

**Meeting Minutes**  
**New Tacoma Neighborhood Council**  
**Wednesday, 8 November 2017**  
**5:30-7:00PM**  
**People's Center, 1602 MLK Jr. Way, Board Room**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Tom Ebenhoh at 5:30 pm. Introductions were made.

**Board Members Attending:** Elizabeth Burris, Mae Harris, Jo Davies, Tom Ebenhoh, Valerie Floyd, Rick Jones, Hally Bert, Jordan Burman

**Guests:** Debbiann Thompson, Lt. Gretchen Aguirre, Penny Grellier (PT), Samantha Lake, Amber Monson, Ruth Dalenius, Pennie Smith, Ann Dasch, John Nourse, Mark Lindquist, Mario Lorenz, Rep. Laurie Jenkins, David Nash-Mendez, Tacoma Fire representative, and others that may not have signed in.

### **Approval**

- October 2017 minutes M/S/Approved.
- Treasurer's report: \$2317.46 M/S/Approved.

### **Citizen Forum**

Tom recognized guest Amber; first time attending and interested in more community engagement.

### **Staff Reports**

- **Tacoma Police Department:** Lieutenant Aguirre has replaced Lt. Standifer as Sector 1 Commander. She reviewed staffing changes: CLO Marty Price is retiring on November 22, CLO Imitaz Norling is on loan from Sector 2 through the end of the year, CLO Rush is back on light duty and CLO Showalter is also back at the NE Substation from medical leave. For the near future, please funnel requests for CLOs through Lt. Aguirre. Stop Mart (15th & MLK) has done CEPTD evaluation and has trespass order; seems that owner is working with TPD to resolve this situation. The Narcotics Division is also active at this site. Citizens are urged to report suspicious behaviors and code enforcement issues. Vacant property at 1502 South J Street is developing hot spot: owner of the property is LLC in Vashon.

Following discussion it was decided that the Council will write letter of concern to owner, copies to CM Thoms & Blocker, Lt. Aguirre, etc. M/S Approved. Liz Burris will write letter.

Comment from audience about increased tagging; Lt. will follow-up.

- **Tacoma Fire Department:** Representative from TFD emphasized that squatters in vacant buildings present fire hazard and urged reporting to 311. Distributed handouts on fire safety during holiday season, disaster preparedness, and CPR class schedule. Fire Department is going to be recruiting for new personnel in 2018.  
[https://www.cityoftacoma.org/government/city\\_departments/fire/](https://www.cityoftacoma.org/government/city_departments/fire/)
- **City Manager/Council Office:** David Nash-Mendez distributed *Neighborhood Council Report* for November which included the attachment of the City Council Forecast Schedule. Emphasized the Citizens' Forum portion of the Council Meeting that occurs on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, the Council Study Session of December 5 which will focus on

Housing Condition & Displacement Pressure on Hilltop: Final Finding and Recommendations (no public comment, will be on TV Tacoma). He suggested that when messaging a Councilmember, we also cc the admin assistant.

- **Metro Parks:** Debbiann Thompson discussed and provided handouts on various events

## New Business:

- **Pierce County Prosecutor Mark Lindquist:** Mark provided a detailed update which included, but not limited to, update on what is happening within prosecutor's office in Pierce County, discussed collaboration within cities and police departments, challenges faced and successes in his office, and fielded audience questions. He encouraged audience to stay informed and provided opportunity to sign up and receive his newsletter.

- **Representative Laurie Jenkins** provided a Legislative update. Her committee assignments include Judiciary, Healthy Care & Wellness, and Appropriations.

Education budget is \$7.4 million, mostly for teacher salaries. Tacoma is a high need urban district, but is challenged because there is limit on what school districts can levy. Her opinion: property taxes should be equalized across the State.

Mental Health - Western State Hospital houses 700 patients; it is the second largest mental health facility in the U.S. The direction for this year is to develop more community-based facilities and to move Western State in the direction of forensic patients. This shift will take at least a decade.

Legislative Policy Issues.

1 Established Department of Children, Youth & Families, bringing together services affecting children, early education, foster families and juvenile rehabilitation.

2. Paid family leave - WA has most progressive policy in U.S.

Future legislation: Democrats will control WA House and Senate, bodes well for legislation that has stalled. The Pierce County delegation (Jenkins, Fey, and Darnielle meet regularly and work well together.

Questions from audience:

1. re: mental health services for homeless individuals - Competency assessment and require treatment? There is provision that judge can order assisted outpatient treatment. This is provision that should be applied more frequently.

2. Safety and services for homeless teens? THA is ready to move on Arlington Heights (near Salishan) that will provide residential services for up to 15 teens.

For more info on Jenkins legislative work, see

<https://housedemocrats.wa.gov/legislators/laurie-jenkins/>

- **Ruth Dalenius, MLK Jr. Celebration and City of Destiny Awards.**

Presented information about the upcoming celebration and awards and need for donations. Motion to donate \$250. M/S/Approved.

- **NTNC Board Officers Nomination/Election:** Discussion re: nominations to Board. Those nominated: Jori Adkins, Rick Jones, Liz Burris, Bill Garl. M/S - Approved Elections will be held in December.

Samantha Lake, member of the UW Engagement group in engaging more student involvement was nominated to the Board. M/S/ Approved.

- Request for support of Dickens Festival to be held in Stadium District, 12/9. Motion to donate \$250. M/S/Approved.
- Discussion of proposed billboard moratorium. Motion to write letter supporting moratorium. M/S/Approved. Tom will write letter.

## Old Business

Reviewed materials developed by UW Engagement Program interns Jordan and Samantha. NTNC approved with enthusiasm. Jo pointed out that it's "People's Center" not "People's Place."

## Council Reports

Tom discussed last Community Council meeting update on 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Neighborhood Council program and update on homeless regulations/City way forward.

## Announcements

Pierce Transit Open Houses on High Capacity Proposals for Pac Ave South

11/14, 4 - 7 pm at UWT Phillip Hall

11/15 1 - 4 pm at PLU

5 - 8 pm at Stewart Middle School

11/16 4 - 7 pm at Spanaway Elementary

Information available in Spanish

Downtown on the Go.

11/28 12 - 1 Ride the #13 Bus with School Superintendent Carla Santorno

<http://www.downtownonhego.com/about/news-events/ride-the-bus-with-superintendent-carla-santorno>

Tom/Jo: Briefed on the Safe Streets conference they attended.

Tom mentioned December meeting would be brief with an informal holiday social to follow. Reminded Board of Annual Report due to City and scheduling a Board retreat in January for Annual Report, budget, and way forward discussions. Coordinating with City Manager for her to be a guest in Jan/Feb.

Hilltop Action Coalition

11/20, 6 pm Community Health Center. Monthly Community Meeting and appreciation for Lt. Leroy Standifer and CLO Marty Price.

**Adjournment** 7:35 pm