BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Chris Beale - Venus Dergan - Carl Mastberg – Andy Mordhorst - Gorden Rolen - Pennie Smith - Skip Vaughn – Bruce West - Heidi White

ATTENDANCE: 29 General members

MINUTES: Motion made by Pennie to adopt the February 18, 2015 general meeting minutes. The motion is seconded and approved.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Pennie –The checking account balance is $4,790.59. Deposits were $255.16; including $247.29 for Innovative Grant reimbursement and $7.87 in coffee donations.

CHAIR’S REPORT: No Report

MEETING AGENDA:

COP’S MEETING: Officer John Warczak – Officer Warczak introduced Officer Michael Sbory as our new CLO in sector 3. The department is going to try to do a yearlong burglary reduction by 10% this year. For personal safety Officer Warczak can do a safety inspection of your home to help deter burglars. He said just to give him a call. Officer Sbory gave a history of his career for the TPD. He talked about the amount of burglaries in the So Tacoma area and where and when they happen the most.

REPORTS:

City Manager’s Office – Christina Watts: First draft of the Transportation plan for the public is on the City’s website and a regional work shop for district 5 will be at Gray Middle School on April 9th from 6-8 for public input. Community cleanup calendar is on the City’s website.

Tacoma Fire – Ray Battalion Chief: Chief Roger Edington retired. Electrical fires are the second most cause of fires. Do not overload electrical circuits or use extensions cords for long term use. Use proper extinguishers. Everyone should have 72 hours of emergency water in the event of a disaster (3 Gallons per person for three days). Nation poison prevention week. There are City rules for fire pit use. Padlocks are not illegal to put on gates in your yard. Donna mentioned that having house numbers on the alley side of your home is useful.

Metro Parks – Matthew: Kristy Gledhill is no longer with Metro Parks STAR Center. Summer camps sign ups 10-1 this Saturday. This Saturday is also a family dance at 6 p.m. Metro Parks signed an agreement to sell the Manitou Community Center and will close by the beginning of July, but does not know who is buying it yet. Heidi and Venus wanted Matthew to send Skip a reminder on when Metro Parks Board will have the public meeting regarding the Manitou Community Center. SERA will be up for bid on March 31st for the new field and construction.

Safe Streets – Gerod Byrd : Absent

South Tacoma Business District – Karen Rich: No car show this year. The Jazz Festival will be between 54 and 56th on So. Tacoma Way will be July 25th 12 noon to 10 p.m. New TBD manager is Jamie Brown. Monthly newsletter is on the back table. Papa Eddies Cajon Café is open. Jim showed a design for beautification of storm water on STW. There is a 25,000 State Farm grant that is available.
Tacoma School District – Absent.

General Membership – Ulysses Martin showed an environmental design that he did for the SERA ball fields and did a short presentation. He is a perm culture engineer that was a finalist in the design. Donna Buck from Oakland/Madrona said that that part of sector 3 usually has 4 community meetings a year at Snake Lake Nature Center.

Neighborhood Council Board – .

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Chairs –

Agenda Speaker’s Topics:

Community Gardens: Micaela Colley said that Wapato Hills Community Garden has been approved and the irrigation part can take some time to get done. Next meeting will be held on March 21st at the So. Tacoma Library. The location of the garden is on Prospect Street between 60th and 62nd Street. Sheri is one of the coordinators for the So Tacoma Community Garden located on 70th and Puget Sound. April 18th they are going to have a yard sale to raise money for the community gardens fence. If you are interested in helping with the garden you can contact Sheri at 253-212-2685 and SOTACgarden.blogspot.com.

Wapato Hills & Oak Tree Park: Andy talked about how big the lots at Wapato Hills garden will be. Albert Styers is a habitat steward for Oak tree Park and they have clean ups on the third Saturday of the month from 9 a.m. to 12 noon and any volunteers are always welcome.

Community Cleanups: Edison’s cleanup is April 18th from 10 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. at Edison Elementary school and Arlington/Manitou cleanup will be July 11th from 10 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. at Mount Tahoma High School. Volunteers are always needed. The Domino’s on Puget Sound has donated 10 pizzas to each of the clean ups. Thanks Domino’s!

Landscaping with Trees & Shrubs: Chris Beale - 26 trees were put in near the trestle on So. 66th street. 21 new trees were put in on Tacoma Mall Blvd. from 74th to 78th street. 9 trees were put in on So Fife street. Andy and Chris are figuring out watering systems to maintain the trees that were put in. These were funded with Innovative Grant money. Arbor Day is coming up on April 8th, but the City of Tacoma has a Arbor Day event in October.

Tool Lending Library: Lori Hall – Is going to part of the Art Walk. Donations needed for the Tool Lending Library.

Traffic Circles: Pennie – Pennie had a map of all the traffic circles in the city. There are 250 plants to be planted and if anyone would like to help plant the traffic circles help is always needed. To get a traffic circle in your area you have to meet city requirements. City of Tacoma’s Engineering Department can be contacted for the requirements.

Trestle Landscape & Litter Patrol: Normally on the forth Sunday of the Month we pick up trash along So. 66th Street and meet at Manitou School from 9-12. Volunteers are always welcome. Venus stated that the Innovative Grant has been completed for the northeast side of the trestle. The City came out and removed all the garbage and blackberry bushes and laid down bark. Pennie, Venus and Heidi also planted plants in the median that had died or were stolen.

Committee Membership Signups: Committee Chair – If anyone is interested in volunteering for any of the committees please contact the Chair. A list of the committees are in the minutes.

OLD BUSINESS: Carl wanted to point out that Pennie cleans up all the graffiti in South Tacoma and beyond. On 54th and Oaks Pennie, Bruce and Carl all went and cleaned up the graffiti on a
house there. Thank you! Carl also wanted to let everyone know that on April 6th the Pacific Ave Bridge will be closed for about a year to widen I-5.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Pennie made contacted with the local High Schools about a $250 Scholarship that is available through the STNC.

Community member was concerned about the terrible patch job on Pine Street between 68th to 70th. Chris suggested for the member to contact the City and be persistent.

On proper motion, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

**Heidi White, Secretary,**

**Manitou Representative**