

[cont.. from p. 9] Will there be a CPR class in NE Tacoma? In June. How to get rid of a marine-grade Halon fire extinguisher? Drop off at Station 3 – McElligott will set it up. There have been no fires in NE Tacoma.

- **Tacoma Schools:** Dan Voelpel reported on the conversion of Meeker M.S. to a STEM school (science, technology, engineering, and math), the only STEM middle school in the district. The PTA raised \$11K to equip social studies kids with tablets. For the science classes, there will be 3D printers available, and drones will be available for technology studies. BP Elementary will get a new principal: recruiting is underway. NE Elementary is becoming an arts-infused school (like Stafford is now) – art will figure in all subjects. Construction: SAMI @ the zoo, various schools around the district. BP elementary will start design work in 2016 (can the pupils stay there while construction is carried out?), and construction should start in 2017. Tacoma Schools enrollment is at 28.5K (flat), not including pre-school. Pre-school has 66 sessions with 15-20 pupils per session. A resident expressed support for track and field safety upgrades at Meeker. Another resident asked about donating “last-gen” tech to the schools – that will require some research.
- **Metro Parks:** Jose Gorospe, NE/Norpoint manager, talked about the new Pt. Defiance aquarium’s location and cited the related SAMI development in association. He discussed upcoming events, including: the Swan Creek Mud Run, and at Norpoint, the April 18th Fitness Combine and Spring Fling, and the April Pools Day water safety sessions.

PROGRAM:

- **Transportation Master Plan:** Jennifer Kammerzell, TPW engineer talked about why have this plan, what’s in the plan, etc., gave thoughts about NE Tacoma, and noted upcoming review sessions around the city, encouraging participation. [See February minutes for more discussion and links.]
- **Tideflats Emergency Response / Intelligent Transportation System Study:** Ian Munce, Sp, Assistant to the Planning manager, talked about the scope and likely timeline of the study – there should be draft report mid-year. A participant questioned the independence of the consultants doing the study – it is being supervised by Planning, Fire, and other staff. Jason Jordan from the Port of Tacoma was present and answered questions about agreements and permits.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Communications Strategies:**
 - NET News – March issue was distributed to local sites (~140+: BP Town Center, N.S. Thai in Walgreens strip, QFC strip businesses (added MultiCare) and NET convenience stores; the library, Norpoint, substation), and by e-mail to ~500+ residents and ~28 officials and other

contacts. E-mail list is cleaned up from time-to-time for non-working addresses.

- **Committee report:** Reviewed opportunities to add NETNC material to City’s NC pages. Need additional suggestions for website content
- **Outreach:** As of the middle of March, more than 400 responses between paper and Survey Monkey had been received. The team is consolidating the streets improvements material, and will be presenting opportunities to understand the priorities and identify key projects. Pierce Transit is already using results from the transit-oriented questions.
- **Innovative Grants:** the program is announced, and word is getting out. \$36,000 total is available for NE Tacoma for projects to be completed by y/e 2016.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Sandy Leek was appointed to the Board.
- NUSA participation was discussed and encouraged.
- **Land use:** the 40-home-site plat off Marine View in the bluffs is on hold – there will be a hearing sometime this spring.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Liz Burris, a downtown resident, New Tacoma NC Chair, and activist, discussed the effort to place voter approval for the consolidated Pierce County office facility currently planned for the Lincoln District. She noted it is already over the earlier estimates, and a citizen’s effort to put it on the November ballot has caused him to be sued. She argued for the ballot option and passed out petition signature-gathering sheets. She pointed to a Facebook page: letvotersdecide.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, UPCOMING MEETINGS, and EVENTS:

- Board Exec Comm and Planning Comm meeting, April 2nd, 6:30pm, TPD substation
- Julia’s Gulch work party, Saturday, March 14, 9am, gather at Viewpoint Park
- Community meeting: April 16th, 6:30 (social time) / 7pm (agenda), TPD substation, program: NE Tacoma streets improvements priorities.

DRAFT NETNC Board Meeting Minutes April 16th, 7pm, TPD NE Tacoma Substation

Board Members Present: Hayes Alexander, Susan Baldwin, Lois Cooper, Jim DeJung, Carolyn Edmonds, Dick Hayek, Jon Higley, Sandy Leek, Yvonne McCarty, Jim Philp, Karen Pischel, Bill Thompson, John

Thurlow, Marion Weed (quorum)

Excused: Arill Berg, Don Halabisky, Faye Teel, Patti Warwick

7pm: CALL TO ORDER and Agenda: Carolyn Edmonds, Co-Chair

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: March 16, 2015 minutes deferred to May meeting

TREASURER’S REPORT: Karen Pischel, Treasurer, oral update approved.

CITY / SCHOOLS / PARKS STAFF REPORTS:

- City Councilmember Robert Thoms (our District, #2): Thoms was at a District 2 Comprehensive Plan/Transportation Master Plan public review session at Stadium H.S.

- City Manager's Office: Brad Forbes discussed the Schuster Slope Management Plan session on April 30th, 5:50-7:30pm, at Stadium H.S. A participant asked about more use of chip-sealing for street repair – Northshore Parkway will be treated in July. Skepticism was registered about the effectiveness of chip-sealing based on the first efforts on 49th Ave. (gravel readily came loose and contaminated adjacent yards). The City has improved the process since to better adhere the gravel – time will tell.
- Tacoma Police Department: No presence – no report. Thurlow noted an article advising on simple techniques used by thieves to temporarily act as though they have a remote auto entry key fob and gain access to the car. The article advised storing the fob in the freezer (!), since it blocks radio signals and thwarts the fob signal interception process.
- Tacoma Fire Department: Battalion Chief Ben Fleisher reported that there was a house fire in NE Tacoma in recent days – not common here. Runs: NE Tacoma had 95 calls for service in March (mostly medical) – by comparison, New Tacoma (all Tideflats (definition needs updating), downtown, Dome District, Stadium) had 628. This month's emphasis is on aluminum wiring in the house, common in construction from 1965-72. The terminals and wires at them heat and cool because of corrosion, leading to gaps and then sparks. Since a house fire is 55x more likely with aluminum wiring (and house fires are most-often caused by electrical problems), he advised checking to make sure. Remediation can be done by simple copper add-ons that make better contact with switch and outlet terminals.
- Questions included: Tanks cars parked on tracks along SR509, with volatile Bakken crude, perhaps. Is TFD prepared to contain a fire? Classes are coming up on specifics of fighting sure fires, and the Hazmat team has already been trained. Traffic is denser and the better tank cars have not solved the problem. Another issue is long response times for medical aid cars - 8-10 minutes from the station in Fife. Station 3 has medics on all shifts. [NETNC follow-up: talk with Browns Point (PF13) and Councilmember Thoms].
- Tacoma Schools: no report
- Metro Parks: Carolyn Edmonds read a report from Jose Gorospe, NE/Norpoint manager. The Fitness Combine on the coming Saturday was cancelled due to low registration, but Spring Fling is on. April Pools water safety for kids on April 18th at Norpoint. Destination Point Defiance last public meeting to review updated plans on April 23rd at 6pm at the PDZA Education building. MPT recorded 181,000 volunteer hours in 2014, an all-time high. Alderwood Clean-up on Parks Appreciation Day, April 25th.

PROGRAM:

1. **NE Tacoma Streets Improvement Priorities:** review feedback from the Community Survey and discuss our focus areas. John Thurlow led the brief discussion of the sorted list of responses, consolidated to group closely-related items and prioritized by numbers of responses. Key priorities from the Survey were reported on in the April NET News. This group's members were challenged

to identify their top five priorities from among the specific items to help set NETNC's approach to Public Works and the City Council. Responses were due by May 1.

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- Innovative Grants: program is announced – word is getting out. \$36,000 total for NE Tacoma for projects to be completed by y/e 2016.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

David Mueller: The BP Blvd. Your Speed Is sign was broken for a long time before it was repaired – something to watch out for. [We need a more explicit deal with the City on responsibility for repairs of such signs purchased with Innovative Grant funds.]

ANNOUNCEMENTS, UPCOMING MEETINGS, and EVENTS:

- Board Exec Comm and Planning Comm meeting, May 7th, 6:30pm, TPD substation
- Julia's Gulch work party, Saturday, May 16, 9am, gather at Viewpoint Park
- Community meeting: May 21st, 6:30 (social time) / 7pm (agenda), TPD substation, program: Port developments, Targa Sound Terminal developments, Norpoint Farmers Market opening, Assoc. Ministries Disaster Response Care Team program.

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