

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL L#7

April 12, 2021

GIBSON ROOM, CIVIC CENTER

7:00 p.m.

The meeting was brought to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Lisa Meyers, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present were Council members Andy Blewett, Troy Lane, Lisa Meyers, Trevor Mikkelsen, and Sandy Rice; City Liaison Lanni Krasner. Additional guests are listed on attached page.

The Minutes of the March 8 meeting were approved as read.

Sandy reported on the Downtown Development Partnership and Brownfield Committees. The Newberry Event Center is working with the City for required permits and hopes to be open by this summer. Parking is available for the events at the two City parking garages, both about a block from the Event Center at 420 Central Avenue. The DDP voted to support the request for \$170,000 in TIF funds for the Center. Main Street America has given a grant of \$12,500 for the Wayfinding project.

Downtown Safety Alliance is in the process of rewriting the 2013 Downtown Safety Plan to update the action items to reflect current conditions. Neighborhood and Business Watch programs will be included in the revised Plan. The subcommittee hopes to have a draft Plan for Downtown Safety Alliance approval by the May 4 DSA meeting.

The Citizens Council of Councils will meet at the end of April and Lisa will present a report at the May 10 meeting.

Tom Figarelle, Executive Director of the C.M. Russell Museum, presented the Campus Expansion Plans. The block of 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue North between 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> Streets will be closed permanently on Wednesday, April 14. The Museum has a target date of August 1 for completion of the expansion of the campus across 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue but hopes to be done July 1. The Museum will also pave 5<sup>th</sup> Alley North (between 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Avenues). There will be some congestion on the streets and alleys while this construction is completed.

Char Bunker, Intervention Specialist, and Deva Patina, Whittier Math Department, and Corri Smith, Principal, presented with students the Hands On Math program at Whittier Elementary School. Student presenters were Cruzin Edwards, Amaya Hill, Jens Rangitsch, and Gabriel Young. The demonstration was quite enlightening for all present. Char also mentioned that the "Make Way For Ducklings" book has been delivered to the Library for the Story Walk at Gibson Park from April 29 through May 4. There will be a special Storytime on May 1 at the Bandshell.

Carol Bronson presented information on the CommUNITY cleanup scheduled the first week in May. NC7 will work in the Lower South Side and will meet at NWGF on Saturday, May 8 at 8:00 a.m. Troy also volunteered to help with the Shred Day on May 6. Char Bunker said she would approach the Whittier Principal with the idea of involving students and parents to join NC7.

Lanni distributed the pamphlet from the City of Great Falls outlining rules and requirements for running for election.

There was discussion of the Citizen Complaint Form: Lanni said the process is still being streamlined.

The Black Eagle promotion idea for the Anaconda Smelterworks was discussed. As the project idea is pretty far from being completed, not much information is available.

Adjournment at 8:20 p.m.

Submitted, Sandy Rice, Secretary

## Guests at the April 12 Neighborhood Council #7 Meeting

Corri Smith, Principal of Whittier Elementary School

Frances Burshia, 1124 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue North

J.A. Carpenter, 2 West Ulm Road

Jens Rangitsuh, 1316 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue North, student presenter

Amaya Hill 1205 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, student presenter

Gabriel Young, Whittier Elementary School, student presenter

Cruzin Edwards, Whittier Elementary School, student presenter

Ashley Hill, 1205 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue North

Char Bunker, Intervention Specialist, Whittier Elementary School

Dava Patina, Math Specialist, Whittier Elementary School

DeAnna Elcores, 609 Park Drive

Nicole Givten, Great Falls Tribune

Carol Bronson, NeighborWorks Great Falls

Linda Daggett, 415 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue South

Thomas Figarelle, C M Russell Museum Director