

**Minutes**  
**Joint Municipal Action Committee**  
**January 9, 2009**

**PRESENT:** Victoria Woodards, Chair (Metropolitan Park Board)  
Connie Ladenburg, Vice-Chair (Tacoma City Council)  
Debbie Winskill (Tacoma School Board)  
Tim Reid (Metropolitan Park Board)  
Connie Rickman (Tacoma School Board)  
Jake Fey (Tacoma City Council)  
Brynn Brady (Pierce County)  
Nancy Davis (Metropolitan Park District)  
Minutes taken by City of Tacoma

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Victoria Woodards called the meeting to order at 8:07 a.m.

**INTRODUCTIONS**

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

The agenda was approved with the following item added:

 Tacoma 360

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of the December 12, 2008, minutes were moved and seconded and passed unanimously.

**GRANT – AMERICA’S PROMISE (United Way Retention Conference)**

Connie Ladenburg reported that United Way applied for a \$10,000 planning grant from America’s Promise to hold a summit on high school retention in the spring. The summit would be directed toward the administrative level county-wide. There are no dates set at this time. Connie Rickman suggested the school calendar be checked to make sure there is time free. It was noted the WASL test is in April.

Tim Reid asked with the tie-in with Tacoma 360, high school retention, and the WASL would the new school superintendent continue WASL. Debbie Winskill replied that the test would be given this year, and there had been discussion on holding it in May rather than April. May is a better month because it is closer to the end of the school year.

## **SAFE STREETS SUMMIT**

Connie Rickman reported on a workshop she had attended on gangs and had received pertinent information and hand-outs. There will be a national symposium to reach more than professional groups and nonprofits; it will be open to parents as well. Connie Ladenburg asked if any young people were on the committee and if the objective was education. Connie Rickman replied there were none on the committee at this time.

Debbie Winskill reported that some at the committee level would like to invite young people to give them hope and jobs, etc.; however that is not the focus. Other committee members want to go to families to educate them on how to recognize gangs and how to help their own children. The details are still being worked out. Victoria Woodards suggested Cheryl Jones of Ari Renaissance may be a good person to get involved with this effort.

Tim Reid asked about the location of the conference. Debbie Winskill replied that a local venue which can hold 300 people was being considered. Another possibility was to use an empty school. Connie Ladenburg asked if part of the objective was to be able to provide resources. Connie Rickman replied that yes, besides the workshops and presentations there would be different agencies that serve youth and families.

Jake Fey asked if the conference was going to be local or national. Debbie Winskill replied that it would be advertised nationally; however, it would probably be more regional. There would be national speakers and attendees as well as local attendees.

Connie Ladenburg commented that as part of public safety she would like to have a meeting dedicated to the subject of gangs and the technical equipment they use for communicating. Also, there is the Clean and Safe Initiative to help reduce crime. There was discussion on the increase in violent crime, gang shooting related articles in the newspaper, and "tagging".

## **TACOMA 360**

Connie Ladenburg informed the Committee there was a meeting scheduled for January 12, 2009. The City Manager's Office has been asked to assign city staff to attend the meetings. The idea is to bring an executive director on board and the thought was that director should be the one to develop the action plan, initial goals and objectives. Victoria Woodards stated that there needs to be some structure, and funding that would allow staffing.

Debbie Winskill asked who would be choosing and evaluating the director. Connie Ladenburg replied that is one the items that would be discussed at the meeting. The director would be employed independently of the city. There was discussion on a possible panel and who should be involved with selecting the director.

[8:47 a.m. – Victoria Woodards was excused from the meeting.]

## **DISCUSSION OF MUTUAL INTERESTS AND CONCERNS/GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Connie Ladenburg commented that perhaps the effort to develop complete streets around the Mixed-Use Centers should be applied to the schools as well. There is the issue of safe routes to school and citizens are concerned about children walking to school. She also reported that she had met with a group of Bellarmine students who had the idea of installing emergency telephone boxes in Wright's Park.

Connie Rickman stated that she had not received feedback on the brochures that UPS had put together. Tim Reid suggested she contact the marketing department as there had been delays due to the holiday season and inclement weather.

## **SETTING NEXT MEETING AGENDA**

Tacoma 360  
America's Promise – Summit (United Way Retention Conference)  
Safe Streets Gang Summit  
Report on Economic Renewal Levy  
Legislative Agenda  
Smoke Free Parks

## **SCHEDULING OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Friday, February 13, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. in Conference Room 248. Quarterly meeting with the CEO's

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:56 a.m.

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