



# South End Neighborhood Council

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

South End Neighborhood Council Monthly Meeting  
October 16, 2017

Call to order at 7:02 pm

Present: Earl Brydson, Kristin King, Cary Nilson, Athena Brewer, Tony Caldwell, Janis Clark, Eric Paulsen

Excused Absent: John Pellesier, William King, George Trachier

Earl announcement: Oct 18, 6:30pm at Health Dept – Special candidate forum for City Council members for the South End and Eastside seats. Sponsored by SENCo and Safe St Lincoln Neighborhood Watch group.

September minutes approved.

## Liaison Reports

- Dale Vaughn – Fire Dept
  - Added a fire engine at the tide flat station, one at McKinley and 15<sup>th</sup>, and one at Proctor – all added on Oct 2
  - Oct 8-14 was fire prevention week
    - Remember to change smoke alarm batteries. When change your clock, change your batteries.
    - Detectors go bad over time, so replace at least every 10yrs. Consider lithium ion ones.
  - CPR Sunday was well received, 800-ish participates
  - House fire last Saturday at abated house (no loss of life), so reminder that if you live next to an abated house (boarded up, electrical off) keep a closer eye and call in if transients start fires for warmth.
  - Carbon monoxide alarms required when putting in new furnaces. Recommended if have natural gas in the house.
- Police - Absent
- Metro Parks – Tareena Joubert
  - Eastside community center on track for completion summer 2018. Did an RFQ to get a food vendor for inside the facility, landed with Metronome Coffee. ??????
  - There were some sick dogs at Garfield Park; none came back positive for leptosporosis. No way to test every puddle at park.

- Black Cat Fun Run 5 mile loop, shorter kids run at Point Defiance Park, Sat Oct 21, 7pm. Glow sticks will be provided, but welcome to bring own.
  - Costume contest starts at 6:15pm
- Harvest Fest
  - Oct 20 at Portland Ave
  - Oct 27 4-9pm at STAR Center
- Halloween in the Conservatory at Wright Park
- Public Utilities – Absent
- Chris Bell - City Manager Rep
  - Innovative Grants are open now, closes Dec 15<sup>th</sup> at 5pm, \$500-\$8k
  - Student Government Day – tour City, meet Councilmembers
    - applications open now, closes Nov 1
    - starts Nov 15
  - Has forwarded the park application for E 72<sup>nd</sup> to turn vacant lot in the right of way into a youth space.
- Lisa Nolan – Tacoma Public Schools
  - Considering 2 replacement levies for Feb ballot. Info on website and more to come.
  - Staff schools based on projection from the spring. Had to make a few adjustments where had too many in one school and too few in another, so transferred 13 teachers.
  - Open houses for middle schools for those ending 5<sup>th</sup> grade.
  - Public hearing regarding surplus and potential sale of 20 parcels of land of Charlotte Blueberry Park
    - 6pm Oct 26 before regular school board meeting, at Central \_\_\_\_\_ 601 S 8<sup>th</sup> St, off of Tacoma Ave near the McDonalds
    - parcels to the west and south of what is currently the park
    - [planning@tacoma.k12.wa.us](mailto:planning@tacoma.k12.wa.us)
    - Property is about 32 acres, mostly wetlands. Only 5 acres recommended for development, zoned for single family dwelling, only a couple intersect with blueberry bushes and working with Metro Parks to preserve those parcels.
    - Question from Athena: not talking about building on the wetlands right?
      - Not currently.
      - Eric: if someone buys it, they could do the work to convert it, but then need wetlands elsewhere.
    - Question from Eric: will the public have the opportunity to review the buyers' proposals?
      - Will email you (has Eric's email now)
    - Question from Tony: so the land is being sold for single family dwellings?
      - If you were to build, you can't have an apartment building. Not sure about businesses.
- Darren Pen – Safe St
  - 2018 neighborhood cleanup applications are in process
    - 2017 had 80% engaged
    - Would like to engage the South End Neighborhood Council in 2018 in the neighborhood cleanup, funding for cases of water per location.
  - Sept 30 painted over 45 spots of graffiti

- 2017 community appreciation had over 100 people.
- Planted 70 trees at Ginny Reed on Saturday, need to be watered/maintained for 3 years
- Candidate Forum Oct 18 6:30pm,
- Oct 25<sup>th</sup> South Wapato Group talking about District 5.
- Medical/Dental discounts – AMEN Free Clinic Nov 10 and 12
- Community Garden near Charlotte Blueberry Park. Recommend come to Safe St meeting.
- Nov 4, 9am – 2:30pm Conference for Neighborhood Leaders at Stewart Middle School
- Green Harbor Communities, who wants to build on the parcels being sold, came to the school/neighborhood meeting to give their proposal and shared their plan.
- Recommend SENCo reach out to local groups personally and ask about ideas for Innovative Grants.
- Port of Tacoma - Absent

Have two board applications:

Motion from Janis: Since we have one open position on the board, let's hear from both tonight and fill one open seat. The one who is not elected tonight is not disqualified from applying in the Nov elections

Approved.

Applicants:

- Suzanne Skaar, lived in the area for 6 years, multiple degrees, concerns for safety and accessibility in the South End
- Daniel Thomasson, lived in area for 5+ years, currently on Police Advisory Committee, involved in Safe St, worked to get his street repaved a couple years ago.

Questions:

- Tony for Suzanne: You have been involved in a lot. What are you currently doing now as far as volunteering.
  - Took a break to study for CDMS exam
- Tony for Suzanne: what specifically are you referring to with "Safety"?
  - Luring outside of schools, casing of cars, property crime, drug use – finding pipes in their yard
- Earl for Suzanne: how are your Monday evenings for scheduling?
  - Pretty open. doesn't volunteer for anything she can't go full force with.
- Janis for Daniel: what do you do for volunteering?
  - CPAC – 3+ years
    - Contribution?
      - Citizen Review Panel was limited in ability. CPAC was working on citizen response team but removed from focus from City Manager. Working on body cameras for police. Personally working with TPD and Chief Ramsdell to get an app on your phone to report crimes to.
    - Restorative aide - skilled nursing facility
- Audience for Suzanne: expound on the different capacities of volunteers served in? I know you've run for city councils

- Spent \$150 and got thousands of votes. Nonprofits. Cofounder of Grit City Fest in 2010. Equilibrium Womens Arts Collective in Tacoma. O-Congo SP???? helping immigrants settle here.
- Statement from Audience: Have been on several social justice committees, vouches that Suzanne attends, participates, and is a sensitive person to have.
- Tareena for both candidates: favorite park?
  - Suzanne: Wapato, like looking for the heron with daughter
  - Daniel: Titlow Park, water issues at Wapato are concerning.
- Tony for both: We have a diverse community and have been trying to increase meeting attendance. What kind of proposal would you submit to draw more millennials, people of color, etc?
  - Daniel: working with Safe St and City Manager office. Have done fliers and going to houses but found that not effective if nothing big was happening. Mail fliers need to be bright, exciting, and engaging. Need to get out to community groups so they see you are investing in them; otherwise they won't invest in you.
  - Suzanne: good at design and writing. Working with Radio Tacoma to set up a small nonprofit radio station. Could do a weekly podcast of what affects the neighborhood. Recommend Facebook event for monthly meetings. Recommend newsletters to churches and community centers.
- Athena requests clarification that whoever doesn't make it now can run in November.
  - Yes. Since the applications have been received ahead of time, but it won't be open in November for "walk-ins"

In Favor of Suzanne taking the open seat this evening: 11

In Favor of Daniel taking the open seat this evening: 5

Earl declares voting closed. Suzanne is new board member.

We will put Daniel on the ballot for November.

Guest Speaker: Janis Clark's Report on NUSA "Neighborhoods USA" <http://nusa.org>

- May 24-27 this year in Omaha, neighborhood groups from all over the country. Japan has been there comparing social functions of their neighborhoods. Can submit/nominate an area for "Best Neighborhoods" for instance, Hilltop won an award for their Street Fair.
- Workshops attended included
  - Healthy Communities Start with Neighbors – 5 Strategies
- Highlights: Mayor of Omaha threw a reception, one of the neighborhood groups received a Key to the City.
- Idea for businesses: Where we have Surge in Tacoma and businesses that are incubating, are using containers and fixing them up for office space. Very innovative considering that we are a port, so not having them just sit and rust, but using them for small businesses startups when they can't afford office space.
- Since we are our own 501c3's, have
- Financial Report: \$2,022.76 total
  - Registration \$200
  - Air Transport \$575.20
  - Airport Parking \$79.39

- Transportation to hotel round trip \$48
- Hyatt Hotel \$648.77
- Per Diem / GSA Houston \$355
  - Breakfast \$12
  - Lunch \$18
  - Dinner \$36
  - Incidentals \$5
  - \$71 x 5 days
- Mileage Round Trip home to airport 41.40 miles
- Donated Father Flanigans Boys Home \$75
- Question from Tony: Most memorable thing?
  - Continue to bring the notion of containers here to Tacoma and have the conversation that the City would like to invest in for business development.

#### Jennifer Chernut – Tacoma Special Events Committee

- Mon Jan 15, 2018 is the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Martin Luther King Jr celebration, at the Greater Tacoma Convention and Trade Center
- Feedback received that it was too political with too many politicians, and not enough community.
- “Be the Change” theme. Undercurrent is youth and education.
  - Working with Tacoma Public Schools to have children perform.
  - Whoever the mayor is can speak and if the governor shows up,
- Speaker: Nathan Gibsbowling SP??
  - 2015 Teacher of the year in WA and finalist for US
- Partnered with Children’s Museum of Tacoma to have fabric square artwork chandelier that will live in the museum afterwards
- Met with the Black Student Union at UWT to partner with them
- Deadline for Service Awards is Nov 6 application available on the website
- <http://cityoftacoma.org/mlk>
- Could always use financial support. Last year the neighborhood councils were single biggest sponsor. For instance \$500 would provide art supplies, \$250 would provide bus fare from schools.

#### Louis Vopata Rebuilding Tacoma Together

Americore member

- Tacoma Home Repair coordinator at the 501c3 nonprofit
  - around 75 homes so far this year in this dept
  - repair and modifications like grab bars, handrails
  - don’t do roofs
- Serve the elderly, disabled, families with children; low income home owner
  - 50% of area median income
- Serve Pierce Co, Federal Way, Auburn
- accept applications year round, also looking for volunteers
  - enjoy skilled volunteers but will take anyone
- Rebuilding Day is the last Sat of April – applications due Dec 1
  - bigger projects

- office on South Orchard

### Community Concerns

- Comment from Audience – Pierce Transit – Tina Lee
  - doing a study on Pacific Ave, looking at high capacity transit
  - Open Houses in November
    - Nov 14 – UWT Russel T Joy, 4pm-7pm
    - Nov 15 – Stewart Middle School Commons, 5pm-8pm
    - Nov 15 – Pacific Lutheran Univ, Anderson Univ Center, Room 201, 1pm-4pm
    - Nov 16 – Spanaway Elementary, library, 4pm-7pm
  - App available – hop through pierce pay
  - Two week promotion in October includes free bus passes
- Audience: Russell
  - Businesses near 56<sup>th</sup> and M has been meeting, probably 1<sup>st</sup> Mon of the month, considering to be a business district. Billy B's on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor.
- Darren regarding Mon Oct 9 had City of Tacoma and UWT mapping program gathering for what to do on 38<sup>th</sup> and Pacific and 56<sup>th</sup> and Pacific, finding where people like to go.
  - Chris: part of the Livable City Program, will be some GIS students involved.
- Darren: want to promote an event where SENCo and Safe St can do a joint event. Recommend May 31.
- Janis regarding Neighborhood Moment: had Darren Pen and Patrick Fischer (Patrick Babbitt is no longer involved in South End). Likes Suzanne's idea about the podcast. There may be other silos that could work. Missing populations including DSHS communities.

### General Business

- Chair:
  - Public Notice for Tues Oct 24, 5:15pm, City Council regarding Municipal Code relating to Marijuana Uses. Comments due by 4pm on Tues Oct 24.
  - Someone stole the large trash can out of Gas Station Park. Has contacted the City. They said they'd do it right away.
- Vice Chair:
  - Working with Lincoln Business District, they've been inactive for several years, revitalizing.
- Corresponding Secretary:
  - nothing to report
- Treasurer
  - As of Sept 30
  - \$3,780.60 – checking
  - \$6,123.77 – savings
  - Earl needs to write a check for water backvalve flow. City might pay it. Usually runs \$50ish.

### Committee Reports

- Earl will meet with nominations committee

### Old Business

- Tony
  - The A-frame signs. Went to FastSigns and they drew up 4 for us. Made of wood and painted nicely. Cost \$700 for 4 signs. If bring the 501c3 proof then they can knock off taxes. Should last a long time. Plastic and metal cost more, but wood should last since we would set it out for a few days and bring them back indoors.
  - Need background check applications. Have only 3 so far.

#### New Business

- Janis
  - Was asked to volunteer at the 2018 Birmingham Alabama NUSA. Part of the committee to look at the bylaws so that the NUSA membership card would be sufficient for voting, not needing ID.
- Tony
  - Recommend SENCo business cards that we can take to events
    - Earl: we have some

Adjourned at 9:10pm.