

**Minutes Neighborhood Council  
District 3  
Thursday, February 2, 2012  
Riverview Multi-Purpose Room  
7:00 p.m.**

**Call to order:** Lori Fay, Chair pro tem, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Council members present:** Lori Fay, Kathleen Gessaman, Ron Gessaman, and Johnathan Kenneway. Kathleen reported John Sturgeon called and said he couldn't attend tonight's meeting but will be at the March meeting. Officer Smail, Community Policing, Jerry McKinley, City Traffic Supervisor, Dave Dobbs, Public Works, and Patty Cadwell, Neighborhood and Youth Council Coordinator, were present.

**Others present:** See Attached Attendance list.

**Minutes:** **Ron G. moved to accept the minutes of the January 5, 2012 Neighborhood Council Three (NC3) meeting as posted on the City of Great Falls' website; Johnathan K. seconded.** Lori R. asked if there were any changes, deletions, or discussion; there were none. **The motion passed unanimously.**

**Delegate Reports:** Johnathan K. reported he attended the January 10, 2012 Planning Advisory Board/ Zoning Commission to present the results from the January NC3 meeting regarding Montana Refining Company's (MRC) request to close a portion of 6<sup>th</sup> St NE. The Board vote was 2 yes, 1 no, and 1 abstain to: "inform the Planning Board that NC #3 did not object to MRC closing that portion of 6<sup>th</sup> St NE provided MRC makes access available to the City's property." Johnathan also attended the January 17, 2012 City Commission meeting where he invited the public to attend NC3 meetings at Riverview School. Johnathan represented NC3 at the January 25, 2012 Council of Councils meeting. Police Chief Bowen discussed the large vehicle-parking situation and said that public discussion may have solved the problem. Commissioner Bronson didn't want additional ordinances for the police to enforce when there are already ordinances addressing parking issues. Chief Bowen said a rig could stay in one location for five days before it must be moved. The Council also discussed the expansion of the Conservation District but since the NC3 area is already in the Conservation District this was not an issue for NC3.

**Unfinished Business:** Keith Cron, 48 32<sup>nd</sup> Ave NE, Leadership Great Falls, gave a progress report on the Skyline and Jaycee Park improvement projects. Both parks are looking for sponsors for 6 shade trees, 4 park benches, 2 picnic tables, 1 slide, and 1 drinking fountain each. Sponsors have donated 4 park benches, 2 shade trees, 1 slide and 1 drinking fountain for Skyline Park. Sponsors have donated 1 park bench, 1 shade tree, and 1 slide for Jaycee Park. Keith reported the Park and Rec. Board awarded about \$3,900 to the Leadership Great Falls Class of 2011-2012 for play structures. Skyline Park has about \$12,360 in its fund, and Jaycee Park has about \$7,880 in its fund; each park needs about \$40,000 just for playground equipment. View progress at the following web page (under construction): <http://www.skylinepark.net/>; the committee can be contacted at [skylinepark@bresnan.net](mailto:skylinepark@bresnan.net)

Keith said the owners of the Brick have donated the use of their establishment for a fundraising event, which tentatively will include a live auction, silent auction, and a band. The event is tentatively scheduled for around April 16<sup>th</sup>. Lori F. said she would like to donate something for the auction and suggested other local business people would like to help out too.

Ron G. asked about getting trees from the Conservation District. Keith said MAFB is getting rid of many mature trees as part of a housing replacement project. Keith suggested the City could look into moving some trees if they pass inspection and MAFB and their contractor agree to donate them to the parks instead of grinding them up. Steve Pretat, 300 Smelter Ave NE #187, said the cost to buy trees for a park is about

\$60,000 for trees having a minimum 3-inch diameter trunk. Patty C. suggested some of the sprinkler system business owners like Ron Hall might donate to the park systems. Steve said even a matching donation for an irrigation system would help. Steve said when the park plans are finalized they would be in a better position to ask for grant money. Steve said the groups involved in planning for the park improvements plan to make a presentation to the City Commissioners at a future Work Session.

**Bylaw Changes: Ron G. moved to table further bylaw change discussion until the next meeting, Johnathan K. seconded; the motion passed unanimously.**

**New Business: Lori F. moved to appoint Johnathan K. as the Police Advisory Board delegate, Kathleen G. seconded; the motion passed unanimously.**

Community Policing: Officer Smail covered police-related questions with an interactive discussion that included: residents should notify the police when large vehicles are parked in the vision triangle at a corner (end-zone violation); the police do ticket speeding vehicles on 36<sup>th</sup> Ave NE - twenty-one tickets were written in December; six officers are normally scheduled to be on the city streets at any one time but sometimes there are only 4 or 5 officers; the portable robo-cop (needs repairs) is outdated, and a new one would cost about \$10,000 - the small ones near the schools are owned by the school district; some of the NC3 crime statistics for a one-month period – 51 burglaries, 176 speeding tickets, 28 traffic accidents, 8 injury accidents, 40 vandalisms, 15 hit and runs, 32 shoplifting, 3 MIP, 10 narcotics, 12 juvenile, and 2 domestic disturbances; a car traveling up 8<sup>th</sup> St NE has right-of-way over a car traveling down 9<sup>th</sup> St NE that wants to stay on 9<sup>th</sup> St NE where the streets merge because 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> streets are marked with a double yellow line that continues through the “S” curve; and the police dept. would like to be able to collect the millions of dollars in outstanding warrants but doesn’t have the manpower.

Traffic: Jerry McKinley, City Traffic Supervisor, discussed traffic concerns. Most of the questions were about traffic flow and the possibility of adding 4-way stop signs on Smelter Ave and 6<sup>th</sup> St NW, 25<sup>th</sup> Ave NE and 8<sup>th</sup> St NE, 36<sup>th</sup> Ave NE and 2<sup>nd</sup> St NE and 36<sup>th</sup> Ave NE and 9<sup>th</sup> St NE. Jerry said some of the areas were controlled by the State and traffic counts at the intersections show they just had occasional backups and don’t meet the criterion for 4-way stops. Construction on the roundabout near the MT DOT at the intersection of Division Rd and Smelter Ave could start this spring (May) and is projected to take 75 to 90 days to complete – the contract for the work has not yet been let.

Riverview Storm Drain Projects: Dave Dobbs, Public Works Dept., gave a comprehensive update on several projects mostly scheduled this spring and summer in the Riverview area. Some of the projects he discussed were the following: the new storm drain system by Skyline Park has 70% of the pipe in place; the two 25 hp (750 gal/min) pumps for the NE regional detention facility pump station are on order and will pump the water from the detention pond to City storm drains; work is planned on a water retention pond west of Wal-Mart; and drainage work on the NW Bypass and 3<sup>rd</sup> St NE intersection has a lot of easement negotiations to settle before it can be started maybe in 2013-2014. Cyndi Baker, 500 Montana Ave NW, asked about traffic delays this summer. Dave said there would be an attempt to keep either 4<sup>th</sup> St NE or Division open to keep north-south traffic flowing.

**Issues of Neighborhood Concern:** The guest speakers answered many of the concerns neighbors had pertaining to traffic and street/traffic disruptions for the upcoming months.

**The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for March 1, 2012 at 7 p.m. at Riverview School.**

**Respectfully submitted, Kathleen Gessaman, Secretary, NC #3.**

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL #3 -- MEETING SIGN-IN SHEET

Name	Address	Phone	Email Address
Ron & Kathy Gessmann	1006 36th Ave NE	452-7106	
John Kennelwood	117 Riverside B	231-6068	
Lari Fay	308 River View 4 W	870-0491	
Keith Cron	48 3rd Ave NE	727-2202	KeithC@jaysurf.com
Larry Orlis	2933 5th St NE	761-3572	
Hedley Bellbury	1900 10th St NE	761-4180	
Tom Jacobson	521 Riverside Dr E	868-9814	
Brian Small	112 1st St SW	721-1188 x222	
Steve Preat	500 Smelter Ave Dr # 187	868-9626	SKILLI@PARZELBRESURF.NET
George McKinley	CISF-FW	771-1401	
Dave Dobbs	CGF - PW/Energy	771-1258	
Cynthia Bter	500 Mt Airy NW	453-9605	
Rep. Colm Cox	93 Brandy Wine Sta	761-4144	
Patty Cadwell	City of Grand Falls	452-8496	pcadwell@greatfallsmt.net