

**Minutes
Joint Municipal Action Committee
Quarterly Meeting
May 9, 2014**

PRESENT Clare Petrich, Chair (Port of Tacoma)
Debbie Winskill, Vice-Chair (Tacoma School Board)
Tim Reid (Metropolitan Park Board)
Erik Hanberg (Metropolitan Park Board)
Anders Ibsen (Tacoma City Council)
Kurt Miller (Tacoma School Board)
Carla Santorno (Tacoma Public Schools)
Jack Wilson (Metro Parks Tacoma)
Evette Mason (Port of Tacoma)
Alisa O’Hanlon (City of Tacoma)
Nancy Davis (Metropolitan Park District)
Teri Blair (Pierce County)

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Clare Petrich called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m.

INTRODUCTIONS

The attendees introduced themselves. Also in attendance were: Sandra Jacobson, Tacoma Public Schools; Steve Murakami, Tacoma Public Schools; Tansy Hayward, City of Tacoma; and Kristie Lynett, City of Tacoma

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved with the following change: the Metro Parks Bond Update would be presented first.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Anders Ibsen moved for approval of the minutes of April 11, 2014 and Tim Reid seconded. The chair declared the motion passed.

AGENDA ITEMS

Metro Parks Bond Update – Jack Wilson began the presentation by stating that the special election on April 22, 2014 was certified earlier in the week. The total votes were 29,005 and 17,000 were needed for validation. Part of the implementation plan will be the need for on-going discussions with both the school district and the city regarding partnership monies to assist with priorities. The first bond will be issued in the fall. There was discussion on Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium. There is a total of \$115 million associated with Point Defiance. First, permits need to be secured through a Development Regulation Agreement which could take 1.5 years to get done. For the upgrades to the Park, there will also need to be increased parking spaces.

Tim Reid asked about partnership projects with the city and the school district. Mr. Wilson replied that SAMI is important. The Park district is looking at joint facilities

that will accommodate the needs of SAMI and the general public and remove the portables. The Park district is also looking at joint usage and/or development of athletic complexes, athletic fields, etc. Steve Murakami reported that there are conversations regarding Stewart Middle School. There will be a synthetic field and track installed. Mr. Wilson continued there is board policy support for the Prairie Line Trail, the Water Ditch Trail, and to assist with building a park on Thea Foss. The Eastside Community Center is another important project.

STAR Certification Presentation – Kristie Lynett stated that STAR stands for Sustainability Tools for Assessing and Rating Communities. It is the first national rating system for local governments to measure sustainability. Communities can track their progress over time and gauge improvements. STAR was developed by a non-profit based in Washington, DC. It is not just measuring green environmental outcomes and actions in a community. The City is one of the first thirty pilots in the new system. It supports the City's definition of sustainability and looks at and tracks conditions and outcomes in the community. We also wanted to receive a rating as a benchmark to collect data and report on it. Twenty more communities have signed up this year and thirty-three million citizens are represented by STAR communities. Last November, Tacoma became the first local government in the country to receive a rating and it was a four out of five star. Neither Seattle nor Portland have received their ratings yet. There was discussion on how Tacoma rated on the different goals and the results are on the website at www.starcommunities.org or cityoftacoma.org/star. The City will reapply in three years. Tim Reid asked if there was a fee attached to this certification. Ms. Lynett replied that there was a small fee to sign up and receive a rating. Erik Hanberg asked if the certification would help with grant assistance. Ms. Lynett replied that there was a STAR webinar looking at if sustainability in the STAR network could help with bond ratings.

Enrollment Trends & Future Planning – Carla Santorno introduced Sandra Jacobson and Steve Murakami. Ms. Jacobson began the overview on enrollment in Tacoma. Currently, there is a slight reduction in the student population. Tim Reid asked how the school district is affected when enrollment goes down. Ms. Santorno replied that funding is reduced for fewer students and this affects teaching staff as well. Ms. Jacobson continued that as the economic dynamics change families are beginning to move into the suburbs. There are new housing developments outside Tacoma. Tacoma does not have a place to expand to and start building new houses and the changes in the population affect school enrollment.

Steve Murakami stated that demographic reports assisted with reviewing growth needs across the entire district when the 2013 Capital Bond was designed. Most of the growth is in the south and southwest areas of Tacoma. There is an immediate need for elementary schools, as well as a need for middle schools. There are fourteen major school projects associated with the bond measure. The bond measure covers fourteen replacement projects and \$45 million in small capital work including synthetic multi-purpose fields at various schools. There was discussion on the improvements planned for the upper level at Lincoln High School and Lincoln Park. Mr. Murakami discussed the improvements to Whittier, Wainwright, Washington, and McCarver Elementary schools. He also discussed improvements to Wilson High School, SAMI, and Stewart Middle School. Tim Reid asked with the bond issues, what would be the impact to the city regarding construction, jobs, and economics. Mr. Murakami replied that there is a task force with Pierce County trades, and different unions that look after MWBE, etc.

Mr. Reid asked about local business. Mr. Murakami replied that local is the State of Washington and all that is needed is an address. The school district has worked with city staff who has shared information on local contractors and apprenticeships and the Small Works roster. There was discussion on the benefits the construction projects would bring to the local economy.

Chair Petrich shared information on the Northwest Innovation Project at the Port of Tacoma. Referring to the STAR report, information that is missing is targeted industrial development, quality jobs, living wages and the local economy. The cleanup of the site of the former Kaiser Aluminum plant is nearly completed. The company Northwest Innovations is a partnership among the Chinese Academy of Sciences, the Chinese city of Dalian, and BP. They have asked the Port to consider building a plant to convert natural gas to methanol and export that to China to use in the production of olefin. Olefin is used in the production of plastic carts, crates, and fabrics. Northwest Innovation Works is completing a feasibility study that may last 18 months. It will be open for public comment over the next 18-24 months. There will be about 500-1,000 local construction jobs created. Jack Wilson asked how long it would take for the plant to be up and running. Chair Petrich replied between five to seven years. Anders Ibsen asked about emissions from the plant. Chair Petrich replied that it would only be trace amounts of methane and water vapor or steam.

DISCUSSION OF MUTUAL INTERESTS AND CONCERNS/FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Anders Ibsen would like to have a presentation on statewide earned sick leave policy and the local implications to public health.

Tansy Hayward reported that summer job applications are due May 15, 2014.

SETTING OF NEXT MEETING AGENDA

Smoke Reduction Zone/Nonattainment (Craig Kenworthy-Puget Sound Clean Air Agency)
Mental Health Issues Discussion – Where do we go from here?

Future Agenda Items

Mental Health Services in Tacoma/Pierce County
Mental Health Care Report: Port of Tacoma (John Wolf)
Trades, Apprenticeship, Regional Partnerships (Tacoma School District, Bates Technical College and City of Tacoma)
Presentation on Charter Review on June ballot (July 11, 2014) (City of Tacoma)
Statewide Earned Sick Leave Policy (Representative Laurie Jinkins – Sept. 12)
Update on 2015 U.S. Open (November/December 2014)
Youth Mental Health Issues: Trafficking, Housing/Shelters, Gangs, etc.
Economic Development and Impacts
Earth Week Citizen's Academy Update (Anders Ibsen)
Affordable Housing Policies (Anders Ibsen / Lauren Walker)
Foss/Hylebos Recontamination (Port of Tacoma)

Economic Development and Impacts
Earth Economics (Metro Parks Tacoma)

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Friday, June 13, 2014 at 8:00 a.m. in Conference Room 248. Minutes for June to be taken by City of Tacoma.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:32 a.m.