

MINUTES

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL DISTRICT 4

Thursday, February 28, 2013
Heritage Baptist Church, 900 52nd 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, Aaron Pursell, and 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.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Mike Dalton, Executive Director with Sunburst Unlimited presented information on *Gardens from Garbage* and works closely with the *Community Food Bank*, and their 64 affiliates in Cascade County and Glacier County, through produce donations. It is a 501(c)3 and is dependent upon financial donations and grants. This program is endorsed by the City of Great Falls park board utilizing City parkland, *Community Hall Park* (originally the City's tree nursery). The garden encompasses 2.2 acres and Sunburst Unlimited is in the process of developing a 4-year use permit with the City. Part of this program is training volunteers and educating the community. They will collaborate with Boys and Girls Club to grow pumpkins then sell some of the harvest with proceeds going to their club.

They have another 2 acre plot of land near the Peak on the south side of the City in which they are interested in creating another garden. Within the next 3-5 years they would like to develop a garden on the east end of town in Neighborhood Council 4 area.

The third annual Fresh Food Forum is scheduled for Saturday, March 16 and will provide free (with the donation of two cans of food) information and classes on composting, healthy cooking, and locally grown food.

Sunburst Unlimited has developed a *Garden Exchange Program* – every hour that someone works they accrue credits worth \$7.50. The worker can redeem credits at participating businesses throughout the community. They are approximately 25 community participant businesses.

Sunburst Unlimited works with closely with *Get Fit Great Falls* and an activity is scheduled at the garden site on Saturday, May 25, 2013 at 10:00 AM.

Public disclosure: Sandra Guynn is the treasurer for, and also serves the Sunburst Unlimited board.

- Carol Bronson, 733 32nd Ave NE, did a presentation on Neighborhood Watch and provided handouts for Neighborhood Watch, Neighborhood Guide to City Codes, Coins for a Cause (grant program), and also the Prescription Drug Take Back Program. She talked about the benefits of the Neighborhood Watch program and how people can be involved.

- ✓ Future Events:
 - March 12 at 5:30 (free) dinner, Neighborhood Watch along with fire academy, and police academy
 - May Event will be Tad Kimmet, BRIC Officer “panhandling” problem
- Policing Officer Rob Lundberg introduced himself and presented the quarterly statistical data for NC4, comparing it with the same quarter in previous year. Incidents showed a significant decrease when data was compared from Nov. 2012 – Jan. 2013 to Nov. 2011 – Jan. 2012.
- Erica Bridgeford, GFPS school nurse attended a 4-day Community Leadership Institute training in October 2012, along with several other young professionals. She handed out a survey which will help her group create “mini” Community Leadership Institute in Great Falls. There would be a minimal cost to attend. Carol Bronson commented that Neighborworks America has small mini-grants available.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

POSITION/NOMINEE	MADE A MOTION:	SECONDED MOTION	VOTE RESULT
Chair – Sandra Guynn	Harold Wheeler	Aaron Pursell	Unanimously approved
Vice-Chair – Harold Wheeler	Sandra Guynn	Audrey Finlayson	Unanimously approved
Secretary – Judy Tankink	Sandra Guynn	Harold Wheeler	Unanimously approved
Council of Councils Deligate – Sandra Guynn	Harold Wheeler	Aaron Pursell	Unanimously approved
City Commission Meeting Delegate – Aaron Pursell	Harold Wheeler	Audrey Finlayson	Unanimously approved
Police Advisory Board Delegate – Harold Wheeler	Aaron Pursell	Sandra Guynn	Unanimously approved

COMMITTEE REPORT:

Sandra Guynn, was the chair at the Council of Council meeting in January. Commissioner Bob Kelly introduced himself; Michael Dalton, Sunburst Unlimited spoke about Gardens from Garbage; Upcoming commission and actions presented by Commissioner Bronson and Commissioner Burow; Ron Gessman spoke talked about board and commission policy questions; zone change requests; Ida Meehan gave City Growth Policy update and final Growth Policy Open House is scheduled for March 15; brief discussion by Commissioner Bronson about a proposed Business Development staff position; each Neighborhood Council representative shared what they are doing in their NCs.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Aaron Pursell discussed how to create a petition to have a citizens’ initiative placed on the ballot and what the criteria must be met for that to occur. Currently, Aaron is working on a petition about the chicken issue.
- Aaron Pursell expressed interest in annexing all of the county property, which is surrounded by city property, into the City. City services are being provided to those pockets of County land and the City doesn’t receive any taxes from that property. Patty Cadwell suggested that NC4 write a letter to the City Commission requesting that they review our request. She did caution, however, that forced annexation is usually met with resistance. Patty will find out what property in NC4 falls into this category and provide it to NC4 members.

- Audrey Finlayson is on the Great Falls Public School's budget committee. A school district levy is being discussed. An open house to meet the potential superintendent candidates will be held on Sunday, March 24th.
- Judy Tankink made a motion to have all of the Neighborhood Council meetings recorded. Harold Wheeler seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

Harold made a motion to accept NC4 2/28/13 minutes as written. Aaron seconded motion. It was approved unanimously.

NEXT MEETING OF NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL 4:

March 28, 2013

ADJOURNMENT:

Harold Wheeler made a motion to adjourn. Judy Tankink seconded it. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted: Judy Tankink, Recorder