

## **NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL #4**

### **MINUTES for February 22, 2024**

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

Members Present: Sandra Guynn (Chair), James Whitaker, Chris Ward (Secretary), Doug Darko (Official Delegate)

Absent: Neil Tredray (Vice-Chair)

#### **CALL TO ORDER:**

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

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Animal Control – ACO Alisa-Bett Ethridge. Feral cats are classified as wild animals, are not managed by Animal Control, and are not accepted by the Animal Shelter. Public can call for assistance identifying whether a cat is “owned” or feral. Feral cats live in colonies. TNR (trap, neuter, release) program is run by volunteer organizations in the community and works to manage population. Information on urban wildlife is available on the city website. Office number for animal control, for general questions, is 406 455-8492. Dispatch number for complaints about animals is 406 455-8599. Two dogs and two cats is the maximum without a multiple animal permit. Barking dog ordinance defines nuisance barking as 30 minutes in any given hour. Residents can report and not be identified to the neighbor with the dog but may be asked to keep a log to document.
- Neighborhood Council Liaison/Coordinator Lanni Klasner explained the recent election of the new council. A candidate declined after the election, but before the new council was seated in January. Since the council had not been seated, policy is that the Coordinator then reviews the election results and contacts the person with the next highest vote total, in this case Doug Darko, who had some write in votes, to see if that person is willing to serve. Since Doug was willing to serve he was elected to the position.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

- Guynn moved to accept the minutes from the January meeting, with corrections. Whittaker seconded the motion. Minutes approved.

#### **PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

- None

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

- Bylaw Review. Proposed revisions to the bylaws were presented by the Secretary. Darko moved to adopt the changes to the bylaws including separating the Mission Statement from the bylaws to a separate document. Second by Whitaker. All in favor. Secretary will send a copy of the amended bylaws to the Coordinator.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Open Meeting Training was discussed.
- Chair Guynn reported on the February 12<sup>th</sup> City Commission Special Work Session, which focused on public safety. She recommended watching the meeting recording (<https://greatfallsmt.net/citycommission/special-work-session-meeting-february-12-2024>).

#### **NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

- No items.

#### **ADJOURN**

- Meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm.

Submitted by Chris Ward