

Minutes Neighborhood Council 3 (NC3)
March 6, 2025, 6:30 p.m.
Riverview Elementary School – Music/Art Room

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

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

OLD BUSINESS

- **Minutes from the February 6, 2025 meeting:** Aron Krischel made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Kathleen Gessaman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Calumet Updates** - There were no Calumet updates provided during this meeting.
- **Vision and Goal Setting** - Vision and goal setting will be conducted during a future meeting.
- **NC3 Facebook Page Update** - Eric Peterson provided the NC3 Facebook page update for the month of February. He said there were 13 new page likes for a total of 642 likes. There were also 19 new page followers for a total of 797 followers. He said there have been 11 posts made on the page since the last council meeting. There were 4,651 post views, a post reach of 861 and 56 content interactions. He said the number one post for the month was the post made on Sunday, February 9, 2025 of the Crimemapping data. That post had 346 views, reached 197 people, and had 3 interactions. He said the Facebook Live broadcast from February had 317 views, reached 213 people, and had five interactions.
- **NC3 Crimemapping Report** - Eric Peterson said during the last 28 days in the NC3 area there have been 37 theft/larceny reports, with 18 of those reports generated in the retail and commercial areas of the Northwest Bypass or Smelter Avenue. There were 16 theft/larceny reports; no reports of a motor vehicle theft; one drug/alcohol violation reports; two burglary reports; four vandalism reports; five disturbing the peace reports; no fraud reports; seven assault reports; and two DUI reports.
- **Fundraising for Skyline Park and Valley View Park** – Garri Mauch said she will be resubmitting a grant proposal for the purchase of pavilions for Skyline-Optimist Park and Valley View Park to Calumet.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Little Shell Tribe’s Future Projects** – Little Shell Tribe Chairman Gerald Gray gave a presentation on two planned developments to be built near the Valley View neighborhood. He first discussed the planned 18-acre housing development bordered by Valley View Drive and 15th Street N.W. He said it would consist of 35 single family units, 18 duplexes, and 50 apartments. He said the development would include green space, a gazebo, and a new event center. He also discussed a planned event center to be built north of Valley View on top of Hill 57. He said this is intended to be a destination resort, with an indoor water park, bowling alley, hotel, casino, an area for conventions and a big event center with 9,700 seats to be used for rodeo events, basketball tournaments, and concerts. He said the planned entrance and exit to the development would be from Stuckey Road.
- **NeighborWorks Great Falls** – Community Engagement Marketing Coordinator Emma Nelson said the annual CommUnity Cleanup Event would be taking place April 25-26 in partnership with Malmstrom Air Force Base. She said there is a QR Code available to sign up for participating in the event. She also said the 2025 Community Grant Cycle of up to \$500 was open for submissions from neighborhood councils. There is also a free home-buyer fair to be held at the University of Providence. She said the organization exceeded their goal in 2024 for adding 100 new homeowners in Great Falls. The organization added 102 homeowners.

She said NeighborWorks Great Falls will be celebrating their 45th year in Great Falls with a masquerade ball to be held at the Newberry on April 5, 2025.

- **Planning and Community Development Growth Policy** - Senior Planner Andrew Finch discussed the Great Falls Long Range Growth Policy. He said the policy is a 20-year land use plan to help guide the city commission and the planning board in the land use decision making processes. He said it will also help guide revisions to subdivision regulations, development and zoning regulations and other development related codes. He said it will also help the city make decisions on where growth should happen and what type of growth should happen in the areas of the city. He encouraged residents to complete the online survey located at futuregreatfalls.com before the end of March. He said the results of the Growth Policy Survey will help craft the future vision for Great Falls.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- **Neighborhood Concerns:** Great Falls resident Chris Ward voiced his concern on Calumet closing off public access to the 4th Street N.E. railroad crossing to access the River's Edge Trail. He said this is the only access to the trail for residents of Neighborhood Council 3. He said that in 2013 when Calumet asked the city to rezone the area for industrial zoning the staff report said that Calumet was committed to providing a public easement and constructing a bike and pedestrian connection to River's Edge Trail through the property that would connect to 4th Street N.E. He said with the increase of rail operations with three tracks the crossing will be closed. Garri Mauch said she would contact Calumet Lanni Klasner from Calumet for additional information.
- Garri Mauch heard a concern from a neighborhood resident that plays pickleball at Jaycee Park. She said her group is interested in obtaining six additional pickleball courts to use. Garri Mauch would like to talk to the Great Falls Park and Recreation administrators to see if there are plans to increase the number of pickleball courts.
- Eric Peterson reminded council members that the filing to run for the 45 neighborhood council positions will be open beginning on April 17 through June 16, 2025.
- **Agenda suggestions:** Garri Mauch would like to invite Great Falls Park Manager Kevin Vining to the April meeting to discuss the possibility of adding additional pickleball courts to the city parks.

ADJOURN

Garri Mauch made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Aron Krishell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned by Kathleen Gessaman at 8:30 p.m.

The next regular NC3 meeting will be held Thursday, April 3, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Eric Peterson, secretary.