

## Minutes of Neighborhood Council #2 March 12,2013

1. Meeting convened @7:00 PM.

Quorum present: Chair Sue Ann Strickland, Vice Chair Kelly Manzer, Michael McCoy, Brittney Olson, and Shyla Patera

Motion to approve the minutes of the February 12, meeting were offered by Vice Chair Manzer and seconded by Mr. McCoy All voted in favor to accept with minor corrections to spelling.

Community Spotlight

Heather Rohlf City of Great Falls Code Enforcement

Ms Rolhf private property vehicles, abandoned homes, zoning enforcement, deals with graffiti and blight.

Complaint driven, complaints can be anonymous!

Why is it so difficult to enforce property Violation?

Absentee landlords

Often times there is no property manager

Bob Melhoff asked can we charge violators for non payment of taxes? It is often difficult because citations must be personally served. The are procedures to be followed-newspaper, must go before commission. can issue citations, certified letters, have to appear in court Discussion ensued about why code enforcement is difficult.

Enforcement is hampered because there is no abatement fund due to Electric city power settlement

No fee for inspections, Terry Youngworth for housing issues.

What was the source of the abatement fund Ms. Rohlf did not knish advised neighborhood members to call Craig Raymond .

Questions were asked about the 6-8 active gangs

What should we as Neighborhoods look for?

Great Falls is part of the pipeline to the Bakken so gangs from Southern California can access!

Ms Rohlf reminded us that we as homeowners have 72 hours to cover and or clean up graffiti. This is because gang activity could spread.

Meth issues and properties were discussed. The Department of Environmental Quality has resources for meth cleanup.

Sheila Rice Neighborworks

Ms. Rice highlighted the Neighborworks fund drive and the organization's good work. Ms Rice mentioned the MAPRIL cleanup which will take place on April 29 –30 and May 3-4 2014.

She also mentioned the work of the High School and MSU college housing builders through Neighborworks as well as the Cascade Leadership Academy.

She mentioned statistics from her Neighborworks newsletters. Questions from Neighbors included

Sump pumps built with every Neighboworks home yes How many visitable homes built? 20% Of the 1500 original homes financed this year.07 % have had mortgage issues.

Discussion happened about a Neighborworks house being a rental.

Neighborhood concerns:

Brittany Olson Alley lighting on 12th and 13th and 4th Ave NW

She was advised to call Northwestern Energy.

Bob Melhoff brought up snow removal on Central

West. Discussion about having a community meeting ensued as winter moves forward. He also talked about Governor Bullock's \$ 325,000 award to Great Falls College MSU's welding program. Transfer of credits between university institutions was also discussed. Mr. Melhoff hopes that the legislature will study the centralization of computer system

Sue gave an update on City of Great Falls V. Fleming.

Went before the board of Adjustments

Mike Witsoe of Citizens for Clean Energy discussed his concerns about Calumet Refinery. It was agreed that a representative of Calumet would be invited to April's meeting.

Chair Strickland gave The Council of Councils report where the local government study vote was discussed.

Rhodes Park was approved to be a little free library.

Neighbors asked when the trees in West Kiwanis Park would be planted.

Ms. Cadwell will contact the city Forrester.

Holman building update- Keeping it on the radar Meetings with Commissioners Fred Burrow and Bob Jones have taken place.

Sandy gave an update on West Bank Levee.

A community meeting will take place on 3-27-14@ Knights of Columbus

Reminders about flood insurance

Meeting adjourned at 9:00PM.

Next Meeting April 9, 2014 West Elementary School 7PM Community Guests Kristal Kuhn  
Emergency Planner City of Great Falls Community Emergency Response Team and Calumet

Respectfully Submitted,  
Shyla Patera Secretary