

Minutes Neighborhood Council 3 (NC3)
Thursday, January 7, 2016
Riverview Elementary School - Music Room

Call to Order: Kathleen Gessamen, Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Council Members Present: Cyndi Baker, Jana Cooper, Terry Thompson

Council Member Absent: Andrea Dean

Election of Officers: Kathleen G. asked for Chair nominations and proceeded to nominate Cyndi B., Jana C. nominated Terry T. A vote was called with 2 votes for Cyndi and 2 votes for Terry. Andrea D. was not available via phone to vote to break the tie. Cyndi conceded the vote to Terry stating she would accept the Vice Chair position. Terry took over the meeting as chair and called for nominations for Vice Chair. Kathleen G. nominated Cyndi B. who was elected by unanimous vote. Nominations for secretary were called. Jana C. nominated Andrea D. who was elected by unanimous vote. A discussion was held as to Andrea having the opportunity to decline at the next meeting. Additional discussions took place about sharing the secretary duties as had been done the previous two years. Nominations for official delegate were called. Cyndi B. nominated Kathleen G. who was elected by unanimous vote. A new position for the Police Advisory Board was opened for nominations. Cyndi B. was elected by unanimous vote.

Review of Bylaws: Kathleen G. had reviewed and prepared recommended changes to the bylaws. (New language is underlined.) Kathleen G. sent an email to Sara Sexe, City Attorney after the meeting to clarify if the secretary position could be rotated amongst the members. Pending her response and Andrea D.'s decision this may or may not be added.

Section 5 - Officers and Duties

Chair: *The Chair shall conduct meetings and generally oversee the business of the Council. The Chair, or his/her designee, shall be the designated representative to the Great Falls Citizen's Council - Council of Councils. The Chair shall be the designated Council representative to the Neighborhood Council Liaison/Coordinator.*

Official Delegate: *The Official Delegate (which shall be defined to include his or her designee) shall represent the Council at all official functions as deemed necessary by the Council. The Official Delegate will normally be the Council's representative at all City Commission meetings, providing reports on neighborhood activities and needs to the Commission; in the absence of the Official Delegate, the Chair of NC3 may represent the Council at the meeting. The Official Delegate may choose to share duties with other Council members on a temporary or annual basis. The Official Delegate or his or her designee may also represent the Council at other meetings such as City Boards/Commissions, School Board, County Commission, Transit Board, Police Advisory Board, and any other such entities that might be meeting on issues concerning the neighborhood. The Official Delegate or designee may not commit the Council to any action without first getting approval from the Council.*

Secretary: *The Secretary shall maintain all written records as required by the bylaws, and produce all written communication as directed by the Council membership. If no Council member agrees to be Secretary, the position shall be rotated monthly among all of the Council members.*

Unfinished Business

Minutes of the November 5 meeting were approved as presented.

Committee Reports:

Council of Councils - Holman Building Petition: Council 2 has a petition for citizens to sign requesting the City to utilize the nuisance ordinance to persuade the owner to make improvements to the property.

City Commission - Kathleen G. reported on the commission meeting which covered parking, public safety, grants and infrastructure of the Civic Center. Public comments were taken at the beginning of the meeting and introductions of City Staff were made.

Planning Board - no report

School Board - the council will add this to all future agendas. Cyndi B. reported that North Kiwanis Park was suggested as a new location for Roosevelt Elementary. There is large opposition building against the park location. Cyndi volunteered to make all future reports regarding the school board.

Communication with residents - None

Calumet Expansion - Hadley reported an increase in parking available, the heavy construction has been completed, they are in the commissioning phase to wrap things up. Hydrogen plant is next. Flare starting as early as next Friday as part of set-up. Second event is to pressurize the cracker system. Dependent on other test completions. They will provide additional information to the public. A member of the public remarked how a Calumet employee had crossed the street in dark clothes just that evening. Safety concerns voiced about employees not using the crosswalks.

New Business

Crosswalk at Skyline Park & 36th Ave NE: Jerry McKinlay asked for specific information regarding the request of a crosswalk. Some of the issues he stated were no sidewalks currently around the Park and no ADA access. Also, residents on the north side of 36th will lose some parking due to setbacks. Jerry stated he would be willing to conduct a study when school was out which would consist of video-taping the area for one week as to identify the high traffic zones to support a crosswalk. Discussion was held about a 4-way stop with crosswalks at 36th Ave NE and 2nd Street NE. Additional discussion included placing a crosswalk at 36th and 7th Street NE for the school bus stop there. The children living in Countryside Village for example, have no crosswalk to safely use when getting on or off the bus.

Community Policing: Officer Justin Stevens provided a report on the total incidents in NC3 for the last quarter.

Great Falls Development Authority update: Brett Doney provided a list of completed and upcoming development projects in Great Falls. He talked about the various programs and loans available as well as links to additional information. There is a monthly meeting for start-up entrepreneurs called Launch Pad. Brett puts out a weekly newsletter called Top 10. Contact him to be placed on the distribution list.

Petitions and Communications

Neighborhood Concerns: Cyndi B. addressed Mayor Kelly regarding the Tracy Houck issue.

Other Business

Required Board/Commission/Council Training - January 11, 2016 at 3:30 pm, Missouri Room at the Civic Center

Council of Councils meeting - Tuesday, January 26, 2016 (Terry will attend)

Park & Rec Master Plan Town Hall Meeting, January 20 at 3:00 and 7:00 pm open to the public. Jana C. is involved with the focus groups and will be presenting at all neighborhood councils.

Brad Livingston, new CEO and President of the Chamber was introduced.

Tape recorded meetings - Terry T. asked Patty Cadwell for clarification on tape recording the council meetings. Neighbors may tape record for themselves, but if the council tape records, an official copy must be provided to the Council Liaison. Terry T. stated she prefer council meetings not be recorded.

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 pm

Next meeting February 4, 2016

Respectfully submitted by Terry Thompson, Chair