

Minutes
Neighborhood Council, District 3
Thursday, January 8, 2015
Riverview School Music Room

1. Call to order: Kathleen called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. Council members present:

Kathleen Gessaman	Chair
Cyndi Baker	Vice-Chair
Steve Malicott	Acting Secretary
Rich Calsetta	Member

City representative: None present because of change in date and conflict with another regularly scheduled Neighborhood Council meeting.

A quorum was present

2. Unfinished Business:
- a. The minutes from the December 4, 2014 meeting. Motion by Malicott to approve, 2nd by Baker – Motion passed
 - b. Committee reports:
 - 1) The Police Advisory Board was cancelled in December 2014. Next meeting is scheduled for March 14, 2015.
 - 2) No other reports were provided
3. New Business:
- a. Election of Officers for 2015.
 - 1) Motion by Calsetta to retain current officers for 2015. 2nd b Gessaman – Motion passed
 - 2) Calsetta was appointed to retain his position to represent Neighborhood Council #3 as our official delegate.
 - b. Crisis Nursery:
 - 1) Presentation by Jo-Viviane Jones on Early Childhood Coalition
 - 2) Provided a handout on Early Childhood Coalition (see attached)
 - 3) Provided background on child abuse in Cascade County and how the coalition would address some issues by providing a safe place for children. Parents would be able to drop off their child or children for up to 72 hours to provide the parents relief from stress without endangering their children.
 - 4) General discussion on possibilities, needs, and goals
 - 5) Coalition is in the very early stages and is using the Seattle based organization as a model.
 - 6) Looking for feedback and general support and will keep the Council advised of progress.

4. Petitions and Communications: There were questions on the proposed developments on the northwest edge of town as mentioned in the Jan. 8th Tribune article. The council suggested we invite Galen Amy, City Planning, and Deputy City Director Lee Nellis (if possible) to attend the February NC3 meeting to discuss.
6. Other Business: There was no other business.
7. Adjourn: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Steve Malicott
Acting Secretary



Great Falls Crisis Nursery Project -
*24 Hour Safe Haven Dedicated to the
 Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect*

WHAT IS A "CRISIS NURSERY" A crisis nursery is defined as a licensed facility, which provides short-term, 24 hour nonmedical residential care and supervision for children under six years of age, who are either voluntarily placed for temporary care by a parent or legal guardian due to a family crisis or a stressful situation...

Infants and toddlers are most vulnerable to child abuse and neglect

The "Crisis Nursery" will eliminate the need for parents to leave their children in the care of questionable caregivers



WHO USES A "CRISIS NURSERY" Parents who care enough about their children ask for help!!! Parents who are facing emergencies as well as the cumulative effect of stress. Parents are so overwhelmed that they may not be able to provide their child with a safe environment. Parents who don't have family or other support structure in place. Parents who are facing a variety of issues. Any one of which can easily lead to a crisis situation and result in abuse or neglect of the child

HOW LONG CAN THE CHILD STAY AT THE "CRISIS NURSERY"... Children can stay for up to 72 hours. However, a child will not be returned to an unsafe environment. There is no limit on how often a family can utilize the services as long as they are in crisis.

72% increase in new child abuse cases in the last 5 years in Cascade County

"child abuse....it just creeps into every part of your life..."

The "Crisis Nursery" will offer supportive services that link parents and caregivers to community resources to help them cope and problem-solve while keeping their children safe.

<u>CASCADE COUNTY RISK INDICATORS</u>		
	<i>Cascade</i>	<i>Montana</i>
<i>Child Abuse (substantiated)</i>	46	29
<i>Teen birth rate (15-19)</i>	43.3	35.5
<i>Domestic Violence Rate</i>	361	239

- Depression
- Social isolation
- Homelessness
- Poverty
- Domestic violence
- Substance abuse
- Poor parenting skills



HOW WILL IT BE FUNDED?
 The "Crisis Nursery" will be funded through private funding

"The greater a child's terror, and the earlier it is experienced, the harder it becomes to develop a strong and healthy sense of self." - Nathaniel Branden