

Minutes Neighborhood Council 3 (NC3)

March 5th 2026, 6:30 p.m.

Riverview Elementary School - Music Room

CALL TO ORDER: at 6:30 p.m. by Eric Peterson.

Pledge of Allegiance and quorum established.

Council members present: Kathleen Gessaman, Emily Bertsch, Brad Riehl, Garri Mauch, Eric Peterson

OLD BUSINESS

- **Minutes from the December 4, 2025, meeting:** Kathleen Gessaman made a motion to approve December 4 minutes, and Emily Bertsch seconded the motion. Kathleen Gessaman made a motion to approve February 6 minutes, and Brad Riehl seconded the motion.
- **Calumet Updates:** Calumet will have a maintenance turnaround in March-April, Eric Peterson read the press release about the planned maintenance and alarm testing.
- **Vision and Goal Setting:** Vision and goal setting will be held for a future meeting.
- **Committee Reports:** Council of Councils was held and each council was represented. Eric Peterson reviewed things that were discussed at Council of Councils.
- **NC3 Facebook Page Update:** Eric Peterson provided the NC3 Facebook page update for the month of February. We have an increase of 39 followers since the last meeting. There have been 9 posts made and we had 22,612 post views, 75 reactions, 6 comments and 14 shares. The meeting notice received the most interaction, which reached 4,726 views.
- **NC3 Crimemapping Report:** During the past 28 days there were 12 theft/larceny reports, 2 motor vehicle thefts, 1 drug/alcohol violation, 3 burglary reports, 2 vandalism reports, 10 disturbing the peace reports, 0 fraud reports, 4 assault reports, and 2 DUI reports.
- **Fundraising for NC3:** NC3 is fundraising for pavilions for Skyline park and Valley View park.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Great Falls Food Bank:** Shaun is the executive director with Great Falls Food Bank which was started in 1985 by Nancy and Dale Forbes. The food bank is a support for many agencies in Great Falls. Over 11,000 people in the area have food insecurity and of those 2500 are children. The food bank is stocked by the communities generosity, 20% of the donations are from local retailers, 40% comes from the community and 45% is purchased by the Food Bank. Great Falls Public Schools has food pantries in the schools as well as a “back packs for kids” program which is supported by the GFPS foundation and the Great Falls Food Bank. Shout out to Calumet, Sletten, M&D Construction, and DA Davidson for the large Cat Griz food drive this past fall. An upcoming fundraiser for the Food Bank will be at the Home and Garden Show in the lobby of the Expo Park, which is Sunday March 29th. If you are looking for ways to help please make note of the Postal Carrier Food Drive, which is May 9th. Please check out the food bank’s website, and Facebook page.

- **Little Shell Good Medicine Housing/Casino:** Garri Mauch made a motion to approve the housing project on the stipulation that the city would do a traffic study and a study of utilities and Aaron Krischel seconded. Since this meeting there has been some confusion regarding the decision of the council and after some incite from the city, we can repeal or amend this motion. If this changes it will be put on the agenda for April for a vote. Eric Peterson motioned to repeal the motion and amend it to the following: when considering the approval of a major development in the district, the council requests the city to conduct studies on street traffic to existing neighborhoods and determine if utilities can supply the neighborhoods and the new demand of any major development in the district.

OTHER BUSINESS

Petitions and Communications

- **Neighborhood Concerns:** Donny Gerhart commented on the February meeting. He formed a committee regarding the impact of the Little Shell development on Valley View. They have had two meetings and 22 people attended on 2/16/2026. They discussed Valley View school and did research on the impact on utilities. The second meeting on 3/2/2026 there were 35 people that attended. The next meeting is scheduled for April 9th at the Amigo Lounge at 6pm in the basement. The planning board will meet regarding the development on April 14th. The next commission meeting will be on June 6th.

Donny Gerhart also mentioned the stands for pet waste bags near the park in Valley View. Eric Peterson will reach out to the Park and rec department to see if that is something they can do. Eric also mentioned the pavilions that NC3 is trying to raise

funds for and showed some photos. Brad Riehl mentioned the pavilions look like the ones in Jaycee Park.

Another resident commented on people parking on the wrong side of the street and the dangers of facing the wrong direction and pulling back into the street.

Agenda suggestions: Heather Rohlf with code enforcement.

AJOURN

Brad Riehl made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kathleen Gessaman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned by Eric Peterson.

The next regular NC3 meeting will be held on Thursday, April 2, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Emily Bertsch, secretary.

