

Minutes Neighborhood Council 3 (NC3)
May 2, 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 April 4, 2024 meeting:** Aron Krischel made a motion to accept the April 4, 2024 meeting minutes as written. Garri Mauch seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Committee Reports** – Garri Mauch said the pavilion fundraising QR code will be updated for use on the website. She also said the Summer Celebration date will be moved to 1 to 3 p.m. on August 17, 2024. She said this year the Great Falls Public Library Bookmobile will also be present. Eric Peterson said he would work on a Summer Celebration handout that could be delivered to homes in the Riverview and Skyline areas one week prior to the event.
- **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 April. He said for the past 28 days the Facebook page has reached 964 people. It had two new post likes for a total of 583 likes and two new post followers for a total of 709 followers. He said there were 13 posts made to the page since the last meeting with an engagement of 327. He said the most active post during the past month was the Facebook Live broadcast of the April meeting. That post reached 292 people.
- **NC3 Crimemapping Report** - Eric Peterson said during the last 28 days the NC3 district displayed 50 reports of crime in the area. 38 of those reports were generated near the retail and commercial areas of the Northwest Bypass or Smelter Avenue. There were 36 theft/larceny reports, two motor vehicle theft reports, three drug/alcohol violations, one burglary, one vandalism, three disturbing the peace reports, one fraud report, one assault report, and two DUI reports.
- **Fundraising for Skyline Park and Valley View Park** - Eric Peterson shared an Excel spreadsheet for tracking where the council members are sending fundraising letters. He said he will update the spreadsheet with data supplied by council members. This should keep us from duplicating our efforts.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Scheels Aim High Big Sky Facility Update** – City of Great Falls Deputy Director of Parks and Recreation Jessica Compton and Parks Manager Kevin Vining provided an update on the Scheels Aim High Big Sky project. Jessica Compton said the new rate structures are available on their website, but discounts are offered for military, seniors, youth, disabled veterans, and there is a corporate rate. They will also be offering community classes to be provided at the location. They hope to open the community center on June 15 and will have an open house and ribbon-cutting ceremony on June 14. The hours of operation will be Monday through Friday 5:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday 7 a.m. until 6 p.m.
- **Annexation Request, 2617 6th Street N.W.** – The owner of the home at 2617 6th Street N.W. would like to have her property annexed into the city to be able to receive sewer service. Sue Dickenson made a motion to support the annexation. Aron Krischel seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
- **CMR and NMS Traffic Control** – Great Falls Public Schools Superintendent Tom Moore and GFPS Executive Director for Student Achievement Jackie Mainwaring discussed resident concerns about traffic safety near North Middle School and CMR High School. Superintendent Moore said this has been an ongoing issue with the school district and the community. He said they've made improvements to the traffic flow at North Middle School several years ago, but the congestion occurs during parents dropping off and picking up children at the school. NMS Principal Brian Miller said the school was not built to handle the large amount of traffic. He said they've requested that parents drop off kids earlier or one block away from the school to help with the traffic issue. Superintendent Moore said they will continue to

monitor the situation and work with the city and try to work with human behavior as much as they can. He said a long-term study starting in the summer or fall might provide recommendations to provide solutions to the problem. Sue Dickenson asked about the problems occurring after hours in the CMR parking lot. CMR Principal Jamie McGraw said they can't place gates at the entrances to the school since there are travel buses coming back late at night and students drive their own cars and need a place to park. She said the students need to be able to drive their cars home after the buses drop them off. She also talked with students that socialize in the area in the evening. She encouraged them to park in the senior parking lot to keep the sound down. Garri Mauch said residents have concerns about the safety of students crossing the road on their way to Sam's Club at lunch. Superintendent Moore said there is no sidewalk on the Sam's Club side of the street. He said Sam's Club would need a handicapped accessible ramp in place to put a sidewalk in that location.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- **Neighborhood Concerns:** Ben Forsyth presented NC3 members with a portion of the Great Falls City Charter that stated councils exist to advise the Great Falls City Commission. He said he was concerned about marijuana as he says its harms are growing dramatically in Great Falls. Garri Mauch suggested that he come and present this information to the Council of Councils meeting on May 28, 2024.

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 7:58 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted, Eric Peterson, secretary.