



## **Minutes of Tacoma Central Neighborhood Council Forum**

**May 4, 2017 • 7:00 pm**

Tacoma Nature Center  
1919 South Tyler Street

Board Attendees: Charles Mann, Roxie Nichols, Doug Schafer, Claudia Riedener, Luis Alonzo, Tony Powell. Absent: Debby Sims.

Room Count: 24

At 7:00 pm, the Chair, Charles Mann, convened the forum and welcomed attendees. He explained and 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 calendar events on the agenda.

7:09 pm. Councilmember Keith Blocker spoke about the City Manager selection process, now considering four candidates. The City Council is trying to address the homelessness problem. Mr. Blocker fielded several questions about homelessness and several questions about developments in the Hilltop along MLK.

7:27 pm. Reed Bennion, Public Works Engineering and Street Operations Divisions, discussed their repair & maintenance priorities. To report streets needing maintenance, call 253.591.5495. For more information: <http://tacomastreetinitiative.org> and <https://data.cityoftacoma.org>.

7:47 pm. Lauren Flemister of Planning & Development Services updated the Infill Pilot Program that which will increase neighborhood density by allowing several types of housing, including

- Detached Accessory Dwelling Units (DADUs) in single-family zoning districts
- Two-family development on corner lots in R-2 single-family districts
- Small-scale multifamily development in R-3 districts
- Cottage housing in most residential districts

Ms. Flemister discussed two infill applications, both DADUs, in Central Neighborhood and made several observations about applications around the City.

8:01 pm. Liaison Rebecca Boydston, from the City Manager's Office, updated the City Manager search and fielded questions.

8:07 pm. Liaison Doug Kimball, from Tacoma Fire Department, reminded us May is Arson Awareness month.

8:15 pm. Liaison Imtiaz Norling, from Tacoma Police Department, described local criminal activity.

8:23 pm. Liaison Paul Harris, representing Tacoma Public Schools' Steve Story, said several TPS high schools have received academic recognition and awards. TPS is hiring certified (teachers) and non-certified positions. A job fair is scheduled for May 17, 6:00 pm at the Asia-Pacific Cultural Center. May 24 is Stewart Middle School's open house. May 26 is a Tacoma Rainiers TPS night.

8:31 pm. The Chair invited attendees to express any proposals or concerns they may have; nobody spoke up. He played part of Eastside Neighborhood Council's TVTacoma Neighborhood Moments video and invited attendees to begin capturing neighborhood-oriented photos and videos for our upcoming CNC Neighborhood Moments video, to be filmed in July. Please orient cameras in landscape (wide vs tall (portrait)).

8:37 pm. The Chair invited attendees to depart or to stay for Board discussions, which began after most attendees departed.

- (a) Luis gave the treasurer's report. The HomeStreet Bank account balance is \$8,464.25 with nearly \$1,400 outstanding checks.
- (b) We discussed ideas for our Neighborhood Moments 10-minute program. A strategy to talk over a collection of still and video images was particularly popular.
- (c) As part of CNC's efforts to increase outreach, tonight's meeting included a test of virtual meeting software. PowerPoint slides and some audio were recorded; the recording will be evaluated for clarity. Ultimately, forums will be available for download & review after the event. Testing will continue for several months.
- (d) Deb Sims determined the City is purchasing shopping bags for distribution supporting the Bring Your Own Bag (BYOB) ordinance which becomes effective July 2017. Board discussion about ordering promotional shopping bags leveraging the City's vendor as a resource.
- (e) Board authorized sending the LNG plant opposition letter, previously circulated, which enumerates concerns about the proposed LNG plant.
- (f) Discussed a proposal for tree planting this fall.
- (g) Exploring a Google Voice account phone number that would replace Charles' phone number as the CNC's public contact point, allowing call forwarding.
- (h) Discussed candidate forums or presentation. Consensus that when all candidates are invited, candidates may make presentations or respond to moderated questions. We don't believe our small group attractive to candidates; we will encourage candidates to participate in larger, well-organized forums, e.g., League of Women Voters.
- (i) Karen Sudderth will be attending the NUSA conference May 24-27 in Omaha.
- (j) 25-year Neighborhood Council anniversary lapel pins were distributed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Doug Schafer, Board Secretary.