



South End Neighborhood Council

4911 S. Alaska Street, Fire Station #8, Suite B
Tacoma, WA 98408

Monthly Meeting Minutes
June 19, 2017

Present: Earl Brydson, Cary Nilson, Kristin King, Tony Caldwell, Eric Paulsen, George Trachier, Janis Clark
Excused Absent: John Shaffer, John Pellessier

Called to order at 7:01pm

Earl:

Update to Agenda: Esther Day added to top of the agenda.

April 2017 Minutes approved.

Fire – Jeff Chandler, Battalion Chief

- Fireworks prohibited - \$257 fine and confiscation of fireworks
- Disaster planning supplies handout
- Article available on kids and fire

Police Dept – Absent

Metro Parks – Tareena Joubert

- Today was launch of summer projects, including: Summer Playground Program
 - M-F, 11am-3pm, free lunch from noon-1pm for ages 18 and under.
- Wrapped up first year with elementary school sports program, partner with local organizations
 - registrations open for soccer, golf available in the fall
- Imagine Eastside – new First Creek campus, near Swan Creek Park, hopefully opening fall 2018.
 - indoor track, cafe/hangout space, lots of cool stuff
- There has been some confusion regarding sales. No pending sales, no final decisions made, starting public outreach. Three public meetings.
 - Portland Ave Community Center, Destiny Middle School, and one other
- Janis comment: recommend coordinate with local organizations that don't have a home yet regarding the Eastside center.
- George comment: congratulations on the just completed Youth Theatre production, Wizard of Oz themed recital.

Public Utilities – Absent

City Manager Representative – David Nash-Mendez

- Monthly printouts
 - Will include contact info on printouts to neighborhood council meetings
 - Will probably be providing earlier for ease of sharing/posting
- June 22 – meeting regarding Encampment Removal Policy
- June 27 – City Council study session, briefing on Pierce Co high capacity transit corridor
- Reminder: Public is invited to every single thing on the shared calendars.

- Weekly Study Sessions on Tuesdays at noon in Municipal Building, no opportunity to comment, but can talk to councilmembers afterwards
- Weekly City Council Meeting on Tuesdays at 5pm in Municipal Building, opportunity to comment on items on the agenda,
- On second Tuesdays, opportunity to comment on any item over which the City has jurisdiction
- Citizens Police Advisory Committee has an opening for someone from the 5th Council District, basically below S 56th.

Tacoma Public Schools - Director

- Just finished graduations, with school officially ending today
- Recruitment opportunity, reconstructed Stewart Middle School July 13, 1pm-4pm
- Mary Lyon just had ground-breaking event on June 15, scheduled to start construction.
- Grand opening at Stewart, had alumni from as far back as 1930 attend.
- Arlington reopening in September.
- Science and Math Institute scheduled to be complete this August, over at Pt Defiance
- Birney design stage has started, with some of same designs as the STAR Center. Complete tear down and new building
- Grant Elementary construction beginning summer 2018
- Question from Tony: any jobs for students 16-18 this summer?
 - Yes, doing it currently with CTE program, connect them with community partners. Just had 30 come through for new interviews.
 - Contact John???? Page with the CTE program.
 - And train to transition vocationally.
- All comprehensive high schools have summer school through an online program, if not at comprehensive high school, then contact their current school regarding boundary. Six week program. Sometimes for retrieval sometimes for acceleration.
- Question from Janis: For Grant school construction, where will students go during construction?
 - Most likely McKinley or Hunt, but not decided yet.

Safe St – Darren Pen

- Update from May Cleanup
 - 11 neighborhood groups from 94th to I-5 with cleanups
 - June 24, 10am – 1:45pm, St Ann's Church on 70th and Park.
- National Night Out applications available online on Tuesday, August 1
 - elected officials and fire dept represented
- March Against Crime, 11th Annual, but 15th occurrence
 - positive message to those moving in, that we care about our streets and neighborhoods, negative message to the bad guys
- June 20, Health Dept on Pacific, entrance on S D St, 6:30pm
- June 21, Lincoln South neighborhood watch group, topic regarding temporary shelters
- Recommend participating in the South End Neighborhood appreciation

Port of Tacoma – Leslie Barstow

- Annual boat tour of the Port, take 1hr loop on the water,
 - July 16, 6 tours, free but ticket required, all ages
 - Leave from Foss Waterway Seaport museum, across the whole port, then depending on ship traffic go up the center channel
 - 26th year doing it
 - can see where the plant is going in – Tote changing over to natural gas for cleaner emissions, retrofitting ships
- Pile driving is starting up again on July 16, the Pier 4 project, straightening and re-enforcing.
 - Have been quiet since February because of the fish window
 - Will be working 7am-9pm, M-F
 - Pinging for 20min, stop to reset, more pinging, with breaks.

Guest Speaker: Esther Day

- Homeless Camp Discussion
 - June 21, 6:30pm
 - Health Dept Building, 3509 Pacific Avenue
 - Rather than building homes, we have vacant houses and hotels. Have dialogue and share ideas.
- Comment from Janis: encourage community to show up both tomorrow and to the Community Vitality Committee (June 27th meeting) and make your voice heard.
- Comment from Tony: the office of mayor will be open soon...
 - Esther would rather work on the outside. The City and their great staff can only do so much.

Guest Speaker: Kristi Evans, Metro Parks Planning Administrator

- Charlotte's Blueberry Park, \$125,000 funding.
- Priorities on community gardens and water connection, children's natural play area
- Also food forest
- Community garden and play area getting drawn up so can find out what we can afford for the \$\$
- Bid out in Oct, Construction in Nov/Dec. Not a lot of earth moving, but would be ready for new planting season in 2018.
- Community has been well involved; group working with Pierce Co Harvest, has been meeting monthly at Grace Church, put meetings up on Facebook live.
- Question from Eric: how do the plans address the homeless issue? With the path on B street through the wetlands
 - They feel that bringing in the community garden and playground would bring more people into the park, but can't build anything in the wetlands. Will talk with Metro Parks on that.
 - Comment from Esther: sat on an infill program, there is a developer hoping to put in a subdivision of small single family homes in that area.
- Question from Tony: a few years ago there was a problem where people going to pick blueberries had their cars tagged. Is there an effort to increase lighting?
 - The parks close at dusk, don't have lighting.
- Question from Tony: any sort of memorial planned for the park's namesake?
 - Not that I'm aware of. There is a community interpretive sign.
- Wapato Docks have been out to bid, contract for construction has been accepted.
 - Construction to start this summer. It is a State grant though, so if they don't pass their budget, we may not be able to start in July. There will be pile driving.

Guest Speaker: Adrian with Sustainability Office

- City Council passed an ordinance last year to ban plastic disposable bags, grocery stores, malls, etc.
- July 12 start
- Plastic is expensive to process in recycling,
- Produce bags not a part of the ban.
- Paper bags need to use a certain percentage of recycled products. (Toss string on paper bags, recycle the paper bag part)
- Passthrough Fee: \$0.05 per bag if don't bring your own reusable bag to offset the cost for businesses to provide paper bags.
- Customers with EPT or tanner benefits don't have to pay the Passthrough Fee.
- Requirements for retailers: at the end of the year, let City know how many bags they are purchasing, there should be a reduction in plastic purchases.
- City will review and see if anything else needs to be done.
- Enforcement: will be complaint based.
 - Customer can call 311 to say "this retailer is still using plastic"
 - Solid waste will visit them, City will send retailers a letter.
 - If a fourth complaint, fee involved to the retailer.
- Getting the word out through newspapers, visits, outreaches and signs at stores, community centers, mailer in the utility bill
 - Feedback from audience: didn't get one, most just pay bill online
- Other cities and counties already have this in place.
- City ordered 20,000 reusable bags. Many community centers are doing a bag-share program.

- Question from audience: if I have a lot of plastic bags at home that I have saved, can I bring those to use?
 - Yes. And if you put them all in a bag, then can recycle them. Don't recycle them individually.
- Question from audience: what about takeout?
 - That is allowed to have plastic. Prescriptions are allowed as well. Temperature reasons.
- Question from audience: is Tacoma planning on banning styrofoam as well?
 - Will see how this goes first, so one at a time.
- Comment from audience: It is good to do it, but we do need to be sensitive to our smaller businesses who are having to deal with downturn due to nearby construction, higher wage requirements, etc.
 - Resources are available and they are welcome to contact us and get support.
- Question from audience: if stores offer reusable bags, are they tax deductible?
 - They will still have to charge a fee, because we want people to Bring Your Own Bag.
- Question from George: so a business can not give them away?
 - They could, but not at the checkout line.
- 311 Center will have bags available for pickup.

Police Dept – Lt Darlington, Sector 4 Commander

- Fireworks prohibited. Will have extra patrols starting a week or so before. Call non-emergency number to report.
 - Call early, don't wait to the last minute.
- Homeless issue, resources have been pulled from policing, all the sectors are down a person because they've been assigned to the Homeless Outreach Team (HOT Team).
 - Doing outreach first. Offering services, then cleaning up sites.
 - Example: 84th and C St. Area was site-hardened, which sparked economic development to the west. New apt complex going up just west of 84th and Pacific.
 - Transition housing area will be at the old sign shop.
 - Calico Cat shut down due to code and health violations, invested to remodel, getting ready to reopen, hoping for more long-term housing rather than night by night.
 - Morgan Hotel, generate 176 calls for service in a year and a half, at least 3 special narcotics investigations. Closed now with appeal hearing.
 - Long term housing or redevelopment of the area would be better than renting the room by the night. One bedroom was \$2400/mo cash. Was drawing the wrong kind of people.
 - Police Dept role has a benevolent approach and a hammer approach. So the police deal with those that don't want services. Making narcotics and misdemeanor arrests.

Community Concerns

- Darren Pen – sharing about neighborhood watch group in South End area. Proud of the citizen engagement in the South End.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Announcement from Janis:

- Working on prevention of drug use among young people to not get caught up in substance abuse and misuse
- Tues June 27, 5:30pm-7:30pm

Neighborhood Moment discussion

- Do not yet have a representative for the taping next week.
- Training is this Friday June 23 choose one of two sessions 10am and 2pm, and taping is this Monday June 26 (schedule an hour onsite), the program will be on the air July 1.

Student Sponsorship Discussion

- Two years ago, SENCo sponsored \$500 towards a school trip to Paris. Now in college and has the opportunity to go to China, he is requesting the same amount or more sponsorship. The trip is roughly a month long. Studying in Beijing, leaving Aug 10, for four months. Allotting time during any breaks to

check out other villages. Got the Act 6 scholarship for community involvement. Planning to visit our sister city in China.

- Question from Eric: how does this benefit the South End?
 - Studying political science and planning to apply it in Tacoma local government. Wants to get into public education.
 - Tony recommends presentations, website material.
- Janis motions for \$1000. Motion failed.
- Kristin motions for \$500. Motion passed.

Concern from the Chair

- John Shaffer has been absent on several subsequent months.
- Corresponding Secretary to write a letter to find out if he would like to continue; if he misses one more in 2017 than he is automatically withdrawn from the board. Check bylaws for specifics requirements for meeting attendance. Earl recalls if miss 3 meetings without excuse, then write a letter.

Vice Chair: nothing to report

Corresponding Secretary

- William excused absent; Kristin reports that we received an email inquiring for council information and responded with meeting and website information.

Treasurer's Report as of May 31, 2017

- \$5,024.23 in checking
- \$6,121.73 in savings
- paid Water bill, \$70.55 for Safe St map

Earl recommends board members review bylaws to see available committees. Each needs at least one board member and can have council members recruited. We will also need to form an election committee for November.

Tony volunteers to send out background check for the schools to board members so we are prepared for next fall.

- Maria, the secretary of the SENCA committee of 2008, just graduated from UW. Tony is still in touch with them.
- Comment from Darren: any one involved in the Student committee with underaged students needs a background check, not just board members.
- Janis recommends considering a bylaws amendment that anyone who works on or with the board gets a background check.

Adjourned at 9:18pm.