

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL #4 MINUTES for September 22, 2022

Heritage Baptist Church – 900 52nd Street North, Great Falls, MT 59401

Members Present: Sandra Guynn, Rudy Tankink, Judy Tankink, Chris Ward, Richard Ashley

CALL TO ORDER:

Sandra Guynn called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance

NEW BUSINESS:

- County Public Safety Levy. Personnel from Cascade County Sheriff's Office and Cascade County Attorney's Office spoke on need for the proposed levy on the November ballot. The levy would help with retaining deputies and attorneys and fund pretrial services and an additional School Resource Officer (only new position to be created). Despite Cascade County having higher violent crime per capita than other counties, participation in the Russell Country Drug task force and Violent Crime Prevention Task Force has been suspended due to staffing issues. County Commission would need to make final decision on allocation of funds from the levy. Information is available at www.westandsafe.com.
- Sherrie Arrey, Neighborworks, presented information on the Baatz Block apartment project. It is intended to be 25 permanent supportive apartments to address chronic homelessness. Opportunities Inc. would screen residents. Funding comes from housing tax credits though the Montana Board of Housing and ARPA funds. Services such as physical and behavioral healthcare would be provided on site. Expected completion in 2024.

OLD BUSINESS

- Sandra Guynn moved to accept the minutes from the August meeting. 2nd by Judy Tankink. Motion carried.
- Proposed Silverstone Apartments annexation and zoning. Steve Bucher, association manager for the 4th Avenue North at 38th Street Condos spoke about concerns regarding parking and alley congestion. Residents of several condos signed a petition dated September 7 asking the city to proactively address the situation created by garages with no setbacks from the alley and no additional space for parking for units that front on the alley, and provide "ample setback." They sent a letter to the developer. Chris Ward asked if a variance was granted by the city for the 4th Ave condos that created this situation. Sandra Guynn will reach out to Lonnie Hill to find out about the background. The public hearing is still pending so there is time to gather information and public input.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- None

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- Chris Ward mentioned seeing a neighborhood council sandwich board sign in Missoula and asked if there were funds available to do something similar. The city does not have funding for that, the council would have to raise it. Some grant money was received in the recent past to promote community engagement and that was used to purchase a banner. Some of the original \$250 may still be available and Sandra Guynn will contact Carol Bronson about it. Steve Bucher offered to build a sign.

ADJOURN

- Chris Ward moved to adjourn. 2nd by Dean Ashley. Motion carried. Adjourned at 8:04 pm.

Submitted by Chris Ward