

South End Neighborhood Council  
September 19, 2011  
Board Meeting Minutes

Present: Earl Brydson, Chair; Cary Nilson; Brian Kilen; Tony Caldwell; William King; Katherine Sutalo, acting secretary.

Elton Gatewood announced that on September 13, all of SENCo's Innovative Grant recommendations were approved by the City. SENCo should notify the awardees that they may begin their projects. Dr. Gatewood also passed out a flyer announcing Sustainable Tacoma grants.

The minutes of the August board meeting were passed with the correction that the City Manager's Office liaison is Katie Hampton, not Hanson.

Fire Chief Stephens announced that September is Emergency Preparedness Month. Citizens can find useful information on the subject at 'ready.gov'. The Fire Department continues to offer Citizens Emergency Response Training. A useful project is to map your neighborhood, noting those neighbors who would need help shutting off their utilities (or other assistance) after a disaster. Chief Stephens also passed out Fire Escape and CPR Sunday information.

Police Community Liaison Officer Don Williams passed out the monthly crime statistics for Sectors 3 and 4. Auto theft is up in Sector 4, but most crimes are down. Officer Williams reminded everyone to report all crimes, even if the police will not be able to catch the perpetrator: reporting allows the police to see and respond to patterns of crime.

There were no liaisons present from Metro Parks, Tacoma Public Utilities, or the Tacoma Public Schools.

Chelsea Levy, representing one of the City's Safe, Clean and Attractive program teams, reported on a pilot program in the East Side and West End neighborhoods. This program will help neighbors educate their neighbors about nuisance codes and violations; they hope this will reduce nuisances without increasing the number of people who are formally charged by the City with violating codes.

Claudia Cornish, Communications representative from the Washington State Department of Transportation, gave a presentation about the ongoing and upcoming work on I-5 and Highway 16 through Tacoma. The projects will primarily construct more HOV lanes on both highways; the final project will link the HOV lanes on Hy 16 directly into the ones on I-5.

The east-bound Nalley Valley project will begin this fall and take about 2-1/2 years. After that will come a new Puyallup River bridge, then the M Street to Portland Avenue section of I-5, which will require removing and replacing the overpasses at Pacific, McKinley and East L Streets. Either the McKinley or the Pacific Avenue overpass will

always be usable during the project. Some preparation work for this project is being done now because partial funds were available. The final project, direct access between HOV lanes on Highway 16 and I-5, will take place between 2020 and 2023.

The upcoming eastbound Hy 16 project will require 2 extended closures of the highway: one early in the project will shut down northbound Exit 133 for 90 days; the second will come about one year later, closing the southbound exit at 38<sup>th</sup> Street. All projects will cause frequent closures at night.

Tanya Taylor from the Whitman Elementary School PTA invited neighbors to their meetings on second Tuesdays at 6:30 pm in the library. The next district-wide meeting will be on October 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 in the Central School Building.

The SENCo board elected William King as the new Corresponding Secretary, and Katherine Sutalo as the Recording Secretary.

SEnCo Chair Earl Brydson reminded all present that there is currently one opening on the SENCo board, and 3 board members' terms expire this November; anyone wishing to apply for these positions can contact Katherine Sutalo or any board member.

There is a new e-mail list for those who want to get meeting announcements and agendas sent to them automatically.

The October executive board meeting is canceled unless something comes up.

Minutes submitted by Katherine Sutalo, October 17, 2011.