

Minutes Neighborhood Council 3 (NC3)
November 2, 2023, 6:30 p.m.
Riverview Elementary School - Music Room

CALL TO ORDER: at 6:33 p.m. by Kathleen Gessaman, Chair.

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

OLD BUSINESS

- **Minutes from the October meeting:** Garri Mauch made the motion to accept the October 5, 2023 meeting minutes as written. Kathleen Gessaman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

- **Calumet Updates** - Garri Mauch attended the recent Calumet meeting held at Charles M. Russell High School Bill Williamson Hall. She said it was an informational meeting on testing the ground soil for pollutants near the plant. She asked that they include any future meeting information to us so that we can share it on our Facebook page.
- **Vision and Goal Setting** - Vision and goal setting will be held for a future meeting.
- **NC3 Facebook Page Update** - Eric Peterson provided the NC3 Facebook page update. He said for the last 28 days our page reached 1,974 people. There was a post engagement of 451. There were seven new post likes for a total of 579 and 10 new post followers for a total of 695 total followers. There were 17 posts to the page since the last council meeting. There were 96 reactions to the posts, 33 comments, and 14 page shares. He said the most active post was the Facebook Live meeting video from October that reached 1,193 people. The second most active post was the Calumet media release on their town hall meeting that reached 699 people, with an engagement of 58. The third most active post was of a Great Falls Public Library employee filling the Jaycee Park Little Free Library with books. That post reached 290 people and had an engagement of 33.
- **NC3 Crimemapping Report** - Eric Peterson said for the past month there were 68 reports of crime in our area. 37 of those 68 reports were generated near the retail areas of the Northwest Bypass and Smelter Avenue. He said there were 33 theft/larceny reports, no motor vehicle thefts, 10 drug/alcohol violations, five burglaries, two vandalisms, four disturbing the peace reports, one fraud report, no DUIs, and one assault.
- **Fundraising for Skyline Park and Valley View Park** - Garri Mauch met with Park and Recreation personnel to discuss pavilions for the parks. She said they are getting together bids for us to use for planning purposes. She asked that they go and survey the parks to determine size and locations for the pavilions. She said concrete picnic tables cost approximately \$500 that can be placed in the pavilions and there are permanent games that can be added. She asked if tables could be donated and donor names could be added to the tables. She was told that plaques bearing the names of donors could be added to the tables or pavilions. She said she will share the proposals with the council members once she receives them from the Park and Recreation Department.

NEW BUSINESS

- **2024 Summer Celebration** - Garri Mauch said she would like to see the date moved to the beginning of August to avoid conflicts with college football games. The date and time was set for 1-3 p.m. on August 10, 2024. Kathleen Gessaman suggested inviting the Great Falls Public Library Bookmobile to attend the event. Garri Mauch said there is a \$100 credit at Strobel's Rentals for a cleaning fee that they have returned. She said the credit is listed under her name at the business.
- **CMR Crosswalk** - City of Great Falls Communications Specialist Lanni Klasner said she had talked with Eric Boyd, who said there was talk about placing a crosswalk at that location. He said there is not presently an ADA ramp at that location. She expects to hear more from him on this issue at a later date.

OTHER BUSINESS

- **Council of Councils Recap** - Garri Mauch attended the Council of Councils meeting held on October 24. She said there was a public safety levy presentation from city officials letting the public know what could happen if the levy does not pass.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- Great Falls resident Chris Ward asked about the status of the River's Edge Trail access being blocked near the Calumet property. Garri Mauch said the council will ask the plant manager about the issue. He provided the October 12, 2012 meeting minutes on a industrial zoning change for the refinery stating "a previously planned connection through the property to the River's Edge Trail will go forward," as "MRC wanted the property development to be an asset to the community." Chris Ward wanted to know if current management still honors that statement. Kathleen Gessaman said she would forward the minutes to Garri Mauch to then send to the Calumet management.
- Skyline resident Aron Krischel said his neighborhood does not have any street lights and was concerned about safety at night. Eric Peterson suggested he contact Northwestern Energy to see if they would be able to install a yard light. Chris Ward suggested that he get with his neighbors to consider establishing a street light district.
- Valley View resident Joanie Kohles said she had volleyball poles and net she would like to donate to a park. Garri Mauch said she thought the Great Falls Public Schools would use them for playground activities. She said she would contact Joanie and help her find a home for them at the school district.

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

- The council members discussed awarding a certificate of appreciation for a longtime NC3 supporter.
- Garri Mauch suggested getting the council members together for a group photograph to post to Facebook.
- Kathleen Gessaman said there will be a resident attending the December meeting that wanted to talk about speeding on 2nd Street N.E. He is concerned about having traffic slowed down around the nearby Skyline Elementary School.

ADJOURN

Garri Mauch made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Eric Peterson seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned by Kathleen Gessaman at 7:45 p.m.

The next regular NC3 meeting will be held Thursday, December 7, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Eric Peterson, secretary.