

## MEETINGS MINUTES

### NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL #2

Wednesday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Great Falls West Elementary School Library

5:30 pm

#### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. A quorum was established with Vice Chair Tim Croft, Secretary Frank Speidel, Members Pam Wagner and Wayne Young present. Also present were Lanni Klasner, City of Great Falls Communications Specialist, Jessica Compton, Deputy Director of Parks & Rec and Kevin Vining, Park Manager. One member of the neighborhood was in attendance.

#### OLD BUSINESS

- Approval of the April 2024 minutes
  - 5:31 pm Member Young made a motion to accept the April 2024 meeting minutes. 5:31 pm the Council unanimously approved the motion.
- CommUnity Clean-up
  - Nothing addressed other than what is reported below.

#### NEW BUSINESS

- Aim High Big Sky Facility Update
  - Jessica Compton, Deputy Director of Parks & Rec and Kevin Vining, Park Manager gave a presentation on the Scheels Aim High Big Sky Aquatic and Recreation Center. They are planning for an opening the end of June. Fees are listed on their website <https://greatfallsmt.net/recreation>. Vice Chair Croft inquired about the status of the old Morony Natatorium property. Parks & Rec plan on a playground and pavilion. Member Wagner inquired about type playground. Parks & Rec are planning on an ADA accessible type depending on cost. Jessica Compton explained their Adopt a Park program, which they are looking for community members to be more visible in the parks, walking around, letting them know what's going on. If something horrible is going on, call the police. A minimum of two hours per month. Cleanup. Report graffiti. You can find more information located here <https://greatfallsmt.net/recreation/adopt-park>. They are going to try and eliminate a majority of the rodents by approved means that won't affect the birds and domestic animals, and fill in the holes.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS (Public comment on any matter that is not on the agenda of the

meeting and that is within the jurisdiction of the Neighborhood Council. In the interest that all parties can be heard, please limit your comments. When addressing the Council, state your name and either your address or whether you are a Neighborhood Council 2 resident for the record).

- Neighborhood Concerns
  - Member Wagner reported a property on the corner of 1<sup>st</sup> Ave SW and 11<sup>th</sup> St appears to be hoarders. Possible abandoned vehicles and animals running loose. Member Young reported his daughter has been talking to him about it. She has a co-worker that lives over there. Lanni Klasner advised to report it. Vice Chair Croft stated he reported some stuff last month via the City website. It was an easy process. He has not heard anything on his garbage stuff but he did see City vehicles down there. He has not heard anything about the Jack Club sign yet either. The vandalism and graffiti by ShopCo was taken care of.
  - Secretary Speidel requested to know if the Council was going to do anything about the issue brought forward at the last meeting by Ben Forsyth concerning the THC content of products. Vice Chair Croft stated that the federal government is going to redo the laws from what he saw in the news. Secretary Speidel stated from what he read, the state legislators regulate the THC content, and that's why he thinks our City Commissioners are not going to have anything to do with it. Lanni Klasner stated it is a state level issue and regulating the number of dispensaries, all of that, is at the state level. Vice Chair Croft stated that, that was highlighted in the news where they wanted to put a number on it or a cap. So somebody is on top of it. Lanni Klasner stated to talk with your state legislators. That is where the changes are going to come from. Vice Chair Croft wanted to know if any other Neighborhood Councils did anything with it.//no
  - Vice Chair Croft stated that Bob Mehlhoff has not called him back yet with his reported concerns on the sidewalks.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

- Meetings
  - No regular meetings – June, July, and August. Lanni Klasner stated unless something comes up like annexation, land use, or something like that, they ask for a meeting to weigh in on. Or a major concern that may happen. If we warrant a meeting then call a meeting. The Civic Center may be available. Krista Artis will be assuming Lanni Klasner's duties for the Neighborhood Councils. They are working on rehabbing the position.

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (Miscellaneous reports, announcements, and agenda suggestions from Neighborhood Council #2 members)

- Neighborhood Watch
  - Vice Chair Tim Croft reports 11 assaults. 7 disturbing the peace. 1 DUII. 1 motor

theft. 5 larcenies, 4 vandalisms. An increase from last month.

- Council Facebook Page
  - Secretary Frank Speidel reported in the last 90 days 248 people reached. 126 engagements. 3 net followers.
- Agenda Suggestions
  - None suggested

#### ADJOURNMENT

- 6:06 pm Vice Chair Croft entertained a motion to adjourn. Secretary Speidel made a motion to adjourn. Both Members Young and Wagner seconded. 6:06 pm the Council unanimously approved the motion. The next scheduled meeting will be Sep 11<sup>th</sup> 2024.