

Minutes
Joint Municipal Action Committee
December 12, 2008

PRESENT: Debbie Winskill, Chair (Tacoma School Board)
Victoria Woodards, Vice Chair (Metropolitan Park Board)
Connie Ladenburg (Tacoma City Council)
Tim Reid (Metropolitan Park Board)
Connie Rickman (Tacoma School Board)
Timothy Farrell (Pierce County Council)
Alisa O'Hanlon (City of Tacoma)
Nancy Davis (Metropolitan Park District)
Minutes taken by Tacoma School District

CALL TO ORDER




Debbie Winskill called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m.

INTRODUCTIONS

All attendees introduced themselves.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The following items were added to the agenda:

-  Public Utilities Water Rate
-  Gray and Gault Middle Schools
-  Tacoma School District No. 10 - 2009 Bond Issue

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Victoria Woodards moved for approval of the minutes of November 7, 2008. Connie Rickman seconded. The chair declared the motion carried.

19th & Tyler Site

It was reported that the Chief Executive Officers have not yet had the opportunity to meet to discuss shared funding of the Phase 2 plan amounting to \$66,000. During the discussion of this Victoria Woodards inquired if the owners of Fred Meyers were involved in the feasibility plan process. Martha Anderson responded that they were not. She reported that Fred Meyers received all the notifications regarding the public meetings since they are property owners. Victoria Woodards said that maybe sometime between now and the next time the Committee discusses this issue that at least a cursory conversation with the owners of Fred Meyers will have occurred.

PUBLIC UTILITIES WATER RATE

Nancy Davis and Victoria Woodards provided the Committee with background information on this topic. Nancy Davis reported that at the Utility Board's October study session the topic of water rate increases was discussed. There was also a PowerPoint presentation which indicated that the Utility Board could cap rates if they chose to do so (at two times the system increase = 10.8%). She noted that MetroParks was scheduled to have a 14% increase. At a later date, she and Victoria Woodards met with some Utility Board members privately to see if they would entertain the recommendation of capping MetroParks water rate increase. The Board members invited them to the Utility Board study session to address the Board on this issue. When it came to voting on this recommendation, two board members were in favor and two against noting "it was a last minute effort." Nancy Davis explained that it was a last minute effort because they were not aware of the procedure to bring this recommendation before the Utility Board. Victoria Woodards informed Committee members that MetroParks has experienced a 97% water rate increase since 2001. Nancy Davis did say, however, that there was a sub-resolution approved by the Board for three categories (large water usage, commercial and parks and irrigation) which will receive a 10.8% increase – this will reflect an increase of 80 cents per month in 2009 and 60 cents per month in 2010 resulting in a \$40,000 increase for MetroParks.

To help alleviate problems for the Park Board, Victoria Woodards asked Connie Ladenburg to encourage the City Council to have the Utility Board work with MetroParks and other governmental agencies. Following this discussion, Victoria Woodards said she will send a letter to Connie Ladenburg to present to the City Council regarding this matter.

2009 BOND ISSUE – TACOMA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Debbie Winskill informed Committee members that the school district will be running a bond issue in March 2009. The majority of the work will be done to secondary schools.

GAULT AND GRAY MIDDLE SCHOOLS

Debbie Winskill reported that the future use for Gault and Gray middle schools will be to serve as transition schools during the construction period for Stewart and Baker middle schools. She also shared the district's security efforts that will be provided for both schools, i.e. cameras and fencing, etc.

It was noted that the district will be communicating with community groups, such as the Dome Top group and Eastside Neighborhood to keep them abreast of the district's future use of these facilities and its security efforts.

[8:43 a.m. – Tim Reid was excused from the meeting.]

NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL ON PORTLAND AVENUE

Debbie Winskill informed Committee members that the school board approved the name of *First Creek Middle School* as the name for the new middle school on Portland Avenue.

TACOMA 360

Connie Ladenburg provided the Committee with an update. She informed members that a new director is not yet on board. It was noted that their first meeting will be held on December 22, 2008. It was noted that this item will be placed on the next agenda with the CEO's.

SAFE STREETS SUMMIT

Debbie Winskill announced that Safe Streets will be conducting a gang summit on May 19 and 20, 2009 at the Tacoma Convention Center.

NEXT MEETING AGENDA

-  Grant -- America's Promise
-  Safe Streets Gang Summit

COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

Debbie Winskill moved that the Committee nominate Victoria Woodards as Chair and Connie Ladenburg as Vice Chair. Connie Rickman seconded. The chair declared the motion carried.

It was noted that JMAC meetings will continue on the second Friday of each month.

SCHEDULING OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Friday, January 9, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. on the 11th Floor.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:58 a.m.

Note: Minutes for January will be taken by the City of Tacoma.