

# Neighborhood Council 4 Minutes

Thursday, February 26, 2015 at 6:30 PM

Heritage Baptist Church – 900 52<sup>nd</sup> Street North

## Call to Order

**The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM**

**Council Members Present:** Sandra Guynn, Harold Wheeler and Dan Payne

**Council Members Absent:** Judy Tankink

**City Employees:** Patty Cadwell – Neighborhood Council Coordinator and Joe Petrella – Park and Recreation Director

**Members of the Public:** Carl Gocksch and Curtis Finnicum

## New Business

### Council Vacancy – Appointment

Aaron Pursell resigned from the Neighborhood Council, because he moved out of the council area. Curtis Finnicum expressed interest in the vacancy but would have to get clearance from his employer.

### Parks and Recreation – Joe Petrella

Joe Petrella introduced himself as the new Parks and Recreation manager. He addressed the need to create a new master plan taking into consideration recent budget cuts, efforts to recover costs, creative ways of staying within the budget, sustainability and ways of getting feedback from the community. He stated that the Park and Recreation Department would be better in communications with the public with a “very open door policy.” He explained his philosophy towards neighborhood parks and towards public funding.

## Petitions and Communications

### 38<sup>th</sup> Street North

Carl Gocksch brought up the “abysmal” condition of 38<sup>th</sup> Street North between 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue North and 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue North.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue North and 37<sup>th</sup> Street

Curtis Finnicum brought up the high amount of accidents at the intersection of 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue North and 38<sup>th</sup> Street North, including a deadly crash which happened a couple of years ago.

### Ella Drive and 46<sup>th</sup> Street South

Carl Gocksch had some concerns about the stop sign at Ella Avenue and 46<sup>th</sup> Street South.

### Snow Removal

Carl Gocksch brought up the lack of snow removal at the intersection of 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, Ella Drive and Doris Drive, saying that he and his neighbor had to help countless motorists who managed to get their vehicles stuck at that intersection.

## Other Business

### 2015 Elections

Sandra reminded the Neighborhood Council members of the dates to register for the 2015 Municipal Election.

## Committee Reports

### Council of Councils

Sandra attended the January 27<sup>th</sup> Council of Councils meeting. The Holman Building was discussed as well as the city's fiscal health and TIF (Tax Increment Financing) Districts. Additionally, Joe Petrella, the new Park and Recreation manager, introduced himself. Sandra also commended the recent Open Meeting Seminar which was held by the MSU Local Government Center, which may face elimination in this legislative session.

### City Work Session – February 17, 2015

Sandra attended the Work Session on February 17, 2015. The East Side Retail Development was the main topic of discussion. Drainage from this area should not affect the drainage issues which continue to be a problem in the Gibson Flats area. -Greg Doyon brought up the possible encroachment with the closed runway at Malmstrom AFB.

### Planning Advisory Board Meeting

Sandra attended the Planning Advisory Board (PAB) meeting on Tuesday, February 24, 2015.

- The PAB recommended that the city commission approve the conditional use permit for Helena Chemical, Inc.'s facility at the Agri Tech Park with one dissenting vote, due to possible environmental issues.
- **EAST SIDE DEVELOPMENT:** A board member wondered if the increase in traffic will affect the intersection at 38<sup>th</sup> Street and 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue South. It was noted that the traffic impact studies have not come back. The developer clarified that traffic may increase up to 7600 trips per day (which would be approximately 3800 vehicles per day). The PAB unanimously recommended the approval of the amended plat and the conditional use permit.

## Old Business

### Minutes

The January 2015 minutes were approved as amended.

### East End Development – Joint Meeting

Sandra and Eric Ray (Neighborhood 5) will work with the Great Falls Development authority to schedule a community meeting with Neighborhood Councils 4 and 5 tentatively for April.

### Little Free Library

Harold reported that the Little Free Library was doing just fine.

## Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Thursday, March 26, 2015 at 6:30 PM at Heritage Baptist Church, 900 52<sup>nd</sup> Street North.

## Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 PM.

*Respectfully submitted by Dan Payne – Neighborhood Council 4 Secretary*