

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL #8 MINUTES—February 18, 2016

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Chairman Karen Grove as we joined in the pledge to the flag. All Council members were in attendance: Karen Grove, Barbara Going, Robin Schreiner, Mike Brainard, and Bill Boland. Also in attendance were: Patty Cadwell, Corky Grove, Donovan Neujahr, Riho Koyama (a foreign exchange student), Lisa Meycis, Keith Nelson, Adrienne Ehrke and two high school students.

MSC: To approve the January 2016 minutes.

Council Bylaws were approved and signed by all five members. No changes had been made to the previous bylaws and the signatures make these bylaws official.

Committee Reports:

Karen reported on the Council of Councils meeting. Several building issues were mentioned by various councils and the concept of revitalizing Neighborhood Watch was discussed. Interest was expressed in getting this reestablished. Council #5 does have the program in place. NC #8 member Bill Boland also attended this meeting.

As NC #8 official delegate, Bill Boland also attended the recent city commission meeting. One item discussed was the Property Maintenance code violation by land lords.

New Business:

At the suggestion of the Council of Councils, Adrienne Ehrke, coordinator of the GFPD Volunteer Program was invited to inform us about the program. She will make the presentation to all the Neighborhood Councils.

The Volunteer program has been operating since 2013 and she has been the coordinator since April 2015. Currently there are thirty two active volunteers. She stated that volunteers do many tasks that free up time for the police officers to concentrate on responsibilities in the public sector. Lisa Meycis, a volunteer with the designation of “a most diverse volunteer”, was at the meeting to share some of the tasks she does for the department.

Volunteers are trained through the Citizen's Academy. The 17th Academy will be held from March 16 through April 25, ten weeks with one Saturday session. The participants learn about every aspect of the work done by the police. Some people attend the class for knowledge, others to become a volunteer and for others it opens their eyes to a career. There are ten openings remaining in the next class of thirty five participants.

Other Business:

Mayor Bob Kelly has set aside twenty minutes at the work session (5:30 pm) prior to the city commission meeting for a representative from each Neighborhood Council to talk about issues or ideas from their neighborhoods. Each council was given a designated date between March 1 and June 31. NC#8 date is April 5.

New to our meeting was Keith Nelson representing Neighbor Works. This group thought it would be a good idea to have a representative at NC meetings.

Next meeting: March 17, 2016.

MSC to adjourn at 7:10 pm

Barbara Going, secretary