NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL #6 MEETING December 4, 2013, Sunnyside School Library

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Robin Baker, Bonnie Haman, Julie Parker, and Cherry Loney

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Carl Donovan

There were seven neighborhood residents in attendance.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Old Business: Minutes of the November 5, 2013, meeting were approved as written.

Committee Reports:

Police Advisory Board - No report.

City Commission – No report.

Patty Cadwell reminded those in attendance that swearing in of Council members is scheduled for December 17 at 5:30 p.m.

New Business: Little Free Libraries: Kathy Mora, Director of Great Falls Public Library, gave an overview of "Little Free Libraries," a new initiative to place receptacles for free book exchange in public parks. The Library hopes to place one in each Council area and has applied for a grant from Neighbor Works to assist with the cost of constructing the receptacles. Volunteers will build the containers and also check on books/receptacles weekly. Council members unanimously endorsed "Little Free Libraries" and placement of one in the #6 Council area. Julie Parker offered to be the volunteer steward in NC #6 area.

Community Garden: Sue O'Leary, RSVP, discussed the evolving Southside Garden planned for land just east of the Aging Services building near the PEAK. The land will be used to build a garden to provide fresh nutritious food for senior programs throughout the county. It will involve a large-scale raised bed garden complex and other amenities to enhance environmental health of the neighborhood. Sue and her group have also applied for a grant from Neighbor Works. Council members unanimously endorsed the Southside Garden as presented by Sue O'Leary.

Cary Annexation: Patty Cadwell provided information on the pending Cary Annexation at 321 21st Ave. So. Mr. Cary would like to build a home on the property. He has a well but will need to annex to the city for septic services. The Council unanimously endorsed annexation with the caveat that this is yet another example of irregular city/county boundaries resulting in land use issues and inconsistencies.

Neighborhood Concerns: Earl Salley, 1104 19th St. So. announced he is running for Legislative HD 23 as a Democrat and will be canvassing the neighborhood regarding his candidacy and to hear from residents.

Emma White, 1624 19th St. So., stated the individuals who moved into the residence at 17th Ave. So. between 19th and 20th Street have a large truck used for tree trimming and she is concerned they are running a business out of their house. Robin advised her home businesses are permissible as long as properly licensed and permitted by the City of Great Falls.

Patty Cadwell noted write-in votes have not yet been tallied so we do not yet know who the fifth Council member is.

The next regular meeting will be February 5 unless something comes up necessitating a January meeting.

Council members thanked Bonnie for her service and noted they would miss working with her.

The meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cherry Loney, Secretary