

## Neighborhood Council 7

February 9, 2015

Civic Center – Gibson Room, 7pm

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

7:02 p.m. Chair Tracy Houck called the meeting to order and led the council in the pledge of allegiance.

### Old Business:

Minutes of January meeting were not presented at this time.

### Committee Reports:

Council of Councils: Attended by Lisa who reported on Holman building being an eye sore. Lisa relayed Greg Doyon's report on the resurgence of the City General Fund level. Discussion of new development in Riverview and impact on traffic was also discussed.

### Tourism Assessment:

Tracy attended a workshop to consider an application from our region to be a national heritage area. A presentation was made by a representation from Yuma Arizona. Areas of National Historic significance were examined by a national consultant from Helena. Further discussion of her findings will be presented at the Holiday Inn on Tuesday @ 11:00AM and UGF on Wednesday @ 8:30AM.

### New Business:

Sheila Rice gave a presentation on Downtown Great Falls. Downtown Great Falls has 3 historic districts. City of Great Falls has led the way with most important developments and innovations. New development for downtown such as the Celtic Cowboy, Mighty Mo Brewery, Just Bounce and several others. The BID expansion is underway. There were 188 new full time employees and 44 part time employees were added from Oct 2013 to Dec 2014. Downtown investment exceeded \$5,000,000 for 2014. Including the Arvon Block and Margaret Building. Downtown has several unique independent stores including Dragonfly, Kaufmans, Amazing Toys and Hoglunds. Amazing Architecture is evident throughout downtown. There are over 30 restaurants in Downtown Great Falls. Several events bring people downtown. Public Art and Urban Art project are ongoing. Volunteers accounted for 27000 hours in 2014 through various programs. Downtown Chicks are a very active group that actively promote downtown. The next game changer is the development of the Rocky Mountain Building. This 12.8 million dollar project will be funded by tax credits and other innovative methods.

Other business:

Election dates: First day to file is May 4, 2015. Last day to file is July 2, 2015.

Neighborhood Concerns: None presented.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM, moved by Trevor, seconded by Jim.

March Agenda:

Rescue Mission will present on their plans for the future and their upcoming building development.