

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SOUTH
END NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL HELD AT FIRE STATION 8, 4911 SOUTH
ALASKA STREET, SUITE B, TACOMA, WA ON JANUARY 25, 2010 AT 7:15PM.

PRESENT:

Earl Brydson, in the Chair
Cary Nilson
Kathryn Stein
Benjamin Cordy
Tony Caldwell
Esther Day

EXCUSED:

John Pellessier
Fred Brookshire
Jim Borah
Gia Casto
Bill Tamarro

IN ATTENDANCE:

Don Williams, Tacoma Police Department
Elton Gatewood, Neighborhoods Administrator
Deputy Chief Jolene Davis, TFD
Capt Brian Hardy, TFD
Shane Pettit, Liaison, City Manager's Office, City of Tacoma

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:15pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

No approval of the minutes for November as they had experienced technical difficulties.
Minutes will be produced from notes taken and presented at a later date for approval.

LIAISON REPORTS:

Tacoma Fire Department:

The Fire Department's representative provided a report on the number of calls they had received for the years 2008 and 2009 which were a total of 690 more calls in 2009.
2008- 37, 884 calls 2009 – 38,534 calls

Information paperwork was distributed to the attendees on:

Earthquake preparedness
Fire Safety check list – smoke alarm

After their report, the board thanked them for attending.

Tacoma Police Department:

Officer Williams provided a quick report on Sectors 3 and 4 crime and incident activity.
Officer Williams also reported that the new police station at Stewart Heights park

would be opening on February 25. After he completed his report, the board thanked him for attending and reporting.

Metro Park Liaison: No report

City Manager Liaison:

Shane Pettit reported that the council will have a study session in Rm 16 to review the budget. He also reported on the two new members to the council and indicated that information on the two will be on the city's web site. After discussion, his report was accepted and he was thanked for attending.

Safe Streets:

No report

GUEST SPEAKERS:

INNOVATIVE GRANTS PROCESSING:

Elton Gatewood reported on how Innovative Grants are processed for payment. Once the innovative grant is approved by the City Council, the grant project must be completed in two years or started within that period. No funds are provided to contractors to do the work. In some cases, when the work is phased in, the contractor can submit an invoice for work completed to a certain point and be paid for that phase. Grant recipients may not receive funding in advance of work being completed. Payment checks may be sent to the neighborhood council for verification that the work is done prior to payment. Under no circumstances is payment to be made before the work is completed.

Mr. Gatewood provided the new Innovative Grants for distribution to the community. After discussion, the board thanked him for making his presentation.

NEW STREET LIGHTS – SOUTH M BETWEEN 34-38TH STREETS:

Steve Davis from the City of Tacoma's Public Works department reported on the lighting program that will be commencing soon. The lights will be replaced on South M between 34th and 38th street with standard lights and poles. Mr. Davis advised that they would gladly add better light fixtures but the cost would have to be borne by the citizens. After discussion his report was accepted and the board thanked him for presenting.

ALASKA AVENUE STREET IMPROVEMENTS:

Kim Scattarella and Dan Seabrands from the City's Public Works Department reported that they are looking to improve Alaska Avenue from 56th to 72nd Streets. The transportation improvements would be between \$6-6.5 million dollars and would include sidewalks and other streetscapes. They indicated that bike lanes would be installed on both sides of Alaska.

In response to a question from board member Day, Mr. Scattarella reported that no vehicles could park and obstruct bike lanes once they are installed.

Ms. Day pointed out that the homes across from Wapato Lake did not have alleys and by placing bike lanes in front of homes, they were actually taking away from those property owners by restricting access to their homes by visitors in cars. It was, in her opinion, a “taking” from property owners. Ms. Day suggested that they consider removing the grassy areas between the street and sidewalk and creating parking spots in front of homes for people to park, then the bike lanes would not be a problem.

Mr. Scattarella and Mr. Seabrands indicated that they would take our comments into consideration. The grant that they are hoping to get to do this work on Alaska requires these bike lanes to enable the city to get the grants. Mr. Scattarella and Mr. Seabrands indicated that the plans they submitted are very preliminary and once they have better plans, they will come back and also ask for public comment.

After discussion, the board thanked them for bringing this information forward.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned.

Chair

Date