

**Neighborhood Council 4 Minutes**  
**Heritage Baptist Church**  
**24 May 2012**

Council members in attendance: Sandra Guynn, Harold Wheeler, Audrey Finlayson  
Council members absent: Judy Tankink, Aaron Pursell

Guest speakers and members of the public in attendance: Sgt. Scott Van Every, Planning and Community Development Deputy Director, Wendy Thomas, County Commissioner Jane Weber, Tom Glover, Bruce Hoven, Christy Sem, Steve Sem, and Rudy Tankink

Chair Sandra Guynn opened the meeting at 6:33 p.m.

**New Business:**

Community Policing Officer, Sgt. Scott Van Every reported that there have been approximately 1,000 calls received from NC#4 since January. Sgt. Van Every believes we live in a very safe neighborhood, and that there is no gang activity in this part of the city.

Planning and Community Development Deputy Director Wendy Thomas explained the proposed Land Use Development Code amendments. The changes pertain to Accessory Living Spaces; allowing by-right, community gardens in the C-5 zoning district; eliminating the requirement for payment in lieu of off-street parking in the C-4 district; and clarifying standards for curb-cuts and driveways in various zoning districts. (More details can be found on the city's website).

County Commissioner Jane Weber spoke about her background and why she would appreciate our vote.

April minutes were approved as presented.

**Committee Reports:**

- City Commission – no report
- **Police Advisory Board:**  
Harold Wheeler reported that Police Chief Bowen is thinking outside the box with regard to new ideas for the department. Concerns and ideas the chief has:
  - What impacts the increasing wind and oil business will have on Great Falls. He wants to learn from other cities;
  - BRIC Officer – Assigning a Business Residential Involving Community officer to the lower north side;
  - Utilizing volunteers – Billings logged 60,000 volunteer hours in their police department last year. By contrast, Great Falls has only one volunteer. Harold indicated that if anyone is interested in volunteering, they can contact him or the department.

**Old Business:**

Sandra reported that there is still one trailer located on the Home Place property. She expressed frustration that once again this property is becoming an eyesore. County Commissioner Jane Weber indicated that the problem isn't so much the County, but that the judges are soft on the County's decay ordinance.

Wendy Thomas reported that the property owner at 57<sup>th</sup> Street and 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue South was contacted about posting his property in order to eliminate the number of vehicles being abandoned there. The property owner lives out of state, and was not aware there was a problem. Council 4 will continue to monitor the property for violations.

Audrey Finlayson announced that June 2 is National Trail Days, and that the Montana Senior Olympics will be held in Great Falls June 7-9. This is a qualifying event for the National Senior Olympics.

Sandra reported that the Council of Councils will meet Wednesday, May 30 at 7:00 p.m. in the Gibson Room, and the next meeting of Council 4 will be June 28.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sandra Guynn, acting secretary in Judy Tankink's absence