



# South End Neighborhood Council

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

South End Neighborhood Council  
Monthly Meeting Minutes  
February 26, 2018

Present: Earl Brydson, Cary Nilson, Janis Clark, Kristin King, Suzanne Skaar, Eric Paulsen, Tony Caldwell, Athena Brewer  
Absent: Daniel Thomasson, George Trachier

Call to order at 7:05pm.

January minutes unanimously approved.

Announcements from the chair:

1. Sustainability Small Grants available. Worth ~\$5k each. Info available on the city website.
2. Thurs March 22, Giadrone get together, sponsored by YMCA, Mayor and some Councilmembers should be in attendance. Pizza dinner in cafeteria, then bingo in the gym. Opportunity for neighborhood councils to set up a table. Contact Andy Carlson. [acarlso@tacoma.k12.wa.us](mailto:acarlso@tacoma.k12.wa.us)
3. Two board members moving up to Seattle. The application is on the website. Mail it to Earl not to the Fire Station, or email to [info@sencotacoma.org](mailto:info@sencotacoma.org)

Liaison Reports

- Police Dept – Corey Darlington, Sector 4 Commander
  - Fliers available with Sector contact phone numbers
  - Media release – three different threats against three different schools with three different arrests. Truman, Lincoln, Oakland Alternative school. No injuries or fatalities. All to Raymond Hall.
    - If threats made on social media, call it in.
  - Positive Interactions flier. Give transient communities opportunity to access services as first action.
  - Two motels in the district with multiple calls for service. Were closed down to meth contamination.
    - Pacific Lodge, formerly Calico Cat – was slated/released by the City for phase 3 housing but didn't materialize. 23 units.
    - Morgan Motel – currently closed but will reopen. 8 units.
  - Question from Tony: A lot of kids calling in with crank calls. How long do they stay at Raymond Hall?

- All juveniles so have to appear in court, so up to the prosecutors, judges, etc. Typically not held there for very long.
  - Comment from audience – appreciate what you do with the limited resources you have.
- Metro Parks – Tareena Joubert
  - March 11 at STAR Center 3pm – 7pm
    - Winter Wonderland event for children and youth with disabilities, but open to community at large. Partnering with Tacoma Public Schools.
  - Four advisory councils broken into mission-lead areas. Arts and heritage, business and responsive agency, nature and environment, community wellness. 2yr commitment, meeting once per month, help Metro Parks review documents and processes and make sure that they are doing the best job they can with the resources they have. [Metroparkstacoma.org](http://Metroparkstacoma.org)
  - Past issues with Wapato Park, but the Dept of Fish and Wildlife is looking into stocking the lake with fish, fishing classes and derby as early as summer 2018.
- City Manager’s Office – Chris Bell, representative
  - Community survey has concluded. Presentation was given Feb 13. 753 residents across the five districts responded, 146 from District 5. Info will be released on the website soon.
    - 76% residents rate quality of life as good or excellent
    - Areas to improve: Streets repair, traffic light performance and timing, walking infrastructure, lighting.
    - Concerns: Homeless, over population, infrastructure, affordable housing
  - March 24, 10am – 3pm, Tacoma Dome: T-Town, the service expo of different depts within the city represented to interact with residents, has period to provide budget input.
  - Community Cleanups:
    - April 28: Jennie Reed, 10am – 1:45pm 1802 S 36<sup>th</sup>, Lincoln High School parking lot, 10am – 1:45pm, 701 S 37<sup>th</sup> St
  - Introduce Linda Stewart
    - Director for community and neighborhood services dept. reports to the city manager Elizabeth Holly, who is interested in directors coming out to listen and respond to community concerns. Her dept does handle human service contracts, work with TPD to provide services to people experiencing homelessness and working to keep encampments cleared, deal with tax and license.
  - Confirming meeting times: Jan – Feb 4<sup>th</sup> Mon.
- Tacoma Public Schools
  - Thanking TPD for their partnership and ability to be swift and efficient.
  - Thanking voters for passing both levies.
  - Charlotte Blueberry Park, March 8 6pm, Tacoma School Board Meeting, 4th Floor Auditorium at the Central Administration Building at 601 South 8th Street in Tacoma. public meeting/hearing, 19 of the 24 parcels to build cottage style homes, the other 5 to be transferred to Metro Parks.
  - Construction underway, Birney and Grant should open fall 2019. Bose Elementary on Eastside has construction in March, open fall 2020.
  - Elected a 5<sup>th</sup> board member.

- Safe St – Darren Pen
  - Created a handout with Tacoma Neighborhood Council meeting schedule.
  - South End is most active in the cleanups with 24 groups. Request SENCo sponsor with water/food for volunteers.
  - Neighborhood Cleanups, 7 locations
  - Question from Suzanne: could we get an electronic version of the schedule so we can put it up on the website?
    - Provided written handout and will email pdf
  - Question from Tony: Could you send us pictures from some of the activities so we can post it online?
    - Talking to the right person. Darren has lots of pictures.
  - Neighborhood groups do more than the big neighborhood cleanups. They walk around picking up, do Adopt a Spot
- Port of Tacoma absent.

### Guest Speakers

- Mike Birndorf representing AT&T
  - Had an existing cell site at the Puget Sound Hospital roof top, so relocating their site. Currently have a temporary facility in a parking lot. New site is a 70ft mono-pole with ground mounted equipment, providing coverage to the hospital, businesses, surrounding neighborhoods. Have submitted a conditional use application to City of Tacoma.
  - AT&T was awarded a national contract with First Net, which Oregon and Washington have opted into, so first responders can use the tower.
  - Parking lot is already fenced, 35ft.
  - Question from audience: Will that bring us back up to full power on our cell phones?
    - This should be an improvement, but depends on where you live.
  - Comment from audience: The hospital site may be used as a first responder site.
  - Question from Tony: do you have room on the pole for other companies to co-locate?
    - Went with a slim line design for better visual impact. So rather than having a crows nest at the top, the antennas are stacked. Flush mounting at three different elevations. So, it's possible, but not a lot of space.
  - Timeline: as fast as can get through the permitting process which has a few months left. Probable construction Summer 2018.

### Innovative Grants Presentation

- Rena Kelly from Ainsworth Vista, Habitat for Humanity, regarding the Harmony Benches
  - Flexible on funds, do have a plan B, from 4 benches to 1 bench.
  - 86<sup>th</sup> and Ainsworth
  - Community of 13 homes. 5 different countries represented. 20+ kids. Use paint and stencils to decorate.
  - Vacant lot not being utilized. Negative consequences of vacant lot, so residents feel they need to spend more money on security measures.

- Would like to do the project of Harmony Benches, with tetherball, to bring in more residents to the space and help keep the negative away. Adults can enjoy tetherball as well.
- Would like to dedicate a bench to the youth that was murdered in 2017.
- Question from Suzanne: Are you also looking at matching partners? Like local stores donating supplies? Spark grants?
  - No, haven't. Scaled down to \$3,730.
- Question from audience: who owns the property that the tetherball would be put on?
  - Habitat for Humanity. We do own it, but it is vacant.
- Question from Eric: is it available for kids outside of the HOA?
  - Like to have resident kids invite their friends, and that follows around the close neighborhood. If they live nearby and can see the area from their homes, they're welcome.
- Question from audience: Does Habitat for Humanity have any long term plans for that area?
  - Was built in 2012 to be as bbq area, but current plans are to keep it vacant.
- Question from audience: is it a gated community?
  - No
- Question from Tony: Do you have a maintenance crew? And plans to keep the equipment from being stolen?
  - Everything should last 15-20yrs, have replacements for tetherball equipment, plans for trash, etc. Already home cameras that face that area, but no money for cameras on site. Has lighting.
- Question from Athena: so the homes next to it can look out their window and see it?
  - Yes.
- Susanne Marten – Mural Circle – work with Central Latino and Communities in Schools
  - Central Latino has been doing summer activities at the Moore Library. This is an out-of-school program.
  - Three mural panels created and placed at Moore Library. Would tell a story, create community engagement for kids and families.
  - “The Trading Trails” with a major marker on 84<sup>th</sup> off of Park, the trail goes down to Commencement Bay. The students and teachers at Stewart have talked about the Indian Henry Trail.
  - Two workshops:
    - historic research at the northwest room of main library
    - creating the 3 mural panels based on the research
  - Scope of work:
    - mural instructor – have a small grant from Washington Arts Commission
    - creating a brochure so that when people come to the Moore Library and see the panels erected on the 56<sup>th</sup> St side, it will show the purpose of the project, describe what they're observing, see a version of the map that encourages them to go to the marker on 84<sup>th</sup> where the Indian Henry met other travelers.
  - Ties in 84<sup>th</sup> to 56<sup>th</sup>, encouraging people to make the walk on Park St.
  - Question from Kristin: how many students involved?
    - On the mural team, probably 10 middle school students. Would do recruiting at the middle schools in the South End.

- Question from Tony: has anyone tried to get in touch with relatives of Indian Henry?
  - They were settlers in the Eatonville area.
- Question from Suzanne: Social significance?
  - The actual fact that the first nation people were very sophisticated traders. The trails include down to Steilacoom. They spent money to have the stone show the etching illustrating where people congregated.
- Question from Suzanne: How large are the panels? Paint costs seem low.
  - Will be on the cement slabs beside the Moore Library. Will be proportional to the slabs that are there, at height for pedestrians and vehicles to see them. They will be covered in plastic framing, which addresses graffiti concerns and makes it possible to do new panels in a year or two.
- Question from Cary: as far as graffiti issues, considered the nonsacrificial coating over the product so that soap and water can wash it off?
  - Plan on doing the plastic framing.
- Questions from Janis
  - In the application, you listed the ethnicity and number of people involved in the program. Why aren't there Native American youth on the project?
  - Whose vision is it for the project?
  - Have you identified any muralists in the area that could help anticipate costs?
    - Early on, it was the students at Stewart and community members who said we need to be inclusive with the Puyallup tribe as well as Indian people living in the area who aren't necessarily members of the tribe. The early research and discussions came from Communities That Care. As far as future involvement, the way in which we'll market this, will go to the different middle schools so that whoever is interested.
    - The mural instructor is Native and Latino. This summer is the celebration of the Puyallup tribe canoe journey.
- Question from Suzanne: You have 13 home owners and 11 signatures. Are either or both of those for the houses on either side?
  - Yes, one of the neighboring lots is concerned about safety and noise.

Comment from Earl: we can vote after these, or wait til March to vote.

#### Guest Speaker

- Erika Tucci, liaison from TPU
  - hiring a new director for utilities, they have oversight over power (includes Click), water, and railroad
  - asking all NCs three questions:
    - What do you like about TPU that need to keep in place?
      - Click
      - Reliable power
      - Pay options
      - Free lightbulbs – power conservation efforts
      - Net neutrality
      - Dedication to renewable energy, solar panels
      - Excellent customer service
      - Tacoma Power Parks

- Quick response to when trees hit power lines
- Concern: street lights out for multiple years
  - have a Rental Light program
- What do you not like about TPU that you would like a new director to address?
  - How much residents are charged vs businesses
  - Would like to see a TPU app
  - Would like to compare your own utility usage against others with same sq footage and number of residents, against mean and median of household usage and billing
- If you could sit across from the candidates and ask them a question, what would it be?
  - Their definition of public power
  - In what ways would you as the new director reinvest money back into communities in a sustainable fashion.
  - Outline for 5-10 yr plan for energy types
  - How can they help us as residents save money
  - How can get away from subsidizing Click with rest of power bill
  - HR
  - What would be a justification for a big pay raise for them?
  - Describe what success at their job would look like for the City of Tacoma
  - Prefer hiring internally, at least a Tacoma resident
  - Would they be willing to make presentations at local schools or colleges
- Currently working with a recruiting firm, should have more info in the April/May timeline

Earl: reminder, we have \$5,456.

### Community Concerns

- Last meeting in January, the white board was full of ideas. The City does have a GIS dept, but it is pretty dysfunctional. It doesn't even have the monuments. He spoke with the head of the dept, but observed fiefdoms within the City. The question is can the city manage it on the City Manager level and the Council member. Today, the Seattle City Council passed a resolution that they're against the LNG plan because the tribes went up there. Tacoma needs a win. They've shut down the Citizens Forum. They need to coordinate with the citizenry to show they can serve them.
  - Question from Suzanne: Could you write out your proposal for us?
    - Head of AI and Nancy Cravinsky-Young. Get the depts heads and elected officials together. Urge them to pick up the pieces and pull the GIS budget together.
  - Comment from Tony: Recommend coming out to T-Town to meet with directors of all the different depts.
- Janis as a community member: The Metro Parks Foundation is having an event this Wednesday, Feb 28, 11am. Concern is that we have many parks and many named after humans of caucasian ethnicity. It was voted and approved that the marine park will be named in honor of the late Judge Jack Tanner. The foundation is raising money. They have a table and requesting another member of the black collective to help raise funds and support. Janis wants to represent. Cost is \$25/person.

- Janis moves that the South End Neighborhood Council donate \$75 out of the treasury to go toward man a table of three South End residents in support of the naming of the park.
  - Discussion: Treasurer's Report, statement ending Jan 31, 2018
    - Checking: \$755.33
    - Savings: \$6,125.83
  - Tony: Can we get photos of the park? Whenever we give money out into the community, have something tangible so the public can see what we are doing with the funds.
  - Eric: are we donating or hosting a table?
    - It's a donation to Metro Parks Foundation, but to be made out to Janis, and she will provide receipts. Not us hosting a table.
  - Cary: if write the check, then put a memo on the check.
  - For: 4, Against: 1, Abstained: 2. The motion passes.

#### Committee Reports

- Suzanne: starting the Marketing and Outreach Committee officially.
  - Janis has been doing TV Tacoma Neighborhood Moments. Gathering stories in advance. Collaborating with Radio Tacoma. Getting website changed over to new platform.
  - Thinking about the committee meeting every Saturday.
  - Request to put on March agenda a call-out for participants.
- Earl: need an executive committee early next month to discuss what to do with the website.

#### Old Business

- Tony: Added reflector and security chain to the sign.
  - Suggest rotate every 3 months
  - Tony taking one. Athena probably taking one. Earl taking one.
- Suzanne: talking about recruiting members
  - At the same time talking to businesses about putting the signs out, should also reach out to people that are not normally here to get more involved. Non-profits, businesses.
  - Press release to announce positions available?

#### New Business

- Board discussion regarding nature and notice of posts to website and social media and the process by which content managers get feedback from the board before posting.

Adjourned 10:08pm