

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL #7
June 14, 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 Troy Lane, Lisa Meyers, Trevor Mikkelsen, and Sandy Rice; City Liaison Lanni Krasner. Council member Andy Blewett was absent. Additional guest: Linda Daggett 415 6th Avenue South.

The Minutes of the May 10 meeting were approved as amended.

A presentation by Alluvion Health that was scheduled on the June Agenda has been postponed.

Committee Reports: Downtown Development Partnership and Brownfield Committees had no report. Downtown Safety Committee: Sandy attended both the first meeting of the Crime Task Force and the Building Stronger Neighborhoods Safety panel presented by NeighborWorks Great Falls. The Crime Task Force is not to address homelessness, drug addiction, mental health, race problems or changing the viewpoints of citizens, per Task Force Coordinator Commissioner Rick Tryon. The Task Force is to present specific ideas for reducing crime. Sandy handed out copies of the NWGF Handout "Building Stronger Neighborhoods." The panel emphasized getting to know your neighbor as the best way to help with safety. Senior Patrol Officer also talked about Community Based Policing, the SCRAM camera effort, the Citizens' Academy and the Volunteer Programs.

Lisa reported on the Citizens Council of Councils meeting on May 25. Election of officers kept all current officers in their positions for another term. She also said that there is a budget simulator on the City website. The Crime Mapping website includes Cascade County now, not just the City. Cascade County also has a website – cascadecountymt.gov – that has online problem reporting similar to the Great Falls website. The bulk of the meeting was a presentation by Chief Newton. Lisa's presentation included the achievements of Whittier School that have been presented at NC #7 meetings.

Troy Lane reviewed the Strategic Plan and a recommitment to that Plan was discussed. It was decided that the goals set in the Task Matrix of July 2018 are still viable goals for the Council. The Neighborhood Watch program is a grass roots, immediate area program that all the Neighborhood Councils will be recommending. The information and signage can be obtained at the GFPD.

NeighborWorks Great Falls has proposed a grant of \$250 and up to \$500 for each Neighborhood Council to create and administer a Building Stronger Neighborhoods event, to get more of our neighbors involved in our work. This is a reimbursement grant for \$250, with a possibility of \$500 if the event adds an element to include race, equity, diversity and inclusion into the project. After much discussion, it was decided that an Ice Cream Social in Carter Park would be held. The grant would go towards posters and flyers advertising the free event and the cost of ice cream and supplies. Perhaps the Frosty Truck could be hired for the event: Troy said he would look into that for availability and cost. An outreach to the Indian Health Services, the YWCA, the various Rescue Mission programs, and the Cascade County Health Department would fulfill the requirement for race, equity, diversity and inclusion in the project. Troy will work on a flyer that includes Neighborhood Watch information on one side and Lanni will send us a copy of the flyer the other Councils use for their Ice Cream Socials for ideas and editing. Sandy will write the grant application which is due by June 28; the event must be completed by September 30, 2021.

Lanni reminded everyone that the Municipal Election Filing deadline is June 21, 2021.

Future Agenda suggestions: Alluvion CIT Plans, Heather Rolfe, of the City Code Enforcement Division

Adjournment at 8:20 p.m.

Submitted, Sandy Rice, Secretary