

Minutes Neighborhood Council 3 (NC3)
June 14, 2023, 4 p.m.
Corpus Christi Church

CALL TO ORDER: at 4:03 p.m. by Kathleen Gessaman, Chair.

Council members present: Kathleen Gessaman, Garri Mauch, Eric Peterson, Sue Steichen.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Fundraising for Skyline-Optimist Park and Valley View Park** - Eric Peterson reviewed his notes from the Great Falls Park and Recreation Board meeting held on June 12, 2023. He suggested that we attend regular meetings with the board to provide monthly updates on our fundraising progress. He said we need to impress upon the board members that we are serious about the project, and let them know how the pavilions will improve our parks and serve our residents. During the P&R board meeting it was discussed that there may be a pavilion originally intended to be placed in Gibson Park available in one year. Eric Peterson asked the board if Skyline-Optimist Park was selected to receive the pavilion if money NC3 raised could then go to supplement their budget. P&R Director Steve Herrig said Skyline-Optimist Park would not be eligible for Community Development Block Grant funding, but didn't know if Valley View Park would qualify. Eric Peterson said it was stated that concrete and labor might be donated to the project. He said that NC3 should schedule monthly meetings to discuss the pavilion fundraiser and the Summer Celebration issues. Kathleen Gessaman said there was a lot of standing water located in Skyline-Optimist Park. Eric Peterson said they would most likely have to place the pavilion at the highest point in the park. Sue Steichen said there are grants available for parks, and NC3 should locate a grant writer to assist us in our efforts. She suggested prioritizing our top 3 or 4 actions to work on. She said we should also send out letters to businesses located within our district and asked how we could recognize large donors. Great Falls Communications Specialist Lanni Klasner said we need to ask city staff what we would be able to promise in return for donations. Kathleen Gessaman said the cost of a new pavilion was quoted at \$50,000.
- **2nd Annual Summer Celebration** - Garri Mauch discussed the costs involved with the Summer Celebration held in 2022. She said the face painting cost \$100, the Frosty truck cost \$100, Joe Ryan cost \$100, and the bouncy house and generator rental from Strobel's Rental cost \$250. Sue Steichen said we should set up a QR code directed to the People's Park and Recreation Foundation. We could help educate attendees on our pavilion fundraiser during the Summer Celebration. Garri Mauch said she could design a poster board with fundraiser information to place on display during the event. She said we need to ensure that no money touches our hands, and checks are written directly from our donors to our vendors. Eric Peterson said he would send Sue Steichen and Garri Mauch a NC3 letterhead in a Word document to use for contacting businesses.

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

- **Filing date closing for city elections** - Eric Peterson said the deadline to file for the upcoming general election is Monday, June 19.
- Lanni Klasner said there have been several Little Free Libraries stolen throughout the community.
- Members of NC3 will meet with the People's Park and Recreation Foundation and share their pavilion fundraising plan during their July 18 meeting at Independence Bank.

ADJOURN

Sue Steichen made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Garri Mauch seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned by Kathleen Gessaman at 4:35 p.m.

The next special NC3 meeting will be held Thursday, July 20, 2023 at 4 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Eric Peterson, secretary.