

Neighborhood Council #1
Meeting Minutes
DATE: February 18th, 2014

Members Present: Dennis Mora, Neal Dubois, Bill Thomas, Mike Flaherty, Lynda Sowell

Absent: none

Others Present: Steve Brown, Gilbert Day, Jeff Parker, Alice Parker, Herb Eakman, Janice Eakman, Don Eakman, Margaret Eakman, Mary Willmarth, Patty Caldwell, Officer Justin Stevens

Call to Order: 7:00 by chairwoman Lynda Sowell

Committee Reports: No committee reports as no official delegate had been nominated and approved.

Old Business: Approval of Jan. minutes, motion to approve by Mike Flaherty, seconded by Lynda Sowell, unanimous vote (5-0) minutes approved as written.

Election of official delegate. Neal Dubois nominated by Lynda Sowell, seconded by Bill Thomas, motion carried unanimously (5-0).

Election of Police Advisory Board Representative. Lynda Sowell nominated Mike Flaherty, seconded by Neal DuBois, motion carried unanimously (5-0).

Review and understanding of Neighborhood Council bylaws. All members had an opportunity to review the bylaws, no questions or concerns for Patty Caldwell, Neighborhood Council Representative, motion to approve made by Mike Flaherty seconded by Bill Thomas, motion approved unanimously (5-0).

New Business: Community policing representative officer Justin Stevens was present. Spoke briefly about the new radio system in place within the City of Great Falls, it is fully functional and all of the bugs seems to have been worked out. The radio system is also scanner resistant. Officer Stevens also presented crime numbers for Neighborhood #1, initially it was thought that the numbers were just for the month of January 2014, the crime numbers were actually from Jan. 2013 to Jan 2014. Please see attached for information presented. Councilman Dubois pointed out that the numbers being presented were calls into the police dept. and not actual citations issued. Sam Huffman runs the Police volunteer program in Great Falls, the volunteer program will provide one of the police volunteers to be present at council meetings.

Animal control continues to be an issue in Great Falls, especially deer in neighborhood #1. Alisha Etheridge is working on a deer culling program with the state. Deer calls are a significant issue for the police dept., jurisdiction regarding who is responsible for deer calls must be clarified; is it a city issue, FWP's, or animal control.

Airport sound project presenters Kent Funyak and Steve Brown. Currently two projects going on, 25 homes will be renovated under grant money just received from the federal government. The FAA has new rules that clarify what remedies may be made on homes, it is an attempt to ensure public funds are spent efficiently. Although the federal grant only covers the design of the renovations that are to take

place, Steve Brown mentioned that he has never seen a grant for design not be followed by a grant for actual construction. Councilwoman Lynda Sowell asked if design and construction have been separate. Answer, yes, they've always been separate. The project is currently in Phase II of a III phase process. The noise compatibility program is something that should be undertaken every five years, this program identifies what homes should be renovated. Under the current study, some homes from the 2007 contour map may fall off due to changes in modern aircraft, and a mission change at the MT Air National Guard. The airport easement (navigation easement) was also discussed. Homeowners must sign the easement to participate in the program and this allows airport officials to inspect private property to ensure there are no buildings or objects that may be dangerous to approaching aircraft, i.e. extremely bright lights, tall towers, etc. The Great Falls Airport has gone above and beyond in requesting funds for the study to continue. 126 total homes will have been completed after these next 25 homes, about 400 total homes need to be renovated.

Other Business: Council of council meeting date was thought to be on the 26th of Feb. Bill Thomas asked that our newly appointed Official Delegate Neal DuBois bring up the issue of deer in the neighborhood, Sunnyside is also having an issue. Delegate DuBois was also asked to bring up the sign compliance issue that will come into effect in Great Falls.

Little Free libraries needs a recommendation on a park for neighborhood and a steward. Preliminary thoughts were aimed at Meadowlark Park and possibly someone from Meadowlark School as a steward.

No other issues brought up

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn made at 7:40 p.m. by Lynda Sowell seconded by Mike Flaherty
Approved unanimously. Next meeting March 11th.