

Hilltop Action Coalition  
Area-Wide Meeting – April 17, 2017

Notes/Minutes

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

Board members present: Brendan Nelson, Ameedah Hasan, Teresa Jackson, William Towey, Jo Davies, Jennifer Schaal, Fletcher Jenkins (emeritus).

Keith Armstrong (Tacoma Small Business & Local Employment/Apprenticeship Programs)

- Handouts: Apprenticeship Program information with contact phone numbers; and a flyer on the Small Business Enterprise program
- Both programs encourage local employment and locally-owned small businesses selling good(s) and services to the construction and business growth coming to the Hilltop because of the Link Light Rail
- The goal of the programs is to create a live-work-play environment for current residents in the Hilltop instead of having the growth come from outside the community
- Local residents helping to construct new building take more pride of ownership in the community
- There are 240 apprenticeships with partners such as Bates and Clover Park colleges; 55 of these are registered with state Labor and Industries as being desperately needed
- In addition to Hilltop projects like Valhalla Hall, there are downtown projects such as the large hotel coming
- A Links to Opportunity program will also be rehabilitating entire streets/blocks to help current residents stay in place as property values rise
- The City has \$80 million average in construction jobs every year; \$54 million of that is coming to the Hilltop
- Ancillary jobs such as administration to support the construction are also needed
- Small businesses selling good and services to support the growth are also needed; the City will help get you started
- The Hilltop Engagement Committee (HEC) works with these programs; please consider joining this important group; meetings are the first Wednesday of each month, 5:00pm at Bates Technical College
- Eric Alozie of NWE Consulting (workforce development) was also present: 253-223-9811 [eric\\_alozie@msn.com](mailto:eric_alozie@msn.com)

Marki Schillinger (WA Dept of Corrections)

- DOC officers monitor and enforce the rules and conditions for offenders to receive housing and treatment
- A question was asked about the number of halfway houses and/or new applications for halfway houses on the Hilltop; the answer was not known but will be addressed at the next Area-Wide Meeting

Detective Vicki Chittick (Tacoma PD)

- CLO McQuade is working with the owner of Stop Mart at MLK and 15<sup>th</sup>; the owner is currently cooperating
- Mario Lorenz reported that Prosecutor Mark Lindquist told the HBA he would look into the Stop Mart issue
- Current city code for public nuisances such as the Stop Mart designate the location for only 60 days; the code needs revising for this and the penalties involved; citizens are encouraged to talk with city council members about needed code changes
- Drive-bys and shootings were lower than usual last month
- No body cams yet for TPD's force
- Policy on undocumented immigrants? Unknown; we're still understaffed and too busy with other issues

Brendan Nelson: HAC Calendar

- Brendan drew attention to the Community Calendar printed on the reverse of the Area-Wide agenda
- The HUG (Hilltop Urban Garden) 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Black Earth Day has been moved to Earth Day April 29<sup>th</sup>, but they are conducting a "Comcast Cares Day" clean-up event this Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>; both events around Peace Community Center
- Mario Lorenz mentioned Mr Mac's upcoming 90<sup>th</sup> birthday April 23<sup>rd</sup> at Johnny's Restaurant in Fife; the HBA is doing cake at their Thursday (April 20<sup>th</sup>) meeting; Mr Mac has health issues of late and everyone is encouraged to stop in the store and say hi
- HAC's Inaugural Luncheon will happen at Peace Community Center May 19<sup>th</sup>; tickets cost \$18 and are available now through the HAC website and Eventbrite
- William Towey noted that the next edition of the Hilltop Journal will be out in a few weeks; Write253 is sponsoring a youth writing contest; "Sonics Guy" Kris Brannon is editor/writer of the sports page
- Next Area-Wide Meeting is Monday, May 15<sup>th</sup>

Brendan adjourned the meeting at 7:21 pm.

Submitted by Jennifer Schaal, April 17, 2017.