

Minutes Neighborhood Council 3 (NC3)
Thursday, April 1, 2021, 7 p.m.
Redeemer Lutheran Church - Fellowship Room

CALL TO ORDER: at 7:02 p.m. by Sue Dickenson, Chair.

Council members present: Sue Dickenson, Kathleen Gessaman, Joanne Thompson, Eric Peterson. Guest speakers: Great Falls City Golf Course General Manager Jeff Stange. Residents attending meeting: Carol Bronson.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- **Minutes from the March NC3 meeting:** Kathleen Gessaman made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Joanne Thompson seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously as written.
- **Committee reports:** Sue Dickenson reported that there has been 150 people lost to COVID-19 in Cascade County.
- **Vision and goal setting follow-up:** Sue Dickenson suggested that we continue our individual outreach to our neighbors to inform them of neighborhood council matters. At some point in the future our council can set up tables in our community and hand out NC3 information.
- **NC3 Facebook page update:** Eric Peterson provided a Neighborhood Council 3 Facebook page update providing page insights for the past 28 days. During the last month there has been 11 new page posts. People are on our page from the hours of 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., with the most people viewing our page from 6-8 p.m. He said this is another opportunity to let our residents know when and where our meetings are being held. The posts gaining the most reach on the page are those featuring area photographs. A recent post of the river valley photographed from Hill 57 reached nearly 1000 people. There has been six new page likes and seven new page followers for a total of 250 page likes and 276 page followers.

NEW BUSINESS

- Jeff Stange, the general manager of the Great Falls golf courses, discussed renovations at Eagle Falls and Anaconda Hills Golf Courses. Both course club houses have had new carpet installed. The courses are using a new point of sale system which will make online tee times and online booking easier to complete. A person will also be able to check in to the courses from their car in the parking lot. He said the best place to view the 4th of July fireworks is from the 9th green and they will be providing a community barbecue and families will be welcome to attend. There will be no charge to get in to the event. The courses have a robust junior golf program and are running an adult school for those getting into the sport. He said golf has become more popular during the pandemic. The courses are on track to open and start their season on Saturday, April 3, 2021. They will be running two golf camps each month from June through August and will also be hosting local athletes with the Special Olympics. Sue Dickenson asked Stange how his company has been able to keep fees affordable. Stange said they have streamlined the organization and made staff interchangeable. They also have buying power and lowered labor expenses. Their focus is on community involvement. He said the golf courses were \$1 million in debt when they took over operation. He said they are not a drain on the

community and are able to reinvest new equipment into the courses. The Eagle Falls bunkers are being renovated back to their original design and they are reseeding the fairways. They would like to build a good reputation in the state for turf quality on the courses. There are 45 personnel working at the courses with six of those being full-time personnel. They currently have openings for summer part-time work with a need for three to four people to work in the pro shop, three to four people to work in the kitchen, and five to six persons to work on the grounds. He said he didn't expect any future development of the Anaconda property to make an impact on the golf course.

OTHER BUSINESS

- The NeighborWorks CommUNITY Cleanup Event will take place May 6-8, 2021. Kathleen Gessaman suggested that NC3 members clean Jaycee Park and limit it to two hours of work. The council members will need bags, gloves and water from Carol Bronson. NC3 members will meet at the Jaycee Park swimming pool parking lot on Saturday, May 8 and work from 9-11 a.m. Eric Peterson will promote the event to residents on the NC3 Facebook page and will pick up materials from Carol on Friday, May 7 at 10:30 a.m. Joanne Thompson asked what are plans would be in case of rain. Carol said we could reschedule, if needed.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- Sue Dickenson said there is someone who is parking a vehicle on NorthWestern Energy property in the NC3 district. She said she would visit with the resident to ask that they move the vehicle.

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

- Kathleen Gessaman asked if the city was close to picking the new chief of police. City of Great Falls Communications Specialist Lanni Klasner said they are narrowing the candidates to three and the final phase of the hiring process will include a final interview with the city manager. The initial interviews have been conducted this week. Sue Dickenson said she will email her impressions on the interview process to the council.

ADJOURN

Kathleen Gessaman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Joanne Thompson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Eric Peterson, secretary.