Minutes of Tacoma Central Neighborhood Council Forum
February 7, 2019 • 7:00 pm

Tacoma Nature Center | 1919 S Tyler St. | Tacoma | Washington | 98405

Board Attendees: Doug Schafer and Luis Alonzo;Absent: Charles Mann (out of town), Roxie Nichols (work related meeting), Tobias Nitzsche (out of town), and Tiffany Y'vonne (reason unknown).

Room Count: 15

At 7:08 pm, TCNC board member Doug Schafer convened the forum and welcomed attendees. He thanked Luis Alonzo for linking his laptop to the projector, since Doug's laptop was failing to connect to the projector. He explained that Luis was recording the meeting for streaming the video on our Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/CNCtacoma/), and that the meeting's audio was being recorded, as well. Doug summarized the neighborhood council program, then invited the non-city-employee attendees to introduce themselves.

7:15 pm. Doug introduced Tacoma Fire Assistant Chief Pappuleas and Firefighters Kimball who described some concerns, such as scald and burn prevention. They reported that the city is now requiring care facilities to use their own staff and equipment to assist their fallen patients themselves rather than calling 911 for a TFD response. And they reported that the City now is imposing of fines for businesses with repeated false alarms, in order to motivate them to properly maintain and manage their alarm systems.

7:20 pm. A young man (unidentified) representing Metro Parks informed us that the agency is beginning to offer fitness classes at locations in addition to its community centers by partnering with other organizations, such as churches.

7:25 pm. City Manager liaison Rebecca Boydston informed us about upcoming City Council agenda items and meeting dates, including the mayor's March 6 State of the City address, and the Feb. 19 public hearing on detached accessory dwelling units. She stated that City crews will be plowing the snow on arterial streets, so residents should not park on them, if possible. She reminded us that property owners are responsible for removing snow from their adjacent sidewalks. She reported that Councilmember Blocker is holding a Hilltop Community Listening Session on Feb. 21 at Peoples Center concerning library services and desired improvements to Peoples Center. She reported that essentially all events scheduled for this weekend or early next week have been cancelled due to the forecasted snow.

7:30 pm. Preston Peck from the City's Solid Waste Division delivered a PowerPoint presentation about the City's curbside recycleable waste collection program, and the need for changes due to significantly increased costs. This is only partly attributable to China's rejection of U.S. recyclable waste due to excess food contamination. His division is seeking public input on the possible rates and service changes, with information and a public survey available on its website -- www.tacomarecycles.org/Changes. He reported that the City Council is expected to decide in March or April on what changes to adopt. Mr. Peck fielded many questions and suggestions from attendees.

8:05 pm. Doug Schafer gave a brief overview of the Safe Streets neighborhood groups program and of the social media site Nexdoor.com. He displayed the www.safest.org website and its map that shows its three groups within our Central neighborhood -- Delong, Inspire, and Capitol Heights (the latter to have a monthly joint meeting at Franklin Elem.). And he displayed the Nextdoor.com website, including the pages at which neighbors post about general matters and about crime and safety matters, and he also displayed that website's map showing the many distinct neighborhood groups within the western part of our Central area. (Since Luis'
Nextdoor.com account is for his address in the western part, he could not display the groups in the eastern part of our Central area).

8:05 pm. Luis demonstrated downloading the PDF of this meeting's agenda from our Council's website and displayed its page 2 -- the calendar of events. With that downloaded PDF, he demonstrated, as Doug explained, that the internet links can be clicked to display more information about each listed event. They displayed that linkage for several of the listed events, including the link to the City's special events calendar. They linked to the City website about 2019 modifications to the Comprehensive Plan, listing many community meetings around the city. Ms. Boydston noted that their first two community meeting were cancelled due to the forecasted snow.

8:15 pm. Doug asked attendees if they had concerns to raise or announcements to make. Nobody had any concerns or announcements. He displayed our council's Facebook page, indicating that he and other board members post on it information that residents might be interested in.

8:20 pm. Doug adjourned the forum.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Schafer, Secretary