



Minutes of Tacoma Central Neighborhood Council Forum

January 4, 2018 • 7:00 pm

Tacoma Nature Center
1919 South Tyler Street

Board Attendees: Charles Mann, Claudia Riedener, Doug Schafer, Luis Alonzo and Roxie Nichols. Absent: Dan Villa and Aaron Johnsen.

Room Count: 25 (plus 2 persons via GoToMeeting)

At 7:02 pm, the Chair, Charles Mann, convened the forum and welcomed attendees. He displayed the GoToMeeting logon URL, <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/518861133> and explained anyone can participate in the forum from anywhere (performance is better in a wifi environment). Virtual participants can submit comments and questions via a chat window on the GoToMeeting control panel (eventually, participants will be able to converse with the forum to ask questions or comment). He displayed slides that described the function of the City's neighborhood councils and invited persons to become members of our board. He called attendees' attention to the new TCNC phone number--253-242-3579--that reaches the Chair. At his invitation, the attendees introduced themselves. He also called attendees' attention to the events calendar on the back of tonight's agenda. He then displayed the City's website, www.cityoftacoma.org, illustrating current and topical items that might be of interest to citizens. He then did the same on the Metro Parks website: www.metroparkstacoma.org.

7:16 pm. The Chair introduced Dr. Carla Santorno, Superintendent of Tacoma Public Schools. She described the great diversity of the TPS student population. Her vision was/is to close the gap between the achievement levels of disadvantaged and advantaged students--not just in graduation rates, but in other areas (e.g., college/vocational school admissions, AP scores, apprenticeships). She reviewed the TPS Strategic Plan's four goals. She stressed the importance of data-statistics on each school and each teacher (e.g., suspensions, etc.). She described the "Whole Child" educational objectives--preparing students to be responsible adults (e.g., learning teamwork, punctuality). She described that capable students now get placed in Advanced Placement classes, with or without parental request. She described the upcoming school levies, to be voted February 13, which support ongoing operations and technology.

Dr. Santorno replied to a question that 2017 legislation, aiming to fund schools, necessitated the levies.

8:02 pm. City Manager liaison Rebecca Boydston described upcoming events, including an open house on January 10 to meet planning staffers and learn about proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan. She described the annual Community Survey being conducted by phone.

8:10 pm. Metro Parks liaison Jim Biles described upcoming events, including free-day at the Zoo and Fort Nisqually on January 18.

8:11 pm. Fire Department liaison Steve Collins stressed the importance of keeping combustibles at least three feet from heaters. He reminded us to change smoke detector batteries.

8:15 pm. Community Liaison Officer Imtiaz Norling reviewed several local crime reports, including several gun-involved robberies several "shots-fired" calls.

8:29 pm. The Chair invited attendees to share concerns, but none were expressed. He discussed a Hilltop Monument meeting, and an upcoming filming of a Neighborhood Moments segment for TV Tacoma. He displayed a map of the Sprague Street improvements to address excessive speeding on the roadway from S. 19th to S. 23rd.

8:38 pm. The Chair adjourned the meeting and invited attendees to remain for the board meeting.

8:50 pm. The board (Charles, Doug, Luis, & Roxy; Claudia having departed) approved the December forum minutes. Our treasury balance is \$8,060.99. We agreed to donate \$500 supporting the January 15

MLK Celebration and to staff an information table there. Roxy distributed 2018 calendars she'd ordered bearing our logo and information. We agreed to distribute them at the MLK Celebration. We discussed our shopping bag proposal and agreed upon preferred bag dimensions and a color. We agreed to meeting on Thursday, Jan. 11, at 7:00 pm at Charles' home to prepare our 2017 annual report and our 2018 goals and budget. At that meeting, we'll also prepare our presentation for our Neighborhood Moments video segment to be taped at TV Tacoma on January 19. We agreed this video will focus on Scott Pierson Trail history and our cleanup involvement.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Schafer, Board Secretary