

Hilltop Action Coalition Community Meeting
October 16, 2017

Notes/Minutes

Brendan Nelson called the meeting to order at 6:05pm.

Board members present: Brendan Nelson, Jennifer Schaal, Fletcher Jenkins (emeritus)

Brendan Nelson: HAAction Announcements

- Jennifer Schaal encourages everyone to participate in the Great Washington Shakeout this Thursday, October 19th, at 10:19am. Registering takes only a few seconds and is just a commitment to practice drop-cover-hold when the ground starts shaking during an earthquake. Be prepared!
- Meaningful Movies screens The Road to Nickelsville film about homelessness at the Grand Cinema October 26th, 6:30pm
- Adrian updated folks on the Links to Opportunity streetscape project

John Pullman & Allen Duran: Rescue Mission Enterprise Initiative

- The Rescue Mission works with the most impoverished members of our community
- The Enterprise Initiative is a fully-funded subsidiary of the Rescue Mission
- The Initiative aims to go beyond subsistence day-to-day employment for rescuing people from homelessness; it seeks to train people to better their lives and become leaders
- People who come from this program have a reputation for making outstanding employees
- The Enterprise Initiative has two businesses: the initial startup was a home services business and is very successful; the newest venture is a cell phone repair shop at 6th & Union
- We partner with Rescue Café and Sound Outreach
- HAC will put info about this on its Facebook page

Eric Ballentine: The Mission Continues

- Veterans are often left without purpose when they separate from the military, and transition to civilian life can take a long time and feel like purgatory
- The Mission Continues works with vets to restore a sense of purpose through service to communities
- 71 platoons across the U.S. have focused on community gardens, parks and playgrounds, and school renovations
- We now have a platoon dedicated to the Hilltop area; need to know what the Hilltop community needs, can't do it without the community's involvement
- Our three principles: (1) work hard and trust (2) learn and grow (3) have fun

Sean Stringer & Gretchen Aguirre: Tacoma PD Update

- Sean Stringer is captain of the Community Policing Program; they have 87 standing monthly meetings they attend, and Hilltop is a favorite because they see good work being done instead of just hearing complaints!
- Gretchen Aguirre is the new Sector One Commander: gaguirre@cityoftacoma.org
- This has been a bad summer for CLOs: four are out or on light duty due to injuries
- Brandon Showalter should be back next week
- Pam Rush has a foot injury and will be on light duty til the first of the year
- Intiaz “Taz” Norling is joining our sector
- There are issues with trailers on residential streets camping out for long periods; one in particular at 11th & Cushman
- The 14th corridor had two community meetings and calmed down a bit but is now seeing increased activity
- The homelessness outreach team has four CLOs, one from each sector
- There is still not enough housing supply for the people in the transition camp; the camp will be extended
- The next Drug Take Back event will be Saturday, October 28th, 10:00am-2:00pm at the police stations at 1524 MLK Jr Way and 5136 N 26th; please bring your expired and unneeded prescription and over-the-counter medications for safe and environmentally sound disposal

Announcements

- The next Project Homelessness event is Wednesday, October 25th at the Tacoma Dome, with many services being offered
- Community Healthcare Center now has a diabetic foot clinic 9:00am-2:00pm
- The Hilltop Business Association is hosting a mayoral candidate forum Thursday, October 19th at 8:00am, at Allen AME Church
- Goodwill has a work training program for ages 16-24; many jobs are coming to Tacoma
- Goodwill also has a work program specifically for women
- Tacoma Community House is hosting their annual Trunk or Treat event on October 31st from 3:30-5:30pm. Participants and attendants welcome. If you want to display a themed trunk, contact TCH at 253.383.3951

Brendan Nelson: Next Community Meeting is November 20th

Brendan adjourned the meeting at 7:30 pm.

Submitted by Jennifer Schaal, October 16, 2017.