Meeting Minutes
New Tacoma Neighborhood Council
Wednesday, November 12, 2014
5:30-7:00PM
First United Methodist Hall, 621 Tacoma Ave. South

The meeting was called to order by Chair Elizabeth Burris at 5:30 pm. Introductions were made.

**Board Members Attending:** Elizabeth Burris, Traci Kelly, Mae Harris, Jori Adkins, Tom Ebenhoh, Rick Jones, Denny Faker, Jo Davies

**Board Members Excused:** Allison Lazar, Randy Hamilton, Nic Van Putten, Mar Le Wendt, Jane Moore, Bill Garl, Dalton Gittens

**Guests:** Debbiann Thompson, Mike Slevin, Mallerie Kost, Gerod Byrd, Julie Stoltman, Mike McQuade, Amy Eveskcige, Dave England, Sally Cowan, Valentine Smith, and others in attendance that did not sign in

**Approval**
- November Agenda and October minutes were approved (all)
- Treasurer's report: Estimated $1,878.01

**Staff Reports**
- **Tacoma Police Department:** Sector 1: Officer McQuaid introduced himself as a new representative / CLO for Sector 1. No significant updates and no updates on behalf of Officer Terhaar for Section 2. He welcomed any questions from the audience and encouraged them to follow up with him if any open questions.
- **Tacoma Fire Department:** Chief England provided an overview of safety measures as Tacoma enters the cold weather season such as baseboard heating, power outage preparedness, caution through the holidays, extension cord safety (zip cords); provided handouts and tips on sheltering in place. He reminded the audience about replacing smoke detector batteries and importance of properly cleaning chimneys.
- **Safe Streets:** Gerod Byrd provided a briefing on internet usage and mail safety.
- **City Manager/Council Office:** Julie provided update on budget and first/second reading in December for City Council vote/adoptions of budget. She encouraged the audience to provide input on-line. She provided an update on upcoming events and mentioned the Murray Morgan Bridge will closed for 2 days for scheduled maintenance.
- **Metro Parks:** Debbiann Thompson provided an update on Harvest Fest; there was a lower turnout this year which could possibly be attributed to weather.
- **Tacoma Public Schools:** Amy Eveskcige provided an update on the six schools honored as schools of distinction; TPS now has an "app" available to download; she provided handouts on the TPS Strategic Plan.
- **Port of Tacoma:** No report.

- **Community Reports**
  - **Catholic Community Services:** No update.
  - **Tacoma Rescue Mission:** No update; however, Liz mentioned they are in need of turkeys for the holidays and encouraged the audience to help/make a donation.

**New Business**
- Mike Slevin, Director of Environmental Services, provided a briefing on the new proposed rates for Utilities. He provided an overview of the Department, organizational structure, accomplishments and programs to save funds, efforts in reducing the carbon footprint,
efficiencies within the Department, detailed overview of projected costs / spending (ex., roads, pipes), Bill Payment Assistance Programs, and provided the audience handouts of his briefing. There was some discussion on collecting food waste in condos (the City is looking into it) and condo / commercial rate structures. He encouraged the audience to follow up with his office if any other questions.

- Mallerie Kost, Outreach Coordinator for Communities in Schools provided a briefing on the Ready ! Set, Read – Tacoma ! Program (all elementary schools), dropout prevention program, community resources available, getting parent engaged in reading; pre-school activities; prizes available to children; program is free. She encouraged the audience to contact her with any future questions. She provided handouts to the audience.

- Su Dowie, Executive Director, Foss Waterway Development Authority providing handouts and a detailed briefing on the project status along the Foss Esplanade, spoke about various specific projects such as the new Hotel on Dock Street and status (Design review). She asked for Council to support in naming the park at the south end of the Foss Waterway (three parcels on either side of the 509 Bridge along Dock Street) after George H. Weyerhaeuser, Jr. in honor of his contributions to the City and the waterway. Motion made and all approved writing a letter from the NTNC in support. Traci will draft letter.

- Valentine Smith provided update on the MLK event. Letter submitted requesting funds. Motion was made; all approved to donate $250.00 in support of the MLK Event. He thanked the Council for the contribution.

- Denny provided update on the Dickens Festival. Letter was submitted to request funds. Motion was made and all approved $350.00 in support of the Dickens Festival.

- Motion made and all approved on election of those NTNC members with expiring terms. Traci recommended term limits on all neighborhood council executive positions.

**Old Business**

- SR 167 discussion; recommended individual Council members provide input; possible vote.
- 2014 Budget/Graffiti Forum. Receipt provided to Rick; $424.00 for event re-imbursement.
- 24 January 2015 Retreat, 0900-1200, Safe Streets Conference Room, Tacoma Ave. & 7th. Liz will coordinate with Leslie and ask her support to be a moderator again this year.
- By-Laws Update/Policy on request for funding support. Jo will assist; retreat Agenda item.
- NTNC December meeting. Denny will provide coffee, sodas, pizza for social event portion.

**Council Reports**

- **Community Council**: Liz mentioned discussion of budget and streamlined annual reporting. There was some discussion about the Neighborhood Council program and Traci recommended term limits for executive positions for all Neighborhood Councils.
- **Across the Fence**: No report.
- **Correspondence**: None.
- **Reports from Neighborhoods**: **Stadium**: Denny provided update on Dickens Festival and expansion of the event for 2014. Denny thanked the Council for the contribution. **8th & I**: Jo provided update on “caroling” event in December - Neighborhood Park. **Dome**: Jori mentioned social event on 13 November from 4:30-6:30 (323 Puyallup Ave, 2nd Floor) with Sound Transit having an open house on the first floor at the same time. There was some discussion and concerns on the Pierce County consolidation and projected move to a new facility on Pacific Avenue; Jori/Liz planning to attend Pierce County Council meeting for more information and express concerns.

**Announcements**

None

**Citizen Forum**: None.

**Adjournment 7:30 pm**