

Minutes of 10/08/14 Neighborhood Council #2

Pledge Of Allegiance

Call To Order: 7:00 PM

Present: Chair Sue Ann Strickland, Secretary Shyla Patera, Brittany Olson, Michael McCoy.

Not Present: Vice Chair Kelly Manzer. Quorum established.

Community Police Officer Justin Stevens: Officer Stevens spoke about community policing. He spoke about activities in the summer of 2014. Thefts and traffic were high priorities for the Westside. Abandoned vehicles and suspicious calls are also a concern.

Neighborhood Questions: What is the definition of a drug related incident? A drug related incident is a drug arrest or traffic stop where drugs are involved. If drugs are found at a traffic stop, that stop could be classified as both a traffic stop and a drug related stop.

Officer Stevens described how GFPD and the Russell County Task force are interlinked.

Sandy Mares and neighbors asked about the Twitter incidents at GFHS. Officer Stevens spoke about the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force and cyber bullying. Facebook and social media present challenges, but GFPD is using Facebook and social media to catch criminals. Issues of entrapment were discussed. Officer Stevens recommended that foreign money scams report and work with ICE. Do not cash or answer phishing calls. Sandy asked about legislative activities around this issue. Officer Stevens asked about animal control issues. There are not enough ACO's responding particularly to Kirk's concerns.

DUI cases are down.

Holman Building update and discussion: Mr. McCoy stated there is not much new. Patty Caldwell explained public nuisance ordinances. Discussions ensued about letters and petitions regarding the Holman Building. Ms. Olson expressed concerns about demolition vs. restoration. Mr. McCoy believes that Holman Building is an eyesore. Mr. McCoy made a motion to test the waters on public nuisance. Chair Strickland seconded. Mr. McCoy will draft a letter to Planning and Community Development about Neighborhood Council #2's position about the Holman Building. Motion passed unanimously.

Candidate Forum:

Norman Anderson (Democrat for County Commission): Mr. Anderson described his experiences as an educator at Great Falls High School. He spoke about the Sheriff's office, Public Works and ExpoPark. Mr. Anderson emphasizes bipartisanship and good government as his philosophy and hopes to bring that belief with him to the commission.

Sandy asked about changing the form of government. Mr. Anderson's philosophy is "if government is not broken, do not fix it." Infrastructure will be future priorities for Cascade County in his viewpoint.

Ed Buttrey (Republican Senate District): Mr. Buttrey described his business history. He described his passion and courage to govern. He passed 14 bills last session. He takes pride in bills passed which worked on strengthening unemployment law policies and procedures and promoted economic development. He passed the interstate compact on military education which benefits military families because education and graduation standards will be more uniform for military families and Montana educators who trying to ensure that Montana students are graduating on time and with their class. Military certification and training are important. Military service can be seen as an asset when a service member or veteran attempts to obtain certification in civilian life.

Senator Buttrey spoke of his sponsorship of a bill where insurance must now pay for telemedicine services. Mr. Buttrey is regarded as the veteran's expert by his fellow legislators. He votes based upon what the district needs and desires. Senator Buttrey was asked about and does not support Medicaid expansion in its current form. He believes Montana must pursue a Montana solution for healthcare. Property taxes and infrastructure will be issues in the next session in his view.

Mary Jolley (Nonpartisan Justice of The Peace): Mary Jolley described her day as DUI cases as well as civil cases. Particular landlord tenant law are handled in her court. She said order of protection cases are of special concern in her court. She was asked about Justice school and training. Discussion ensued about jurisdiction between city and county ordinances. County Sheriff will not enforce GF City ordinances because of jurisdictional issues.

Neighborhood Concerns were previously discussed.

Approval of September meeting minutes. Secretary Patera motioned to approve and Mr. McCoy seconded. Minutes were approved unanimously.

Mr. McCoy reported on Police Advisory Board. Officer Tim Shanks spoke on abandoned vehicles and nuisance dogs. Fireworks ordinances on sales between Cascade County and City of Great Falls were also discussed.

No West Bank Levee update.

Council of Councils is October 28, 2014 at 7:00 PM: Mr. McCoy wants the Holman Building issue to be brought before the Council of Councils if there is an agenda and meeting items to discuss.

Motion made by Brittany Olson to adjourn. Chair Strickland seconded.

Next Meeting: November 12, 2014, 7 PM at West Elementary.

Respectfully Submitted,
Shyla Patera