

**MINUTES OF THE 01/17/2013
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL DISTRICT 8 MEETING**

Business Meeting Started at 6:00

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Karen Grove, Michael Brainard, Robin Schreiner

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Carlie Boland, Barbara Going

GUESTS PRESENT: Officer Travis Palmer, Officer Gange

A motion was made by Robin Schreiner to approve November Minutes seconded by Michael Brainard, carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Karen Grove gave a short overview of the City Commission Meetings which have been centered on the Zoning of The AgriTech Park and the re-zoning classification of the Refinery and at the Westgate Mall Property they have purchased. The AgriTech Park was given the okay and approved. The Commissioners still had some questions they needed to follow up so the Refinery will be placed on the Feb 5th agenda for a vote on their re-zoning. The Great Falls Police Department was given an award by the Air National Guard as Employer o Guard Personal and the support they give not only them but their families when they are deployed. There will be a Council of Council Meeting January 30, 2013 at 7 public welcome to attend. Mike Brainard gave a report on the Police Advisory Meeting that was held in November. They discussed the impact the Oil Field Workers and Development have on Law Enforcement and the City. They were told about plans in the works to move Emergency Services from the Police Department up to Gore Hill. Also they are going to start a Voluntary Work Program which will mirror the Billings Program where a Coordinator is hired who will do the hiring, firing and management of the Volunteer Workers. It would take a big burden off the individual Officers.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Karen Grove was re-elected as Chair and City Commission Meeting Official Delegate. Robin Schreiner was elected as Police Advisory Board Member. We did not have a nomination for Secretary so will vote for that position at our February Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Community Police Officer Palmer gave the Council statics on items happening in our Neighborhood since October. We had 22 Abandoned Vehicle's, 3 Assaults, 7 DUI's, 6 Injury Accidents, 20 Warrant Arrests, and 22 Vandalisms. The issue around 24th Street and 8th Ave North seems to be under control no new calls. Some of the residents called the Police Department and thanked them for the great job they did in dealing with that issue. Mike asked some questions regarding the Landlord Tenant Act and felt it might be beneficial if the Police attended one of their meetings and went over the regulations again so they knew what the Police and do and what they can't do with certain issues.

Officer Gange with the Drug Task Force spoke to us. The Force is made up of Homeland Security, FBI, Sheriff's Office, Police Department, and DEA. They cover Choteau, Cascade, Teton, and Lewis and Clark Counties. They have found having a Unit made up of different Law Enforcement Agencies really can deal with small and big issues and use the different areas expertise. They have found they may uncover a drug problem in Great Falls that may lead them to even a bigger related problem in another County and they can follow through with each County. Meth, Marijuana, and Prescription Drugs seem to be the big problem in Great Falls. They have found that Cookers are using the "One Pot" method in Great Falls which is just as toxic as the old cooking style. They had one house in Great Falls where the "One Pot" method was used and now the house has been condemned and can't be inhabited. Need to know problem exists, how to recognize problem or questionable areas and report them to the Police Department. They will follow up on it right away. Not a lot of Gang activity in Great Falls biggest problem is the graffiti issue.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

No other petitions and communications from the public so motion was made to adjourn at 7:25 by Mike Brainard, Seconded by Robin Schreiner.

Next meeting will be February 21, 2013, 6pm at the Great Falls Pre-Release Center.

Submitted By Karen Grove, Acting Secretary.

