

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL #8
Transition Center-Women's Annex
1019 15th St. N. - Great Falls
Thursday, March 21, 2019

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by chairman Karen Grove. We began with the pledge to the flag. Other council members present were: Donna Williams, Steven Grout, Mike Brainard and Barbara Going. Community members in attendance: Alonzo Rand, Lanni Klasner. Corky Grove, Laura Hodges and three students (Davnte Janikula, Declan Mahoney and Charles Laverdune).

Minutes: MSC to approve the February 2019 minutes. There was some discussion regarding the minutes being reviewed prior to distributing them to the council

Old Business:

Signage for our meeting area: Karen reported that Paul Cory, Director of the Transition Center, indicated that it would be permissible to have a "sandwich board" sign placed outside the entrance to indicate that this was the meeting area of Neighborhood Council #8. He stated that the two signs could be stored in the building and that they would take the responsibility of placing them on the corner of 15th and 10th Ave N. and in front of the building on meeting dates. MSC: Mike Brainard will purchase the materials and construct the two signs. The receipts for materials will be sent to Lanni Klasner. Signs will state NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETING TONIGHT. Letters should be made of reflective material so they can easily be seen at night. Lanni indicated we have approximately \$500.00 in our account.

New Business:

City Commission work session: April 2nd is NC #8's opportunity to present at the commission meeting. Lanni indicated we do not need to have any big issues as it is a time to let the commission know what is happening and if there are any concerns. Numerous topics were brought up for Steve Grout, our delegate, to consider in his comments. One comment would be kudos to the city for the great task of snow plowing during our long stretch of cold weather. The possibility of a PSA to remind people to shovel their sidewalks as was done reminding people to keep the fire hydrants visible was suggested. The issue of our traffic concerns on 1st and 2nd Ave. North and appreciating the police contributions to our meetings are other suggestions.

Laura Hodges, a community member who volunteers on the Police Abandoned Vehicles program, explained a bit more about vehicles that are abandoned or left parked on the street in the snow. She reported there are two teams of two volunteers, working one day a week and they are 100 cars behind. She reviewed the procedure for getting vehicles moved.

The City Communication Specialist, Lanni Klasner, distributed a flier for a bench being made in memory of Patti Cadwell. She also shared a brochure indicating it was time to consider running for election of city officials and council members. Forms to apply as a candidate are available at the county election office. The opening date for applications is April 18th and the closing date is June 17th. The process of being elected to the neighborhood council or city offices was explained particularly for the high school students. Lanni informed the council members that she will send out an email survey requesting personal information to help her get to better know the council members.

Council Comments:

Steve Grout addressed the issue of being pro-active regarding awareness of neighborhood council meetings. He suggested that once a year a flier be inserted in the utility bills advertising the council meeting times, places and purpose.

Karen Grove spoke to the issue of ruts in the alleys on the north side following the heavy concentration of snow and the weight of the sanitation trucks. She was directed to call Jim Reardon and state the need for assistance.

The students from the high schools were asked to comment on the construction on site and the issues this has caused for the students. At Great Falls High it is causing some problem with parking.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.

Next meeting: April 18, 2019.

Barbara Going, Secretary