

**Neighborhood Council #1**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**March 12, 2013**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mike Flaherty, Jay Russell, Lynda Sowell, Bill Thomas

**Absent:** Fred Rauch

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Rob Lundberg, Roxanne Ochs, Marilyn Johnson, Patty Cadwell, Cory Loecker, Kqyn Kuka

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm by Acting Chair Lynda Sowell

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

*City Commission:* no report.

*Police Advisory Board:* no report.

*Council of Councils:* no report.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- Motion to approve the minutes of the February 12, 2013 meeting by Mike Flaherty, and second by Bill Thomas; unanimously approved as written.
  
- **Menacing Deer:** Roxanne Ochs inquired about neighbors feeding deer in the city at the January meeting. Cory Loecker biologist from FWP, and Kqyn Kuka, game warden from FWP came to discuss the problem, along with Officer Rob Lundgren from the City of Great Falls Police Dept.
  - The rivers serve as a corridor for wildlife to enter the city
  - A warden visited with the man in West Hill who has been feeding deer and gave him a warning; the food is now gone.
  - Ms. Kuka: Enforcement-first step is verbal warning, then the person is cited.
  - Police Dept/City need to be at the table for this discussion, since the deer are in the city limits and that is outside the jurisdiction of FWP
  - In some cities across the country the problem is much worse, and hunting in a subdivision is common.
  - Some towns bait the deer and harvest them with snipers. Need to decide a plan of action.
  - It's broad problem, and tough to tackle. In developing a plan, we need to figure out where the big populations are, and why.
  - Officer Lundgren: need statistical data to support it; reports from citizens
  - FWP has 5 game wardens who can help document this.
  - Would be a good idea to request the FWP Regional Supervisor start collecting data. For example, when a vehicle hits a deer and damage results, Hwy patrol gets the report.
  - Bill Thomas: we need to send a letter to the mayor outlining the problem and copy City Manager and FWP Regional Supervisor, County Commissioners and the sheriff. Should be a request for action, stating there is a concern and we need to know if it's a problem, and to begin gathering data
  - Patty Cadwell: the City Commission can have a work session on it
  - ***Motion by Bill Thomas to write a letter to the mayor stating our concern that the urban deer problem is increasing, and request that the city work with FWP in gathering data so that we know how widespread the problem is. Second by Mike Flaherty, passed unanimously.***

Contact Information:

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Great Falls Region 4 HQ: 454-5840  
Region 4 Supervisor: Gary Bertellotti

Region 4 Warden Sergeant: 788-5849, Steve Vinnedge  
Region 4 Information: Bruce Auchley

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Zoning request: Subdivide a lot south of Delea Drive – no one appeared to testify; no comments.

### **ADJOURN**

**Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:04 pm by Mike Flaherty, second by Bill Thomas; approved unanimously. Next meeting: April 9, 2013.**

*Respectfully submitted, Jay Russell, Neighborhood Council District 1 Secretary*