

Meeting Minutes
New Tacoma Neighborhood Council
Wednesday, 10 January 2018
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: Hally Bert, Elizabeth Burris, Mae Harris, Jo Davies, Tom Ebenhoh, Valerie Floyd, Emily Roeben, Traci Kelly, Jordan Burman, Samantha Lake, Jori Adkins

Guests: Debbiann Thompson (Metro Parks), Erika Tucci (TPU), Dan Drennan (TPU), Barb Van Haren, David Nash-Mendez (COT), Jason Heminger, Michael Bradley (Metro Parks), Rosalind Medina (TPS), Penny Grellier (PT), Pennie Smith, Gretchen Aguirre (TPD, Dave England (TFD), and others that may have not signed in

Approval

- January Agenda/December 2017 minutes M/S/Approved.
- Treasurer's report: \$2058.04 M/S/Approved.

Staff Reports

Tacoma Police Department: Lt Aguirre reported on, but not limited to:

1st responders appreciation after this last week

15th St. Corridor issues taking officers off of Dome District/Downtown for investigations,

Yellow houses at 1010 15th are also being investigated

2 new DOC officers for sector 1

Responds to questions about Nuisance Ordinance – does need strengthening, but there are laws about Private Property that are hard to change and do we *want* to change them?

Responds to questions about hiring/filling vacancies

Tacoma Fire Department: Chief England provided updated on Blood Donor Month –get out there and give if you can! Call Cascade Regional Blood Centers for location near you. He provided an update on staffing and funding for TFD.

City Manager/Council Office: David provided handouts and discussed various City events/issues, including, but not limited to, the community survey, community cleanups, homeless issues, and the City council forecast for January. There were some questions from the audience he will follow up on.

Metro Parks: Debbiann Thompson discussed and provided handouts on various upcoming Metro Parks events and encouraged audience to attend and visit the Metro Parks web site for more information.

Tacoma Public Schools:

Rosalind provided handouts and briefed on various TPS updates and discussed the renewals of Educational and Operations Levy and Technology Levy on Feb 13; she encouraged the audience to vote.

Pierce Transit:

Penny provided update on clean up work on the 2 Tacoma Dome Station parking garages which will result in reduced parking for next year or so and PT is still studying paid parking, or not. She provided brief update on other PT issues and the Pacific Ave. high capacity transit study.

New Business

Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager:

Ms. Pauli provided a detailed update and Q&A session on various issues/actions to include, but not limited, to:

Bi-Annual Budget Adjustments - positive fiscal trends (unprecedented development in the downtown core w/1700 new housing starts, not enough, of course, especially in affordable housing), good management, accountability by TC Broadnax, former City Mgr. have helped create a \$23 million upward adjustment. Those funds were used to fill some 1 time deficiencies.

Econ. Development Director - interim is Kim Betier, Dir. of Public Facilities. Search has not yet been announced, looking at some Departmental re-organization, will have a public input component when ready. The Homeless issues - Pacific Lodge? From the Stability Site in Dome District, those ready to take next step will go into a more independent living situation, the Lodge was to be that, but owners did not accept City's offer so still looking for a site. The Hot Team is still in effect, some change in personnel, City is dedicated to continuing with the issues of homelessness, E. "A" St. in Dome District was clean up costing the City \$27,000 and have clean it out again today (Jan. 10). The messiness of homelessness (litter, needles, clothes, chop shops for bikes etc.) needs to be reported to **311** to get in the process and become part of the mapping of movement and hot spots. The process then is: 1. Assessment of the site, 2. Property ownership contacts, 3. Clean up. Concerns expressed about economic health of Tacoma with loss of 2 big employers in downtown and for City to continue efforts to recruit/retain businesses.

What about absentee landlords and chronic nuisance? Slow process in getting Landlords to address code enforcement issues. City has 2 people in Code Enforcement who can respond to requests but can not act on their own initiative. From Nuisance Code to Abatement: Where in this path can we tighten up enforcement? Rite Aid on Hilltop comes to mind. Lt Aguirre from TPD standpoints discussed enforcement and had interactive discussion with audience and City Manager.

Public input in next budget cycle – 2025 Plan new website coming on line in Feb., traveling budget input and taped presentations, T- Town Expo at Dome will be first w/ community input in March. Possible neighborhood council representation?

Other: Council Meeting's Citizen's Forum will commence in Feb. 2nd Tues. as usual. City hired Center for Dialog Resolution that will address ideas for Citizen's Forum protocol and possible changes to format. 1st meeting today (Jan. 10) for project scoping. NTNC spoke on importance of having diverse and inclusive engagement and format as it is, not working. Recommendations to expand current monthly forum at TMB to include mandated public/town hall type formats within the districts Council represent; at least quarterly/bi-monthly.

Neighborhood Councils *are* important and will NOT be going away but are being reviewed during this 5 year neighborhood council program update

TPU Input on selection of new Director:

Erika provided a brief update on Water, Power, Rail and Click! Feedback was collected on 3 questions for feedback on selecting a new TPU Director. Erik provided handouts with web site to provide input on-line.

1. What do you like about TPU? Inputs included, not limited to, the new bill, click!, staff manning the desk and phones, that we own our own water system, power system and internet system.
2. What don't you like about TPU? Inputs included, not limited to, the idea of losing Click, TPU has money, their people (especially the Director) are some of the highest paid, yet they do not step up to the plate to help the city but stand firm on developers paying for up-grades, even beyond their site, waffle at undergrounding and up-grading power in areas where City Plans & Econ. Dev. expects growth. More outreach for training in TPU jobs locally. We are all volunteers!
3. What questions would you like the TPU board and City Council to ask the applicants for Until Director? Inputs included, but not limited to, use what we have brought up in the first 2 questions + must have understanding of the value of click and new director should see beyond the traditional utilities of water and electricity! Neighborhood council represented on hiring panel.

Proposed Changes to Citizens Forum: Will discuss at Board retreat.

NTNC Board Officer Elections:

Nominations made and all approved Tom (Chair), Traci (Vice Chair), Rick (Treasurer), Jori and Jo (Secretaries), Samantha (Director of Communications). M/S/Approved.

Old Business

- **NTNC: Neighborhood Council Program Review 2017/18 (All):** Will address at Board retreat
- **NTNC: IRS Annual Filing (Tom):** Deferred
- **NTNC: By Laws Committee (All):** Deferred
- **NTNC CityLine Shows 4 and 19 January:** Jan 4 taping was postponed; clarified with TV-12 and Jan 19 was a neighborhood moment show and not NTNC scheduled taping time. More to follow on/if re-scheduled City Line show and next NTNC neighborhood moment.
- **NUSA 2019 in Birmingham (All):** Encouraged Board and especially those that have never attended to consider attending. More to follow.
- **NTNC: UW Engagement Program (Jordan/Samantha):** Samantha briefed on marketing flyer going to print, engaging UW staff, already appears couple more students interested, possible project, and more. \$57.00 requested for printing marketing flyers. Board approved; expressed appreciation to Samantha/Jordan for their work on engagement program. More to follow.

Council Reports

- Community Council
- Correspondence
- Reports from Neighborhoods

Announcements:

Jan 27 is Board retreat from 0900-1200 at Catherine Place

February meeting dedicated Agenda to Innovative Grant presentations with Board making final selections for funding at the March meeting.

NOTE: NTNC Executive Committee Meetings are open to the public. Meetings take place at 8:30a.m. on the last Saturday of each month Tully's at 9th & Broadway.

Board Members: If you are unable to attend, please notify executive committee prior to meeting

New Tacoma Neighborhood Council

P.O. Box 1784, Tacoma WA 98401 www.cityoftacoma.org/neighborhoodcouncils

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/262290947232435/>

Adjournment: 7:30