the August 7th City Commission Work Session and provided an update of 36th Street traffic concerns to the commissioners. Sandra stated that Brett Doney, GFDA gave an update of the GFDA Strategic Plan; and Andrew Finch, Planning & Community Development Senior Transportation Planner reviewed and discussed the Long-Range Transportation Plan
https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/20d057_74d439768c904bcf8da26cbe85e26c8d.pdf .

Old Business:

Sandra made motion to accept July minutes as presented. Seconded. MSC

Other Business:

Steve Galloway, Republican Candidate SD12 spoke briefly about his background, qualifications, and issues in the community, state, and nationally and why he is running for the position.

Patty Cadwell stated that NC4 received an invitation from GFPS to the Giant Springs Elementary Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on Tuesday, August 28th at 3PM at Giant Springs Elementary School located at 520 32nd Street North.

Sandra noted that the Policing Officer will be speaking at the October meeting.

Next meeting September 27, 2018

Meeting adjourned at 8PM.

Respectfully submitted

Judy Tankink, Secretary



Mission Statement: Toby's House Crisis Nursery is committed to the prevention of child abuse and neglect by providing immediate refuge and safety for children.

What is a Crisis Nursery?

A crisis nursery is a licensed facility providing short term, non-medical residential care and supervision for children under six years of age, voluntarily brought by a parent or legal guardian due to a family crisis or stressful situation for no-cost childcare.

The not-for-profit Crisis Nursery will offer supportive services that link parents and caregivers to community resources to help parents cope and problem solve while keeping the child safe.

It provides an option for parents to leave their children in the care of safe and dedicated caregivers, offering support in times of need.

Why does Great Falls need a Crisis Nursery?

There has been a 72% increase in new child abuse cases in Cascade County. Infants and toddlers are the most vulnerable to child abuse and neglect, often resulting in death.

When will this Crisis Nursery be ready?

The Crisis Nursery is still in the planning stages and the Board of Directors knows that the need is extremely urgent. They are working to complete the business plan and begin a fundraiser campaign, with the hopes of having a completed nursery available in 2017.

Who is planning the Crisis Nursery?

The Child Abuse Prevention Board of Directors is composed of representatives from multiple organizations such as the Early Childhood Coalition, Cascade County Health Department, Center for Mental Health, Cascade County Attorney's Office, A.I.S.L.E., Exchange Club, Kiwanis Club of Great Falls, Alliance for Youth, Dandelion Foundation, and other community volunteers.

Where will Toby's House be?

The Board is currently seeking an appropriate site, and asking anyone with a potential site donation to contact the committee.

How will it be funded?

Toby's House Crisis Nursery is seeking 501c3 non-profit status, utilizing donations and grants to prevent child abuse and assist families in crisis.



Help make Toby's House a reality.
Visit www.tobyshousemt.org

Toby's House Crisis Nursery, Inc

P.O. Box 2725

Great Falls, MT 59403

Email: admin@tobyshousemt.org

TOBY'S STORY

October, known to some as "Toby," was only two years old when she died from abuse at the hands of her mother's boyfriend in 2011. She endured for hours after suffering broken bones, extensive bruising and brain swelling before medical assistance was called for.

