

MINUTES

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL DISTRICT 4

Thursday, June 28, 2012
Heritage Baptist Church, 900 52nd Street North
6:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM

Pledge of Allegiance was said

Members present, Sandra Guynn, Judy Tankink, Harold Wheeler, Audrey Finlayson, and Aaron Pursell

NEW BUSINESS:

Sandra Guynn presented the Good Neighbor Award to Dave Snuggs, Neighbor In Need. Mr. Snuggs, 725 3rd Ave NW, explained how the Neighbor In Need program was started. He went on to say that the Neighbor In Need program provides a nurturing, dignified way to connect individuals who have a specific need with those who wish to fulfill that need. More information is available on their website www.myneighborinneed.org. Questions and comments were made by Brian Hoven, 4181 N Park Trail, Heather Rohlf, City of Great Falls, Harold Wheeler, 5312 3rd Ave S, and Tom Glover, 1318 16th St. So. A brief break followed and refreshments were provided. Sandra Guynn made a request to Patty Cadwell, Neighborhood Council Coordinator, to have the award also presented at a future City Commission meeting. Patty Cadwell, 2620 2nd Ave N. said she would have it placed on the City Commission Agenda.

Lisa Kuntz, Great Falls City Clerk, gave a PowerPoint presentation on Open Meeting Law and Neighborhood Council Protocol. She provided a current Neighborhood Council Handbook for each of the Neighborhood Council 4 members. Judy Tankink asked if the City would be providing recorders for each neighborhood council. Patty Cadwell stated that the City purchased one recorder for her to bring to each of the NC meetings so she can record them. She didn't have it with her during our meeting, but said she would bring it the next time. Patty also mentioned she would update our agenda to put Petitions and Commissions at the end of the agenda and that would be where people state neighborhood concerns.

Carl Adams, 808 43rd St N, sited several neighborhood concerns: speeders in his neighborhood, people picking up and dropping off students in front of Morningside School doing unsafe U-turns, people not stopping at stop signs, high weeds in neighbor's yards. He was urged to contact the police department regarding possible driving violations such as speeding and U-turns. He was also urged to contact the building principal before school begins in the fall to ask the school to address the safe way to pick up and drop off students. He can contact Debbie Kimball at 771-1401 with Public Works for possible weed violations. Mr. Adams was concerned about vandalized signage at the soccer park. He was told that this is private property and the City doesn't maintain those signs. He was encouraged to contact the owners of the soccer park. Mr. Adams was urged to report back to us to ensure that his concerns were addressed successfully.

George Littlefield reported that a speed sign was run over by the entry of the Coca-Cola plant. He recommended that the sign be removed further east past the entry gates. If it is moved further east it may eliminate the hazard. Sandra will notify the City to have them replace the damaged sign.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

City Commission – Judy Tankink reported that Ordinance 3089 to Assign City Zoning to a Portion of Steel Etc. was approved; and Resolution 9968, Establishing a Complete Streets policy was defeated at the June 5, 2012 City Commission Meeting.

Police Advisory Board – No report was available since they did not meet.

Council of Councils – Sandra Guynn reported on the Large Vehicle Ordinance. Based on information provided by the Police Chief at that meeting, the consensus was that current ordinances address the issue and that an ordinance was not deemed necessary. However, Sandra went on to say that following the Council of Council's meeting she had another conversation with the Police Chief and he gave her updated information that current ordinances may not address some of the neighborhood concerns. Patty Cadwell said that in an effort to determine if there is a large vehicle problem, a procedure is now in place to have all complaining/comment calls about large vehicles forwarded from the Planning & Community Development department to Patty. She will keep a log and report back to neighborhood councils. She did report that she received two phone calls from people following the Council of Council meeting stating that they were happy no further action was going to be taken on the Large Vehicle Ordinance.

Tom Glover, asked if people have multiple vehicles or large vehicles why they can't park them in the back of their property. Harold responded that that is not allowed without a concrete parking pad. Sandra stated that Commissioner Burow suggested the City may want to ease restrictions for people when parking on private property.

The fire chief also gave an update of staffing and funding issues the fire department is facing. Neighborhood Watch was discussed. George Littlefield said that there is a Neighborhood Watch in Highwood Trailer Court. Sandra suggested that George speak with Neighborhood Watch people at the trailer court and find out if they would like to give a monthly report at NC4.

OLD BUSINESS:

Harold Wheeler made a motion to accept the minutes of the May 24, 2012 NC4 meeting and was seconded by Audrey Finlayson. Minutes were approved with one correction. An email was sent by Judy Tankink to Neighborhood Council members, Patty Cadwell, and copied to Mayor Winters May 21, 2012 to inform them that she wouldn't be able to attend the May 24th meeting but that she would like comments read at the meeting. Inadvertently, the comments were not read at that time.

Property 4727 2nd Ave N –Sandra Guynn said the property seems to be cleaned up considerably. Patty Cadwell said the property is in the process of being sold. Harold Wheeler requested that since the property is no longer a problem that it be removed from future agendas. After a brief discussion it was decided that it would not be on future NC4 agendas.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Judy Tankink read the email aloud which was sent to the NC members May 21. (Copy on record.) In it, Judy requested that in order to make more informed decisions that NC4 members be provided information on street maintenance schedule and costs under normal circumstances, and also what those costs would be if Complete Streets were implemented. She also encouraged that City employees from Road Department, Fire Department, etc. come to our meetings and address this.

Patty Cadwell asked if this was something other council members wanted to pursue. It was the consensus that NC4 is interested in finding out more about how our streets are developed, costs, and future planning if Complete Streets is considered in the future. We strongly

encouraged Patty to include people from the City in future meetings to address our concerns so when faced with making recommendations to the City Commission we can make more informed decisions.

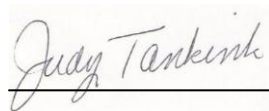
Judy Tankink wanted to find out how NC4 could be proactive in helping to find out what we can do to ease ordinances so people who can park their personal vehicles on private property. Patty said the first step would be to talk with Director of Community Development/Planning. Anyone can ask for an ordinance or to amend an ordinance. It was decided that Patty would ask the either Wendy or Mike speak to us at our August meeting.

NEXT MEETING OF NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL 4:

July 26, 2012 at 6:30 PM

ADJOURNMENT:

Judy Tankink made a motion to adjourn; it was seconded by Harold Wheeler. The vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judy Tankink". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Judy Tankink
Recorder