

MEETINGS MINUTES

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL #2

Wednesday, January 11th, 2023

Great Falls West Elementary School Library

5:30 pm

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. A quorum was established with Vice Chair Tim Croft, Secretary Frank Speidel, and Members Fred Fairhurst and Ashley Benefiet. Also present were City of Great Falls Communications Specialist Lanni Klasner, and Rodney Meyers, and five high school students from the Great Falls community.

OLD BUSINESS

- Approval of the November 2022 minutes
 - Member Fred Fairhurst motioned to approve the November 2022 meeting minutes. The Council unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

- Rodney Meyers Possible GFPS Board candidate
 - Rodney Meyers asked questions from the Neighborhood Council about how they feel the School Board is doing. Rodney Meyers then brought up how the students are deficient in math, science, and reading. Great Falls students are about even with state standards but below nationwide standards. Rodney Meyers will decide about running for the board in a couple of months. Federal government now only looks at graduation rates and not proficiency.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS (Public comment on any matter that is not on the agenda of the meeting and that is within the jurisdiction of the Neighborhood Council. In the interest that all parties can be heard, please limit your comments. When addressing the Council, state your name and either your address or whether you are a Neighborhood Council 2 resident for the record).

- Neighborhood Concerns
 - None reported.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Election of Officers:
 - Tabled until February 2023 meeting due to Chair Patera not in attendance.

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (Miscellaneous reports, announcements, and agenda suggestions from Neighborhood Council #2 members)

- Neighborhood Watch
 - Vice Chair Tim Croft reports according to crime mapping, we have had 5 incidents. 1 car theft, 1 disorderly conduct, 3 assaults, 2 criminal mischiefs. Vice Chair Croft has been in contact with the Russell Country Drug Task Force who had a busy month. They had 2 search warrants they addressed, 1 on the lower south side and 1 on the west side. On the west side they seized 8 pounds of marijuana value of 30-35 thousand.
- Council Facebook Page
 - Secretary Frank Speidel reported 46 followers, 13 posts/engagements, 1 new post like, 1 new follower, and posts have reached 24 people.
- Council of Councils January 24th
 - Member Ashley Benefiet will be attending for Neighborhood Council 2. Council of Council will meet at 7 pm in the Civic Center Gibson Room on January 24th.
- Neighborhood Council 2 Spring Social Event May 13th, 2023, from 1-3 pm Rhodes Park
 - Member Ashley Benefiet reports nothing new. Member Fred Fairhurst had a question on whether we need some type of permit for the event. Lanni Klasner will get Neighborhood Council the form to use the park. There is no fee for the Neighborhood Council to use the park. If we use something like a bouncy house we would need to work with Parks and Works for placement. Strobes has insurance on file for bouncy house. Vendors are usually charged for the permit. Last Neighborhood Council event vendors where not charged for permit. Lanni Klasner will verify and get back to the Council about vendors being charged permits. Vice Chair Croft will check with the Little Shell Tribe on using their marquee. Fire Department will provide a truck for the event.
- Council Nuisance Report for 2022
 - Member Fred Fairhurst went through the 2022 Code Enforcement Cases for Neighborhood Council 2 to see if there is a trend. The neighborhood had 31 cases, many which were unfounded. Junk vehicles and vehicles on property seems to be dominating.
- Traffic Study for planned apartment complex
 - Lanni Klanser gave an update and planned city actions on the traffic study for the future planned apartment complex for the former Dick's Trailer Park.
- Agenda Suggestions
 - Neighborhood Council 2 Spring Social Event
 - Police Department Volunteer
 - City Animal Control

ADJOURNMENT

- At 6:04 pm Vice Chair Croft made a motion to adjourn. The Council unanimously approved the motion to adjourn. The next scheduled meeting will be on February 8th, 2023, at 5:30 pm.