

Minutes Neighborhood Council 3 (NC3)
April 4, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
Riverview Elementary School - Music Room

CALL TO ORDER: at 6:30 p.m. by Kathleen Gessaman, Chair.

Council members present: Sue Dickenson, Kathleen Gessaman, Aron Krischel, Garri Mauch, Eric Peterson

OLD BUSINESS

- **Minutes from the March 7, 2024 meeting:** Aron Krischel made a motion to accept the March 7, 2024 meeting minutes as written. Sue Dickenson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Committee Reports** - Kathleen Gessaman said she visited the site where the radio tower was blinking white lights. She found a phone number posted on a fence at the location. She called the number and found out the repairs were scheduled for the end of April, but they repaired it the next day. She said the lights have returned to a red color.
- **Calumet Updates** - There were no Calumet updates provided during this meeting.
- **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 for the month of March. He said for the last 28 days our page reached 434 people. He said there have been no new post likes. There has been 11 posts made to the page since the last meeting, with a post engagement of 181. He said the most active post of the month was the notice of the April Neighborhood Council 3 meeting. That post reached 182 people and had an engagement of 20.
- **NC3 Crimemapping Report** - Eric Peterson said during the last 28 days there were 42 reports of crime in our area. 27 of those reports were generated near the retail and commercial areas of the Northwest Bypass or Smelter Avenue. He said there were 29 theft/larceny, one motor vehicle theft, one drug/alcohol violation, two burglaries, two vandalisms reports, two disturbing the peace reports, no fraud reports, five assault reports, and no DUIs.
- **Fundraising for Skyline Park and Valley View Park** - Eric Peterson updated the fundraising letter intended to be sent to potential contributors. Sue Dickenson said she would like the phone number listed in the letter to be changed back to her landline.

OTHER BUSINESS

- **Neighborworks May 3-4 CommUnity Cleanup** - Neighborhood Council 3 decided to participate in the cleanup event beginning at 9 a.m. on Saturday, May 4, 2024. Kathleen Gessaman suggested photographing the parks during the cleanup event to use during our fundraising project. Eric Peterson suggested cleaning Valley View and Skyline-Optimist Park once again. Sue Dickenson made a motion that Neighborhood Council 3 select Valley View Park and Skyline-Optimist Park to clean beginning at Valley View Park at 9 a.m. on May 4. Aron Krischel seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Sue Dickenson suggested that Eric Peterson begin promoting the event on the council's Facebook page.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- **Neighborhood Concerns:** Ben Forsyth said he was concerned that past city commissions had violated laws and not used laws to allow dangerous drugs in the city of Great Falls. He said that he has statistics that state that marijuana is used more than any other dangerous drugs combined in the city of Great Falls. He said our community is deteriorating economically, educationally, medically, socially, psychologically, and physically because marijuana affects all of these things. He provided approximately 40 scientific studies on the harms of marijuana. He said the chemical in marijuana, THC, affects the human brain. His recommendation is that the council use our abilities to advise the city commission of the harms and ask for them to reduce the potency of THC to .03 percent where marijuana is much less harmful to humans. Garri Mauch asked if we could submit the issue to the Council of Councils to consider adding to their meeting agenda. Sue Dickenson said she would not want our council to be writing any letters until we were informed on the issue and had accurate information and knew what the city could legally do. She said the letter may be more appropriate coming from the Council of Councils.

Great Falls Communications Specialist Lanni Klasner said city of Great Falls Planning and Community Development Director Brock Cherry would have more information to share with the council during the June meeting. She said she would call the school district to ensure Riverview Elementary School would be open during our regular meeting time on June 6, 2024.

Sue Dickenson said she received a call from a resident who lives near North Middle School. She said the resident is concerned about the traffic at the school during the student dismissal period. She said that parents are filling up parking spaces near the school and it has become extremely dangerous to drive in the area. She said GFPS Superintendent Tom Moore could possibly look at this issue. Garri Mauch agreed that it is a dangerous area to drive during the student drop off and pick up times. Sue Dickenson said she would like us to invite GFPS Superintendent Tom Moore to attend a meeting to discuss the CMR High School parking lot issue and the traffic issue at North Middle School. She would like to add it to our agenda for the May meeting. Garry Mauch said she would send Superintendant Moore an email.

Eric Peterson said he received a call from a resident complaining about a residence in the Skyline area. The property was full of old cars, car parts, tires and trash. He said he referred her to the Code Enforcement Office of the city. He said he would take a drive to the address to view it.

ADJOURN

Garri Mauch made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Aron Krischel seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned by Kathleen Gessaman at 7:36 p.m.

The next regular NC3 meeting will be held Thursday, May 2, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Eric Peterson, secretary.