

**MINUTES
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
DISTRICT 2
Wednesday, September 12, 2012**

Meeting called to order by Chairperson Phyllis Hemstad at 7:06 PM.

ATTENDANCE: Dorothy Schmidt, Phyllis Hemstad, Kelly Manzer and Sue Strickland. A quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES. A correction to the date of next meeting was addressed by Kelly Manzer. Motion made and seconded to approve June's minutes with a date correction.

OLD BUSINESS:

West Levee Update: Sandy Mares explained that legislation had been passed in July (Flood Insurance Reform and Modernization Act of 2012) creating an accreditation task force. This provides a program for FEMA and the Corps of Engineers to work together with uniformity. The "Flood Protection Structure Accreditation Task Force" portion of this legislation was provided to be entered into the council minutes. Sandy mentioned the large amount of time that Bob Mehlhoff has given to this issue. He traveled to Washington DC to testify. His efforts are greatly appreciated.

West Bank Park: Marty Basta from the Park and Rec. Dept. gave a brief update on the park. A section of River's Edge Trail is currently being developed from the federal building into the park. The Kiwanis club is donating for a shelter to be built by the boat landing and the Rotarians are donating for playground equipment.

Committee Reports:

Police Advisory Board: Bob Mehlhoff was not available for report from July's meeting. This will be presented at next month's meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Community Hall Park: Mike Dalton (Executive Director- Sunburst Unlimited) gave a presentation along with Gayle Gifford (Director –Great Falls Community Food Bank) explaining the benefits of community gardens. A proposal to use the 2.2 acre Community Hall Park had already been approved by the Park Board. This area has been unused for numerous years and is already fenced and irrigation is available. Sue Strickland made a motion to support the proposal. Kelly Manzer seconded motion and it was passed unanimously.

Central Ave. W. Development: Greg Strable and James Coombs (independent contractors) gave a brief presentation regarding their proposal to develop the vacant property on Central Ave. W. near 2300 Street SW. Their plans included purchasing a 1.8 acre parcel and an adjacent 1.5 acre parcel to develop a gated community of 8 four-plexes. The property would require rezoning to accommodate multiple family housing. The proposal was met with some opposition from those in attendance. Phyllis Hemstad referred the gentlemen back to the city for further investigation.

Airport Update: Jim Morin (Airport Authority Board) gave an informative update on the activities at the airport (handout provided). GTF is the fastest growing airport in Montana. Frontier Airlines is nearing completion of it's seasonal contract at GTF with very positive results. Work is in progress to reintroduce them again next year. A \$7 million upgrade is underway with numerous changes and improvements at the facility. The project is estimated to take 18 months for completion. Land leasing agreements are being discussed for future development near the airport.

Mike Beckoff from Stelling Engineers gave a brief update on the RSIP program. Phase I is complete. Phase II funding has been approved for an additional 29 homes on West hill and is scheduled to begin Monday, Sept. 17. Phase III includes another 25 homes on West hill and also an updated noise map with C130 aircrafts included.

Jim Morin invited everyone to attend the Airport Authority Board meetings which are held at the airport the last Tuesday of each month at 1:00 PM.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Neighborhood Concerns:

Mary Ann Komar suggested that the political candidates scheduled to speak next month be limited to 5 min.

Charlie McCune mentioned the street light problem around the vicinity of Franklin Apts. The power company is slow to respond to reports of lights needing repair.

Kirk Robinson commented that the barking situation in his neighborhood (addressed at June meeting) is unchanged. Kelly Manzer read the letter to be submitted from NC#2 for interpretation of city ordinances to acting city attorney.

Sue Strickland made motion to adjourn. Seconded by Kelly Manzer.
Meeting adjourned at 9:04 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Kelly Manzer – Acting Secretary