

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL #8
MINUTES—November 17, 2016

Meeting was called to order at 6 pm by Chairman Karen Grove as we joined in the pledge to the flag. Three council members were present: Karen Grove, Bill Boland, and Barbara Going. Mike Brainard and Robin Schreiner were the absent council members. Community members in attendance were: Corky Grove, Patty Cadwell, Christy Accetturo and Chuck Keen.

MSC to approve the September minutes as corrected. Remove the extra (2) in the date of the September meeting. Actual date was 15 not 215.

Reports:

No Police Advisory Committee report.

Karen Grove summarized the October Council of Council meeting. The Holman Building on Central Ave. West has been improved. The north portion was removed and covered as were the broken windows. Neighborhood Watch wants to have a more active program. There are many new buildings in the city. A new church is being constructed near the soccer fields. A Young Peoples group is active in the community. Joe Cik, the Assistant City Attorney gave a report on property code enforcement.

New Business:

Bill Boland indicated that his house had been “egged” on November 14. He reported this to the police as a matter of information and was told there had been a number of similar incidents.

Christy Accetturo, a member of this council area, reported that a truck had been stolen from in front of a house in the vicinity of 22nd and 7th Ave. N. This, too, has been reported. She mentioned other concerns she had with this area that had not been reported and was directed to let the police know her concerns. Christy is relatively new to the community and was interested in knowing more about the area for each council as well as how to start a Neighborhood Watch. Patty Cadwell will get her information on the council boundaries and directed her to Carol Bronson who is in charge of the Neighborhood Watch program.

Barbara Going indicated that she attended the opening service for the Grace Home located at 2211 5th Ave. N. The home is ready for occupants but they will open the doors with a small number to get their feet on the ground and determine changes that need to be made. They provided a list of items needed and accept financial donations. Christy thought people in her place of employment might want to collect needed items. The rooms for the Vets were uniquely decorated by various groups. Tours of the facility can be arranged.

Chuck Keen, Facilities Operation Manager for the Russell Museum gave an interesting report on the progress and plans to renovate Charlie and Nancy Russell's home and studio. In 2013 the house and studio were placed on the Historic Structure Report. It was then that the renovation began.

The outside of the house was painted last year in the color it was in 1926.. Everything inside will be redone to reflect the early 1900's, including all the lighting. Redoing all the electrical is a big project. Since there were three small bedrooms and a bathroom on the second floor, plans are being made to have a virtual narrated tour of the house rather than have people going upstairs. The house tells Nancy's story, while the studio tells Charlie's. Plans are to have the renovated studio open on March 19, 2017 in time for Charlie Russell's birth date.

The community will be encouraged to use these facilities, perhaps for art classes in the studio and lectures or small meetings in the house.

There is always a need for funds and the museum is receptive to donations for this renovation project. There are other CMRussell art collections but Great Falls has the treasure of the Russell home and his studio.

The council members present decided not to have a meeting in December.

MSC to adjourn at 7:10 PM.

Next meeting: January 19, 2017.

Barbara Going, Secretary
