



South End Neighborhood Council (SENC) regular meeting

July 16, 2018

Members present: Earl Brydson, Janis Clark, Athena Brewer, Penny Grellier, Suzanne Skaar, Cary Nilson, Tyler Whitmarsh, Tony Caldwell, Christina Rupp, Eric Paulsen

Call to Order 7:03pm

Quorum present

Announcements: representative Lillian Hunter present

Approval of June Minutes: tabled for review

Treasurer's report: Janis reports June 30, 2018 statement business savings \$4126.81, business checking \$3812.05. Each neighborhood cleanup has received \$25. Park Ave neighborhood meeting is tomorrow night. Acceptance approved by all members present.

Committee reports: Janis asks that Bylaws committee convene a meeting as several members would like to participate in updates. Janis, Tyler, Christina, and Tony want to be part of this. Athena is leading this committee.

Liaison Reports:

Fire Dept.: Chief Ray Mangona, heatwave is drying things out, lots of brush fires. Remind folks that no burning is allowed in the City aside from recreational fires, but right now the County has a burn ban in effect. Trim grass and shrubs away from sides of house, don't throw cigarettes out the car window.

Earl asks if we can have a meeting announcement on the new fire station reader board one week prior to meetings; Chief says yes.

Don't leave dogs or children in cars in this hot weather. Fire or police will break a window if they find this situation and the owner is subject to criminal charge. Public protected by Good Samaritan law in same situation.

Police Dept.: Lt. Darlington, reviewed Billy B's incident which is under investigation, transient camp arson/negligence fires occurred, fireworks stats presented: 12 infractions issued, 575 calls for service, 85 pounds seized, many letters issued.

Metro Parks Tacoma: none

Tacoma Public Utilities: none

City Manager/City staff: Bucoda Warren introduced, he is the new management fellow, new liaison for South End neighborhood. Council report document and City Council schedules provided. Cleanups: South Lakeshore Christian Church July 21 and Giadrone July 28. Encampment meetings coming up, see City schedule for details. Linda Stewart explains art projects coming up through Artists In Residence program (conversations on homelessness).

Lillian Hunter notes that school supplies are gathered and distributed at Eastside street fair (organized by Eastside Neighborhood Council). TPS and Communities In Schools also have program. Lillian recommends attending the series of library meetings taking public input.

Tacoma Public Schools: Collette Stewart, reports that graduation ceremonies are on YouTube and Facebook, summer feeding programs are now operating, 866-3HUNGRY to find locations. Summer school is also going on now at several locations, summerlearningtacoma.org for more information. Collette also reports on staff assignments at local schools (asst. principals and principals).

Mann Elementary will now have before and after school care. What is cost and how many spaces are available? Collette will follow up.

Safe Streets: Darren Pen, May 31 neighborhood appreciation party went well, June 14 neighborhood forum had over 100 people attend to listen to and ask questions of panel, several cleanups have occurred and several more are being held within the next few weeks. Some Safe Streets groups have been doing neighborhood walks to have a presence and look for issues, others have done yard work for elderly neighbors, as well as walks against crime. This month's topic is 311: what it is (clearinghouse of resources and information) and how to use it (call or go online).

Port of Tacoma: none

Guest speakers: Kim McGilvrey, Pierce Transit, speaking on Bus Rapid Transit plans for Pacific Avenue. An explanatory video was shown to communicate the features of the proposed BRT service. The route will cover 14.4 miles of Pacific Ave from downtown Tacoma to Spanaway. This video and information, including how to comment, can be found at rideBRT.com. Pierce Transit Board recently approved termini (where it starts and ends), the mode (bus rapid transit), and the alignment (the route it follows). BRT will replace route 1 from downtown to Walmart in Spanaway (with service to Tacoma Dome Station for local and regional connections). Station locations and vehicle type are yet to be determined.

Question: will it run 24 hours a day? Answer: not yet determined, 10 minute frequently but probably not 24 hours.

Question: is PT a proponent of carbon tax? Answer: that's a Sound Transit initiative; not aware of PT stance.

Question: was acronym "BRT" intentional with the texting shortcut (be right there)? Answer: No but it works!

Question: does it replace route 1? Answer: yes, those who want to go the whole way from TCC to Spanaway, they would have to transfer. Also the service to Tacoma Dome Station will be helpful from transfers.

Question: is there a breakdown of budget on website? Answer: not sure but can provide.

Question: what is fare? Answer: same as regular fare.

Question: how will running way affect parking along Pacific? Businesses will be worried, and it will make things crowded and won't solve traffic problems. Feels it should have been brought to voters. Answer: those concerns are recognized and are being examined.

Fire Chief notes that fire department should be involved in conversations about vehicle/fuel type in order to consider emergency response.

Darren suggests a link to video and brochure on the SENCo Facebook page. Suzanne asks if presentation is available on PT webpage; video is... and open houses are coming up and presentations can be made on request.

Community Concerns: resident brings up concern about shooting outside Billy B's a little while ago and witnessed incident. He was very upset and knows that Safe Streets doesn't deal with these sorts of incidents. He is concerned about public safety. Also worried about money going to roads and transit; homelessness and social services need attention and funding.

Jordan and Maureen, new residents in Mann neighborhood, house across the street has a lot of cars and people going back and forth at all hours. Have been reporting to 311 but haven't got any follow-up. What can they do? Lt. Darlington recommends them reporting to Sector 4 CLOs. Darren recommends Safe Streets (they have attended). Suzanne notes drug activity has increased around Mann Elementary.

Janis asks about unauthorized marijuana grow operation status. Lt. Darlington reports on recent busts conducted with multiple agencies responding (as reported at last month's meeting).

General Business: Executive Committee has ideas for Bylaws changes, will pass along via Tony to Bylaws Committee for consideration. Executive Committee would like Board members to review Bylaws and give suggestions to Bylaws Committee. Election process will be reviewed.

Also, reminder that now we have a full Board, we must form an Elections Committee made up of members not up for re-election. In November, elections are conducted via secret ballot. Officers are voted on by Executive Committee in January, with new members brought on at February meeting.

Penny will send last Executive Committee meeting minutes to full Board. These meetings are open to all members. There is not a set day/time for these to occur but Earl can send the selected date/time out to all Board members in future.

Old Business: discussion on progress with Media Committee and how we present information via website and social media. Cary supports Suzanne in moving the website to Wordpress and can meet with her to arrange access.

New Business: Tyler makes motion to do a back-to-school supply drive for local children in need. Tony seconds. Janis mentions an effort underway with the Fern Hill car show and Fred Meyer. We will contact 6 local schools to find out what they need, as well as see what other community organizations are doing to coordinate efforts. Approved by all members present.

Adjourned 10:10pm

Respectfully submitted by

Penny Grellier, Recording Secretary