

Neighborhood Council 7

December 8, 2014

Civic Center – Gibson Room, 7pm

Council Members in attendance were Tracy Houck, Jim Super and Trevor Mikkelsen. Patty Cadwell Neighborhood Council Coordinator was present as well.

7:09 p.m. Chair Tracy Houck called the meeting to order and led the council in the pledge of allegiance.

Old Business:

Minutes of October 13 meeting were moved to be adopted by Jim, seconded by Trevor, carried unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Police Advisory Board: Attended by Jim Super on November 20, 2014. Chief was concerned with officers suffering from PTSD and the lack of coverage from the State Fund for worker's compensation. The Chief will offer input to the upcoming state legislature about this issue.

Downtown Business Improvement District: Attended by Tracy, who reported about the review of the past years successes for the BID.

Council of Councils: Attended by Trevor who reported of NC3 concerns with resident group homes and their residents. Patty will forward Council of Council's minutes for further report from other councils.

New Business:

Other business:

Rezoning request:

Gerret Norman of the City Planning Department presented a rezoning request for the North half of the block bounded by 4th and 5th Streets and 2nd and 3rd Avenue South. The proposal is to change the zoning from C5 to C4. C4 is central business core and C5 is central business periphery. There are two buildings on this block. The remainder of the block is vacant. The two buildings do not conform to C5 zoning as they do not have the required setbacks. Lee Nellis of the Planning Department explained that the rezoning that occurred in 2005 put many properties into non compliance and the Planning Department is attempting to address these issues. The planning department offered this information to seek input from NC7 prior to the Planning Department meeting that will discuss this request on Tuesday December 9. A motion to support this rezoning request was made by Trevor, seconded by Tracy. The motion was not passed by a vote of the council.

Tracy reported that the Great Falls Development Authority is seeking support for a grant application for Brownfields grants for environmental assessments on downtown properties. Currently the GFDA has grant money in place for remediation of affected properties but does not have any grant money in place to perform assessments of those properties to determine amount of remediation grant money to be applied to any specific property. Brownfields grants have been used to perform soil clean up of the former gas station property on 9th and Central where True Brew coffee is now located and for asbestos abatement in the former GF Clinic building currently occupied by Easter Seals Goodwill on 1st Ave N. GFDA is seeking the assessment grant for 12 properties in phase 1 and 8 properties in phase 2. Property owners will volunteer to have their properties assessed. A motion in support of this grant application was moved by Jim, seconded by Trevor and carried on a vote of the council.

Neighborhood Council 7 Vacancies:

Lisa Meyers expressed interest in joining the council. Lisa works at the prerelease center. A motion to appoint Lisa to NC7 was made by Trevor, seconded by Jim and carried on a vote of the council.

Donna Hartelius also expressed interest in joining the council. Donna has been a member of NC7 in the past. A motion to appoint Donna to NC 7 was made by Jim, seconded by Trevor and carried.

Lisa and Donna must appear before the City Commissioners at a public meeting to be sworn in prior to serving on NC7. The next meeting of the City Commissioners is Tuesday December 16 at 7:00PM.

Patty also reminded us that neighborhood council (and any other public servant) training is available this Wednesday December 10 at 6:00PM in the Missouri Room at the Civic Center.

Neighborhood Concerns: None presented.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM, moved by Trevor, seconded by Jim.

January Agenda:

Election of officers for NC7.