

# DRAFT

## MINUTES

### NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL DISTRICT 4

Thursday, August 23, 2012  
Heritage Baptist Church, 900 52<sup>nd</sup> Street North  
6:30 PM

#### **CALL TO ORDER:**

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Council Members Present: Sandra Guynn, Judy Tankink, Harold Wheeler, and Aaron Pursell

Council Members Absent: Audrey Finlayson

The meeting was recorded and will be made available to the public with a records request. They can also be requested directly from NC4.

#### **PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:**

Rudolf Tankink commented that the property at 4727 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave N been cleaned up. Patty Cadwell mentioned that the new owner would like to build storage units but it must be re-zoned.

Judy Tankink said that someone who lives in NC4 has children to go to Graybill Park and is concerned that thistles are growing under the playground equipment and is unsafe for young children. He was encouraged to contact the City about the problem.

Harold talked with Marty Basta with Park and Rec about organizing volunteers to dis-assemble and haul away the playground equipment. Marty thought it would be okay and it would save the City some money.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Ida Meehan, City Comprehensive Planner, gave a presentation on the Growth Policy Update, which is the City's comprehensive plan. It is a roadmap of where the City wants to go for the next 10-15 years. Originally created in 1999 and was updated in 2003 and 2005. The Growth Policy Update Kick-off Open House is scheduled for August 6, 2012 at 6:00 PM at the Civic Center.

Four working groups will be established: Social, Natural Resources/Environmental, Economic, Land Use/Transportation. The working groups will be on Thursdays at 6:00 PM. Meeting details will be posted on the City's website and published in the newspaper.

A brief timeline includes crafting a report, then it goes before the Planning Advisory Board, then to the City Commission sometime next Spring. It will be approximately a 9-month process. Ida also indicated that a survey is available online, she and other City staff will be available to speak to different interested groups, there will be more public hearings, Imagine Great Falls has a Facebook page, the high schools have been invited to participate, and lastly Neighborhood Councils are involved in the planning process.  
Neighborhood Councils

#### Comments:

- Any future Growth Plan should include an element to require different departments within the City and the County to communicate with each other.
  - Don't rush the Growth Plan updating process. Something that is of this magnitude that will affect everyone who lives in the City for the next 10-15 years, should be comprehensive and should *not* be rushed.
  - The Growth Policy is not law or an ordinance. It will go before the planning Board then the City Commissioners vote on it. It will be utilized when applying for grants.
  - The meetings will be open and will discuss issues and strategies, but professional facilitators will not be hired.
  - Growth on the east end is pretty stagnant as far as retail and residential growth. Agri-tech Park if annexed into the City will most likely provide some industrial growth.
  - In order for retail development to occur on the east end of town, it must be appropriately zoned.
  - Ida Meehan went to 3-4 Neighborhood Council meetings to discuss the Growth Plan and stated that they were not very well attended. Judy Tankink mentioned that there are approximately 58,000 people who live in Great Falls and only a limited number of people are reached. Consequently, it is hardly representative of the whole community. Harold said it is not very good community outreach. Just a small number of people may be dictating the outcome of the plan.
  - Sandra said that we represent the neighborhood and should encourage participation from our neighbors.
  - Council of Councils meets in October and Sandra would like the Growth Policy update to be an agenda item.
  - Rudolf Tankink, 3620 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, suggested having the flyers put into GFPS Wednesday envelopes
  - Ida said the Growth Policy update procedure would enable individual neighborhoods to identify council specific issues.
  - Judy made a motion to have a special NC4 public meeting within the next few months to discuss the Growth Policy update and get input from our neighbors. Harold seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved. Tentatively we would like to have it in January or February. Communicate through email what we're doing so efforts are not duplicated.
- Some suggestions:
- ✓ Have a special NC4 meeting
  - ✓ Patty will see if we can put an advertisement in a future water bill. It must be approved approx. 6 months prior to mailings. Patty will check on this.
  - ✓ Flyers could be sent home in GFPS Wednesday envelopes for elementary schools in our area. First the flyer must be designed, and then Aaron will get approval from GFPS to distribute into Wednesday envelopes. Once permission is approved, Patty will have the City print the flyers give them to the schools. Ida will provide large-scale aerial maps. In an attempt to involve local businesses on in the NC4 area, we will solicit donations for refreshments or possible drawings/raffle in order to draw more of the community to the meeting. East end eateries and other businesses may benefit from this through free advertising and exposure. Flyers could be given to the area churches as well.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORT:**

City Commission – Nothing to report that will affect NC4. Rudolf Tankink commented that the City Commission did discuss the extension of bike path on 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue South Bridge.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Harold Wheeler made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 23, 2012 NC4 meeting as was

presented. Aaron Purcell seconded it. A discussion ensued and two corrections were noted. Harold made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected. Aaron Seconded it. They were approved as corrected.

Property—Sandra Guynn reported the property has been purchased. It must go through a zone change and the new owner would like to put storage units on it.

Sandra mentioned the Tribune is receptive to having a Park and Recreation column. Harold made a motion that Marty Basta write the first column for the Tribune. Aaron seconded it. It was unanimously approved. Patty will send an email to Audrey Finlayson asking if she is still interested in writing future articles for the column.

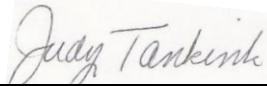
Sandra said the Home Place has a trailer, but Harold indicated that the trailer is not an eyesore and doesn't appear to be a hazard.

**NEXT MEETING OF NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL 4:**

September 27, 2012 at 6:30 PM

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Harold Wheeler made a motion to adjourn; it was seconded by Judy Tankink. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.



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Judy Tankink  
Recorder