

Neighborhood Council #7
Monday, April 10, 2023, 7:00 p.m.
Gibson Room, Civic Center

MINUTES

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

In attendance were Council Members Linda Daggett, Troy Lane, Lisa Meyers, Trevor Mikkelsen, and Sandy Rice.

City Liaison Lanni Klasner and neighbors Kathie Hansen, Susie McIntyre, Jane Weber, Molly Beck, Barb Warden, Gerry Jennings, and Jim Weber attended.

The March Minutes were approved as amended, with Laramie Smovir's name correction.

Roll call of the Council was completed: all members present and a quorum established.

OLD BUSINESS

Downtown Development Partnership: Jessica Crist presented about the Library Levy. DDP will remain neutral as it is not part of their mission statement. Budgeting for ongoing for repair and replacement of WayFaring signs. Kellie is setting up a sub-committee exploring the 5th and 6th streets conversion from one-way. Events coming up include Cruising the Drag, Night Market, and Farmers Market.

Brownfield Committee: No report

Downtown Safety Alliance: Sandy reported that this week (4/10-4/14) is No More Violence Week with events planned throughout the week. Whittier School students placed "Pinwheels for Prevention" on the Library lawn. Sandy is continuing to present to all nine Neighborhood Councils regarding Downtown Safety Alliance.

Council of Councils: Did not meet

Strategic Planning and Outreach: No report

Crime Mapping Report: Lisa reported four month statistics.

NEW BUSINESS

School Board Trustee candidate presented his ideas for a School Culture similar to Corporate Culture framework and asked for our votes if we agree with his ideas.

Molly Beck and Susie McIntyre presented the latest information on the Library Levy. The election will be a hybrid: if a voter is already registered for an absentee ballot (about 80-87%), that voter will get an absentee ballot. Voters not registered for an absentee ballot may vote in person at the Expo Park polling station. Gerry Jennings and Jane Weber advocated for a "yes" vote on the ballot. Kathie Hansen remarked that she was uncomfortable going into the Library due to the loiterers in front of the library. Susie McIntyre noted that the budget planned if the Levy passes will have staff to help with this.

Other Business: None

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS Neighborhood Concerns: Barb Warden and Kathie Hansen both remarked on the noise level from Calumet Refining since the remake. Sandy said that Neighborhood Council #6, which includes the Refinery property, has asked Calumet to present to the Council about these complaints. Neighbors are encouraged to call Calumet to report the noise level: Calumet will want the closest cross streets and the company will test for noise levels at that intersection.

Sandy reported on the 11 boarded up houses in the Historic Northside. Lanni spoke to Bruce Haman, of the City Planning Office, who said that the City doesn't have authority to require a property owner to renovate their property as long as the property is secure and has no code violations.

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL: NeighborWorks Great Falls is sponsoring the annual CommUNITY Cleanup April 28-29, although citizens can work other dates if more convenient. The Council decided to revisit Cleanup commitment at the May 8 meeting. Sandy handed out Declaration for Nomination and Oath of Candidacy forms for any of the Council members who are seeking re-election on the November ballot.

Next Meeting: Monday, April 10, 2023

Agenda suggestions: Whittier School Presentations – Sandy has confirmed with Char Bunker and Amber Rausch

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m. on unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted, Sandra Rice, Secretary