



Minutes of Tacoma Central Neighborhood Council Forum

March 1, 2018 • 7:00 pm

Tacoma Nature Center
1919 South Tyler Street

Board Attendees: Charles Mann, Doug Schafer, and Roxie Nichols.

Absent: Luis Alonzo. (Claudia Riedener resigned recently.)

Room Count: 26 + one virtual participant.

At 7:02 pm, the Chair, Charles Mann, convened the forum and welcomed attendees. He displayed the GoToMeeting logon URL, <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/518861133>, explaining anyone can participate remotely in the forum via the internet. Further, virtual participants can ask questions and offer comments during the forum. Charles displayed slides that described the function of the neighborhood council program and invited persons to become members of our board. At his invitation, the attendees introduced themselves. One attendee expressed concerns about homeless camping under the Highway 16 overpass near Orchard Street; CLO Norling acknowledged the report. Charles recommended filing a 311 report for two purposes: appropriate City services are respond to reports and essential service data is captured for budgets and resource planning.

7:12 pm. City Manager liaison Rebecca Boydston (rboydston@cityoftacoma.org) enumerated the March 24 T-Town Services Expo at the Tacoma Dome and other upcoming events. She spoke about ongoing homelessness issues and Tacoma's "strategy."

7:19 pm. Metro Parks liaison, Ralph Thomas, emphasized March 11 Tacoma Winter Wonderland for Kids with Disabilities to be held at STAR Center and the adjacent Boys & Girls Club. He also promoted the annual Mud Run on March 24 at Swan Creek Park. See Metro Parks calendar of events at <https://www.metroparkstacoma.org/calendar/>.

7:22 pm. Tacoma Fire Department liaison, Steve Collins, explained statistical data while Charles displayed the City's website showing the numbers and types of responses by neighborhood council area, the vast majority of which are medical aid calls (<https://data.cityoftacoma.org/stat/goals/63y5-3a58/>). Other useful resources include safety tips (<http://www.cityoftacoma.org>, then search "Fire and Injury Safety"). Mr. Collins discussed the importance of properly disposing of unused prescription drugs (WA Poison Control Center, <http://www.takebackyourmeds.org>, to locate the nearest prescription drugs disposal site).

7:31 pm. Community Liaison Officer, Imtiaz Norling, mentioned that each police substation now has a prescription drugs disposal container. While Charles displayed a summary of crime trends, Officer Norling described several recent criminal incidents within our neighborhood.

7:40 pm. Charles introduced the Innovative Grants Program, under which each neighborhood council recommends City funding for non-municipal projects. The City's biennial budget allocates funds to each neighborhood council to support innovation. At this forum, CNC's remaining allocation is about \$25,000. Charles distributed project summaries to attendees and briefly explained each application. Radio Tacoma, Hilltop Business Association and Sixth Avenue Business District project representatives offered clarifications for their projects. Chair Mann polled attendees, who voted to fund the grants as follows: Tacoma Radio (\$2,500, as requested); Hilltop Business Association (\$2,777, as requested); Sixth Avenue Business District (\$5,000, less than requested \$7,500); and Hilltop Urban Gardens (\$6,250, as requested). Project summaries were previously posted on the CNC website (<http://cnc-tacoma.com/new-a-pending/innovative-grants-for-neighborhoods>).

8:10 pm. Charles explained he is unable to sustain his time commitment to CNC. Without assistance, certain forum and organizational features will be retired. He displayed and explained some questions

that he intends to include in a survey to be distributed throughout the neighborhood (mailers) and accessible on the CNC website. Survey results will be available on the CNC website and Facebook page. The survey will elicit neighborhood council expectations from neighbors.

Charles displayed a list of proposed 2018 forum presenters and solicited attendee suggestions. Attendees suggested adding Hilltop Action Coalition and 911 South Sound to the list.

8:30 pm. The Chair adjourned the meeting and invited attendees to remain for the board meeting.

8:47 pm. The board (Charles Mann, Roxy Nichols, and Doug Schafer) convened, joined by prospective board members Tiffany Y'vonne and Tobias Nitzsche, who contributed to discussions. The board approved the February 2018 forum minutes and noted a treasury balance of \$9,341.20. After considerable study, the board approved ordering 1,000 logo-imprinted reusable grocery bags to be distributed at community events and local markets. We discussed forum presentations, neighborhood community group alliances and additional marketing strategies to elicit greater neighbor participation.

9:45 pm. The board meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Schafer, Board Secretary