

Minutes
Joint Municipal Action Committee Meeting

April 13, 2012

PRESENT: Lauren Walker, Chair (Tacoma City Council)
Rick Talbert, Vice-Chair (Pierce County Council)
Aaron Pointer (Metropolitan Park Board)
Tim Reid (Metropolitan Park Board)
Debbie Winskill (Tacoma School Board)
Scott Heinze (Tacoma School Board)
Karen Vialle (Tacoma School Board)
Clare Petrich (Port of Tacoma)
Anders Ibsen (Tacoma City Council)
Marty Campbell (Tacoma City Council)
Timothy Farrell (Pierce County Council)
Alisa O'Hanlon (City of Tacoma)
Nancy Davis (Metropolitan Park District)
Evette Mason (Port of Tacoma)
Brynn Brady (Pierce County)
Minutes taken by Tacoma School District

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Lauren Walker called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

INTRODUCTIONS

The attendees introduced themselves. Also in attendance was Linda Villegas Bremer, City of Tacoma; Victoria Woodards, Tacoma City Council; and Melissa Cordeiro, City of Tacoma.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Anders Ibsen moved for approval of the agenda. Karen Vialle seconded. The chair declared the motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of March 9, 2012 were approved with the following correction: Lauren Walker, Tacoma City Council.

PORT OF TACOMA UPDATE

Clare Petrich reported on the Grand Alliance coming to the Port of Tacoma in July 2012. The Grand Alliance consists of three major shipping lines and will bring more jobs to the Port of Tacoma. Ms. Petrich praised the staff at Port of Tacoma for coming together and making this happen. Washington United Terminal will undergo expansion to accommodate the new shipping lines.

Chair Walker complimented Ms. Petrich on the contribution to the Puyallup River Bridge project.

GANG ASSESSMENT PROJECT UPDATE

Victoria Woodards reported that it has been nearly two years since the start of the Tacoma Gang Project. The purpose of this project is to reduce and prevent gang violence through prevention, intervention and suppression efforts. Linda Villegas Bremer and Melissa Cordeiro from the City of Tacoma reported on the update of the Gang Assessment Project. She outlined the project overview, findings, and the next steps. There are five specific neighborhoods (Central, New Tacoma, South Tacoma, South End, and Eastside) affected by gangs. The community risk factors are concentrated on poverty, disadvantaged neighborhoods, and low academic aspirations. The gang involvement has high levels of offenses in weapons and drugs. It was shown that middle school youth are exposed to elevated levels of risk for gang activity and making decisions to join gangs. Some of the reasons youth join gangs usually deal with poverty, family or friends involved with gangs, and needing money.

According to the Tacoma Police Department, 20% of drive-by shootings were gang involved. Ms. Cordeiro said they believe it to be more like 100%. Karen Vialle suggested that an assessment of younger children, perhaps in 3rd, 4th and 5th grades, be done. Children in those age groups see gang activity through family members. It appears that some gang members are having their younger siblings carry drugs and weapons for them as they believe the police will not stop them because they are so young.

There is a full report on the website for further information. The Tacoma Gang Project is continuing to bring more information as it develops.

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

Tim Reid asked about the flood district and what was happening with it. The response was that the county passed the flood control zone at the council level the previous week. The next steps will be convening that body officially as the flood control zone. There is a fifteen member advisory committee that is part of the program. The committee will have to figure out what the funding level will be. Flooding is a countywide problem.

Chair Walker asked if there was anything new regarding the mental health tax. The response was there is not a current update on it.

SETTING OF NEXT MEETING AGENDA

- Update on Public Access to Waterfront (Metro Parks Tacoma)
- Report on Public Transportation: Routes Outside City Limits (Pierce Transit)

Future Agenda Items

Report on Ruston Way, Point Ruston and the Esplanade (City of Tacoma)
Potential Collaboration on TV Broadcast Access
Brainstorm Future JMAC Meeting Topics
Use of City Facilities for School Board Meetings
Follow-Up on Bus Loading and Unloading at Stadium High School

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Friday, May 11, 2012 at 8:00 a.m. in Conference Room 248. It will be the quarterly meeting with the CEOs.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:58 a.m.

Note: Minutes for May to be taken by Tacoma School District.