



Minutes of Tacoma Central Neighborhood Council Forum

May 3, 2018 • 7:00 pm

Tacoma Nature Center

1919 S. Tyler St.

Tacoma, WA 98405

Board Attendees:, Charles Mann, Doug Schafer, Roxie Nichols, Luis

Alonzo, Toby Nitzsche. Absent: none

Room Count: 27

At 7:02 pm, the Board Treasurer, Luis Alonzo, convened the forum and welcomed attendees. He called attendees attention to the agenda and its calendar and displayed the City's website and noted that much information can be gleaned from it. Board members introduced themselves. Mr. Alonzo described the City's Neighborhood Council Program.

Mr. Alonzo displayed a flyer for the City's upcoming Community Listening Sessions on Affordable Housing, and explained the nature of those sessions.

7:12 pm. Mr. Alonzo introduced 27th District State Representatives Laurie Jinkins and Jake Fey to summarize the accomplishment and highlights of the 2018 legislative session. Ms. Jinkins is Chair of the House Justice Committee and serves on Health & Wellness and Appropriations Committees. Mr. Fey vice-chairs the Transportation committee and serves on the Environment and the Technology and Economic Development Committees. Mr. Fey observed that he, Rep. Jinkins and Senator Jeannie Darnielle like each other and work well together.

Generally, Ms. Jinkins and Mr. Fey reported the legislature:

- Adopts a 2-year budget in odd-numbered years and a supplemental, gap-filling budget in even-numbered years.
- Concluded this 2018 60-day session on time, the first time in five years.
- Addressed public school funding as required by the McCleary case court decision.
- Passed a voting rights act, which requires local jurisdictions elect their officials by district.
- Authorized a pre-law program at UW-Tacoma, suggesting a future law school possibility.
- Increased funding for child protection and preventive health care, e.g., vaccines, in Pierce County.
- Acted to equalize school-supporting property tax rates statewide. Before this legislative session, property taxes varied considerably from school district to school district. Those with high-value commercial property had a much lower tax rate than residents.
- Increased the pay for State Patrol troopers to arrest (pun intended) transfers to higher paying law enforcement jobs.
- Funded an air quality study for the Port of Tacoma area.

7:30 pm. Reps Jinkins and Fey took questions about a variety of topics, including gun control, taxes, and child custody issues in family courts. Mr. Fey acknowledged strong, opposing viewpoints for the Sound Transit Three (ST3) taxes approved by voters in 2018.

7:55 pm. City Manager liaison Rebecca Boydston announced a Planning Commission vacancy for our councilmanic district, Affordable Housing listening sessions and the ordinance requiring a 90-day notice

for tenants in mass eviction situations. She indicated May is Historic Preservation Month.

8:01 pm. Metro Parks liaison Ralph Thomas announced public feedback sought concerning Titlow Park planning, Pt. Defiance Park construction progress and Metro Parks is hiring summer staffers. Tacoma Public Schools students can receive a special Metro Parks pass.

8:05 pm. Tacoma Fire Department liaison Doug Kimball announced National Arson Awareness Week, with arson occurring particularly in abandoned, vacant houses and other buildings. He asked participants to be alert to homeless persons occupying vacant houses; those unauthorized occupants sometimes start living room campfires for warmth or cooking.

8:09 pm. On behalf of absent Tacoma Police Department liaison Imtiaz Norling, Charles Mann displayed crime statistics and crime summaries. TPD is hiring police and encourages applicants.

8:13 pm. Tacoma Public Schools (TPS) liaison Steve Graves announced high school graduation dates and locations. The graduation rate for TPS is now 85 percent. Lincoln High School is having its annual plant sale May 2-6. TPS is promoting "See Something, Say Something," an intervention concept to reduce and prevent school tragedies. Mr. Graves updated district construction projects, including Birney, Downing and Grant Elementary Schools and Hunt Middle School. The Science and Math Institute (SAMI) collaboration with Metro Parks' Environmental Learning Center has received national recognition. The new Arlington Elementary building received an architectural design award.

8:25 pm. Mr. Alonzo invited attendees to express concerns. Kyle Paskewitz announced his candidacy the 27th District state legislature opposing Rep. Jenkins. Another attendee expressed a wish for more police presence in the vicinity of Walmart and Bellarmine High School. Another attendee inquired about the May 19 Franklin Elementary community clean-up.

8:31 pm. Our Chair, Charles Mann, displayed Central Neighborhood Council goals and explained his efforts to capture community input concerning neighborhood council roles and priorities.

8:37 pm. Mr. Alonzo announced the May 12 Scott Pierson Trail Cleanup and May 19 Franklin Elementary Community Cleanup. A representative from the City's Customer Support Center (Tacoma First 311) gave a summary of recent 311 service calls from our district's residents.

8:45 pm. Mr. Alonzo adjourned the meeting.

8:56 pm. The board members (except Roxy who had to depart) convened a board meeting, joined by Tiffany Y'vonne and Anaid Yerena. We approved the April 2018 forum minutes and noted a treasury balance of \$9,309.74. We will soon receive our annual \$4,000 City subsidy. We approved ordering 1,000 shopping bags costing about \$1,500, and discussed our plans to distribute them. We affirmed and updated the marketing information printed on each bag, i.e., logo, website URL, phone number and forum meeting data.

Charles mentioned his intention to solicit donations to CNC from area businesses. Doug noted since treasury was fairly high, we should spend some before soliciting donations.

Charles suggested CNC contract with a landscaping company to landscape neighborhood roundabouts and maintain them year-round. Some of us felt we should recruit neighbors near each round-about who would agree to provide ongoing maintenance of their nearby roundabout. We agreed to first identify and inventory existing roundabouts. Tiffany suggested a much more comprehensive beautification program; she will provide more details at our next meeting. The conversation was generally positive; roundabout

landscaping will make positive neighborhood improvements and great marketing for CNC.

Doug agreed to create a Facebook group site that anyone may join and post information. We presently have a Facebook page which only board members may initiate posts.

We discussed creating an email system that routes some of the chair's incoming emails to board members.

9: 46 pm. Board meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Schafer, Board Secretary