

South End Neighborhood Council (SENCoc)

Minutes of the Board Meeting held January 26, 2015

Present: Earl Brydson, Chair; Cary Nilson, Vice Chair; Kristin King, Brian Kilen, Janis Clark

The Board voted to approve November 2014 minutes.

Tacoma Fire Department Liaison:

- Upcoming improvements to Fire Station #8 community room: projector, tv screen replacement, laptop hookups for presentations.
- January is Blood Donation Month with the Red Cross.
- Residents reminded to create a natural disaster preparation plan.
- 2014 Calls for Service
 - 6,809 total for the year, 2nd highest in Tacoma after Downtown
 - 591 for fire
 - roughly 5800 for medical aid
 - roughly
 - 400 for other services
- Street display board update: waiting on new hardware to fix sign display

Metro Parks Liaison:

- Public meeting to discuss Master Plan at the Pagoda at Point Defiance Park, held January 29, 6pm – 8pm
- Waterfront Phase 1 starting in February see <http://www.metroparkstacoma.org/DestinationPointDefiance>
- Swan Creek Park improvements to start February 11

City Manager's Representative:

ABSENT, but sent updates:

- City of Destiny nomination deadline extended January 30. Applications available at cityoftacoma.org/destiny awards
- The City Council is slated to adopt Tacoma 2025, the City's 10-year strategic plan and vision, at the Council meeting tomorrow. Once adopted, the final plan will be available on the City's website I would encourage the community to read it.
- The final reading of the ordinance for Paid Leave Minimum Employment Standards will also be at the Council meeting tomorrow.

- Summer Jobs 253 is accepting 2015 applications. For more information or to get an application visit, summerjobs253.com.
- Public Meeting for City of Tacoma Public Works Design Manual Update – Thursday Feb. 3 from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
 - The City of Tacoma will be updating the Public Works Design Manual, Tacoma Municipal Code and standard drawings to encourage Low Impact Development(LID). The Public Works Design Manual(PWDM) was last updated in 2004. The City will be updating the PWDM to incorporate LID where appropriate but will also review and update all areas of the PWDM as needed. Topics of discussion for the PWDM include: Street Design, Wastewater and Stormwater Design, Street Lighting, Traffic Signalization, Channelization, Pavement Markings, and Planning and Design elements.

Tacoma Police Liaison

- Department is hiring and currently have 13 open positions.
- Urban camping not allowed in City. The “Jungle” by Tacoma Dome near railroad tracks transient location addressed.
- In response to fireworks complaint, the department does put officer attention around the 4th of July, but is keeping an eye out.
- In the news: shooting that involved a 14yr old and a 17yr old appears related to gang activity. The 14yr old turned self in.
- Audience question: best non-emergency contact method?
 - Answer: pinpoint the Community Liaison Officer (CLO) for your sector/area, as they can get to the root of the issue, where 911 would get just a patrol response. Contact them by phone at 253-798-4721 or -4722, or by email.

City Councilmember Marty Campbell – 4th District

- Pierce County Government Building
 - In process of gauging community input and response to the new Pierce County Government Building at 35th and Pacific, at the site of the old Puget Sound Hospital, 330,000 square feet of office space
 - Lincoln community in support
 - Transportation
 - Parking: 1,100 parking stalls, 2 floors embedded with lots available, and 80 bicycle stalls

- Pacific Ave bridge will be completed before fall of 2016 when the building will be completed
 - Location is on 4 bus lines, so great Public Transit
- 3 more meetings for discussion
 - February 4, 6pm forum at University of Washington in Tacoma
 - February 10 and 17 county meetings
- Recommends writing letters to thank Pierce County for choosing that site
- Requests letter of support from SENCo
- Budget items that affect District 4
 - Eastside Community Center
 - Farmers Market of Tacoma on this side of the freeway
 - Capital improvements to the Lincoln District (similar to Pacific improvements downtown) in the next couple years. Getting input soon, but starting with parking updates and street lights in the next 90 days
- Bridge detour updates, see <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/> . Anticipate 16months for bridges down
- Janis Clark brought up concern for Sheridan Ave from 72nd to 84th, where there is a school and bus line, but where sidewalk is absent for a decent amount. Campbell brought up LIDs, a city bond through property owners for sidewalks

Tacoma Public Utilities (TPU) Guest Speaker

- Gregory Campbell – economist in TPU rates division of Tacoma Power
 - 3.7% rate increase for electric
 - effective April 1 if approved
 - Reasons for increase:
 - rising costs from Bonneville Power Administration
 - licensing requirements
 - Are working to mitigate it (would have been 7%)
- Jody Collins – Tacoma Water
 - increase of less than \$3 per month for average resident
 - Reasons for increase:
 - Green River Filtration Facility
 - now that treatment facility operational, cost of chemicals, staff, training, etc
 - inflation
 - Mitigating with low interest financing
 - Hydrant Service Fee that was embedded is now a line item of \$2.24/mo
 - Assistance available for low income

- 30% discount
- grants

Puget Sound Clean Air Agency Guest Speaker

- Kit McGurn
 - Tacoma a “Smoke Reduction Zone” with a 10yr Maintenance Plan in progress
 - Enhanced enforcement and Incentive Programs still running
 - Requesting additional state funding
 - Uncertified wood stove replacement or disposal funds available
 - \$100 - \$350 to scrap
 - \$1500 to replace with approved cleaner device
 - 9/30/15 deadline where regulation requires uncertified wood stoves to be removed
 - Advise residents to pay attention to burn bans
 - Visit <http://www.airsafepiercecounty.org/> for more information
 - Currently getting the word out by visiting neighborhood councils, doing commercials, billboards, newspaper ads, and an insert in Tacoma Public Utilities mailings

Zero Waste Washington

ABSENT, but Councilmember Campbell gave quick summary that it involves a tool-lending library. The SENCo Board is looking forward to hearing from the guest in February.

Community Concerns

- Gentleman living on Sheridan Ave and 45th
 - in 80s and retired, needed to rebuild porch on home, reached out to City with his plans, seemed fine, but now City requiring specifications that would mean rebuilding. City Councilmember Mary Campbell accepted his letter and is looking into it.
- Laura Rodriguez of Summit Public Schools
 - Currently accepting 8th grade enrollment. If reach max, then lottery enrollment on 3/21. School at 409 Puyallup Ave.
 - Meeting January 29 at 6:30pm at People's Community Center for information presentation.

Board Business

- Voting on new members pushed to February. Will accept applications through February 10.

- Committee to create ballots for officers (Earl and John – though John may not continue for health reasons) and new members (2 openings)
- Annual Report was approved for submission to the City.
- Community Based Clean Up underway
- Water bill this month was \$40.70
- Gas Station Park needs weeding/fertilizing in addition to Gargoyle mowing. Considering True Green at \$700/year
- Office printer not printing black and needs repair.

Adjournment at 8:50pm