

Monday, July 8, 2024, 7:00 p.m.
Gibson Room, Civic Center

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was brought to order at 7:00 by Chair Trevor Mikkelsen, who led the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance were Council Members Troy Lane, Trevor Mikkelsen, Sandy Rice, Allison Tangen, and Bill Wadmon. Roll call of the Council was completed and a quorum established. Guest present was Neighbor Ben Forsyth.

OLD BUSINESS

The June Minutes were approved as submitted.

Committee Reports

Downtown Development Partnership: No report

Brownfield Committee: No Report

Downtown Safety Alliance: No report, Sandy presented the GFFR Fourth of July response statistics.

Council of Councils: Next meeting of the Council of Councils will be in September.

Strategic Planning/ Neighborhood Watch: Troy placed Neighborhood Watch flyers in the last Wednesday envelopes of the school year in Whittier and Longfellow schools. There was no response or attendance at the June N C 7 meeting.

Crime Mapping Report: No report

Ice Cream Social: Scheduled on August 18, from noon to 2:00 p.m. Mr. Frosty will provide refreshments. NWGF has committed to a grant up to \$500.00 to cover the cost of the Social, Sandy will complete the grant application. Sandy will confirm with Parks & Rec that NC7 will be in the Carter Park that day.

NEW BUSINESS: After some discussion, it was decided that NC7 will present at the July 18 City Commission meeting. Trevor moved that NC7 strongly urge the City Commission to replace the City-Neighborhood Council Liaison position soon. Sandy seconded the motion, motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS: None

NEIGHBORHOOD PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS: Ben Forsyth presented a request that NC7 use its advisory role to urge the City Commission to address the growing medical emergencies resulting from marijuana use. Mr. Forsyth distributed several handouts detailing the current ER statistics and the laws as written by the state legislature legalizing marijuana sales, pointing out that several of the 14 current dispensaries are not registered and are not in light industrial zoned areas. Mr. Forsyth asked that NC7 address the City Commission regarding this citizen complaint. After extensive discussion, Sandy moved that NC7 table presenting these citizen concerns to an August Commission meeting. Troy seconded and the motion passed.

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL: Sandy noted that the sidewalks on three sides of Carter Park will be redone and brought up to ADA standards. Sandy noted an email request to her regarding weeds on city property and her response advising the Neighbor to complete a Citizen Complaint Form on greatfallsmt.net. Allison asked about the lack of public information on the City Commission request that the Library relinquish the seven mils of tax money that was part of the agreements dating from the 1990's. Sandy reported that negotiations between the City and Library are on-going.

Next Meeting: Monday, August 12, 2024

Agenda suggestions: Citizen concern request regarding marijuana dispensaries in Great Falls

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm on unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted, Sandra Rice, Secretary