

## South End Neighborhood Council Minutes – May 19, 2014

Attending: Earl Brydson, Cary Nilson, Tony Caldwell, Brian Kilen, William King, Kristin King, Justin Van Dyk

Bill Ferrell – excused absence

Janis Clark, Shannel Ball, and John Pellessier not attending

### Fire Department Liaison

- Passed out information on smoke detectors. Have a grant and crews out installing smoke detectors for owner-occupied homes. Recommend collecting contact information in the event of a local emergency.
- National Arson Awareness Week – trim hedges around house, keep gas cans hidden, exterior LEDs to light porches, burglar and fire alarms
- YTD totals, up a little across the board on Fires
- Update on the reader-board: there is a problem with the sign, one side is dead and it won't take the commands from where they program it. Looking into getting the sign fixed.
- Fire Dept works with Red Cross in the event that housing, clothing, etc is needed.

### Metro Parks Liaison:

- Passing out survey to see usage. Extended thanks for support for the bond measure.
- New program out at Meadow Park: foot golf. More foot-golfers than regular golfers at that park.
- Sarah Spray Ground behind the STAR Center, JUNE 1 grand opening.
- June 1 – also Farmers Market at STAR Center parking lot
- Event Calendar for June:
- tiptoe through the tidepool – nature centure
- canine coutoure
- half price dad's day on Fathers Day at the zoo
- mater gardener clinics through June and July

### City Manager Representative

- May is Puget Sound Starts Here month. Register for activities/events.
- Family Fun Day was May 10
- May is also Bike Month – Bike to a Better Tacoma event on May 21, Hubb event center at 6pm – vision/plan for more bikeable Tacoma
- Charter review committee submitted recommendations to City Council, which were accepted. Now up to council what if anything goes to the voters. Tomorrow, committee of the whole to meet. By august need to know what goes on November Ballot
- City strategic plan and visioning process. Working with a consultant to develop. Community engagement events throughout summer. Outreach at the fairs and festivals.
- Budget process also starting in June/July as well.

Guest: Bret Curlstad: regarding the old railroad hospital on Pacific Avenue

- County plan to demolish. Mitigated litigation of non-significants, first.
- Mitigation measure – County will photograph exterior and interior and will provide documentation of the history of the building and its former use.
- Buildings were housing offices, aging facilities – broken pipes. Decision made to close the building. Program: community connections. Close the hospital buildings and move staff into Soundview building. Move to leased space. Were spending \$35/sq foot to keep offices in the buildings, moved to leased space for \$12-\$17/sq foot.
- Feb 17, 2011 – a letter went out to 105 neighbors declaring intent.
- Cut down vegetation, fenced off courtyard. Opened it up to Police, K9, Fire Dept and SWAT for training.
- Then, Auction to sell parts and pieces, pulled out copper wiring/piping, etc. Took out all combustibles, including boilers. Worked with fire marshall.
- Wanted to sell the property, but cost to remove building from site equaled cost to demolish, so any selling price would be negligible.
- Maintain it now – mowing, pest control. Has incurred some vandalism. Want to move it to demolition.
- Start analytical testing (asbestos, lead paint), began consolidating general government buildings into 1 location (started in 2009). Pat McCarthy and 16 dept directors about redeveloping assessor properties. Have 149,000 commercial leased space, ranging from \$21-\$23/sq foot and rises 2-3%. Spread across Tacoma. Determined to bring programs together – get out of leased space, build a new building and co-locating. Move some out of county-city building. Hospital site and vacant land across the street – 8 acres. Own Soundview building and health dept building – 15 acres. Will be in a positive cash position after 1 year of occupancy. Estimate 10 staff jobs. Lower overhead costs. Price of building fixed under debt service.
- See county executives webpage for documentation.
- 3 weeks ago selected development team. Over next 6 months, plan out the 16 groups coming together and have “guaranteed maximum cost for construction” which they then take to the county council. Possible occupy in 2016. Look at remodels of County-City building to turn that into a Justice Center. Selling Raymond Hall and Annex Site.
- The main opposition was that it was a historically significant building that should be remodeled and refurbished, but that is not economically feasible, hence the mitigation measure. 63-20 IRS code.
- Structured parking much more expensive than surface parking.
- 1100 county employees would move/work there at a built county office building.

Community Concerns – none

Chair –

- received in the mail the picture for Gas Station Park
- trifold for distributing – feedback to Cary – Justin volunteer to assist with graphic design for the flier

- CCOT got flier from carol wolfe with new businesses in 2014

#### Treasury report -

- had donated \$300 to street fair, since street fair is canceled, we will be refunded
- \$6,766 in checking
- \$37.70 for water at gas station park due on the 30th
- \$2,117.54 in savings

#### Justin -

- Question: do we have committees set up?
- Answer: on demand. Should have election committee formed soon.
- Wants to form membership committee. Have an event, possibly at Wapato. By June meeting have a proposal with ideas.

#### Vice Chair -

- went to Main Street in Winatchee, similar to NUSA, discussed how to do things better, how to use social media. Business district / city was paying for it. Will draw up presentation for next month.

#### Police Liaison - Corey Darlington

- down-tick in car theft in McKinley and 34th area
- residential burglaries upticking 38 - 72 on pacific ave, drifting into Sheridan / Wapato area. 27 residential burglaries. Up from normal. To address that: get prints and match with known suspects, make arrests and get them off the street for some time.
- Saturday Life in Color 14,000 people rented out the Tacoma Dome. Extremely profitable. Some arrests for drug use, assaults. 75 honey buckets used. Had a safe room for under-age people waiting for a ride. Had 14 officers inside, 7 on traffic. 150 staff pro event people. Fire dept had 7 teams there. Calls around the dome radiate out.
- Thurston high school had prom at LeMay Museum, adding to the busy area.