BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Venus Dergan - Carl Mastberg – Pennie Smith - Skip Vaughn – Bruce West - Heidi White

Absent: Excused – Chris Beale & Andy Mordhorst, Unexcused Gorden Rolen

ATTENDANCE: General Members – 17

MINUTES: Motion made by Pennie to adopt the July 19, 2015 General Meeting minutes. The motion is seconded and approved.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Pennie- The checking account balance was $6,500.56 on August 16th after deposit of the $4.00 July coffee donations and after expenses of $67.74 for mailing of the July newsletter and $29.74 for the Arlington National Night Out.

CHAIR’S REPORT: No Report

MEETING AGENDA:

COP’S MEETING: Officer Mike Sbory– Officer Sbory said crime stats that they are focused on burglaries, vehicle prowls, and forgery with vehicle prowls being number one. Vehicle prowls happen mostly in order of time of day at 5 p.m., 12 a.m., and 12 p.m. Burglary at business on 54th and So. Tacoma Way. Off duty Officer shooting on So Tacoma Way is on administrative leave, and is doing well. Citizen academy applications are on the back table and have about 30 positions if anyone is interested. It is also on the TPD website. The classes will start On September 30 and will run thru November 19th from 6-9 p.m. A citizen in the Arlington area had concern about their neighbor and Officer Sbory will go talk to her this week.

REPORTS:

City Manager’s Office – Brad Forbes: Any person 18-24 years of age interested in Construction can get some training classes on Wednesdays at the Reach Center at 2p.m. Community meeting 8/26/15 involving the Tacoma Mall Sub area Plan at Madison School at 3101 So. 43rd Street, from 5:30-7:30. If you would like to be on the Stake Holder’s board contact Elliott Barnett at 591-5389. Audience Member concern about traffic congestion on 56th street with the possibility of more housing and no road enhancements. Brad will take this concern back to the City Manager and public works. Venus wanted to know if there were any plans in the up zoning, if it will affect So. Tacoma and why there are no meetings planned in this area. Brad will talk to Elliott and get back to STNC at the next meeting.

Tacoma Fire – Dave Roberts, Fire: Safety tip of the month is about Utilities and how to shut them off Flyer on back table. Fire Department is now hiring.

Metro Parks – Jennifer Burbridge – Go Guides are out. Summer bash was a success and had about 650 people. The Farmers Market is on Sunday from 11-3 thru September. Charcoal dumps stations may be involved at the parks, so people will not dump them on the grass and trees especially at Manitou Park. General Member asked if there were plans for a pool on the STAR Center site. Jennifer said the citizens did not want a pool because Mount Tahoma already had one. The only way that you can
have access to the Mount Tahoma Pool is to be a STAR center pass holder. Audience Member was concerned about no shade at the spray park. She said that the fire department has been out twice while she was there for heat stroke. No artificial shade is in the works as of now, but Jennifer will ask.

**Safe Streets – Gerod Byrd** – Presidential burglary prevention flyer on the back table. There will be a Champion Breakfast September 16 at 7:00 a.m. Please contact Gerod for details. NNO went well and there were more groups in Manitou. Audience Member asked about laws pertaining to Safe Streets and what citizens can do.

**South Tacoma Business District: Karen Rich** – Lots of graffiti in the last few weeks, but the business district is covering it up. Jazz festival was a success. TnT Tire Car show was a success.

**Tacoma School District: Janet Fawcett, Student Services** – Janet is new to TPS and everyone is getting excited about the upcoming school year. Summer learning program was a success for one audience member. IDEA school will be open in 2016. For more information you can go on the TPS website. September 9 is the first day of school. Audience member thanked the TPS for the fence at Manitou School.

**General Membership – Lori Hall** from the Tacoma Tool Library is located at 1314 Martin Luther King Way and is accepting donations. Manitou Art’s Center had a NNO and would like to keep it as a Community Center. Lori and Ed cleaned the courtyard and it looked the best since the school was open. Lori suggested it could be an Innovative school site. A General Member said there are lots of services at the Art’s Center that is affordable for the residence. Though she likes the STAR center, the STAR center is not affordable for her and the Manitou Art’s center has a homey feel that the STAR center does not have. Another Audience member said that if the Manitou Art’s Center goes away then the programs in the Center will go away with it. The Manitou Art’s Center is very unique in the services it offers to the residents. A strong suggestion was for anyone wanting to save the Center to go to the Metro Parks board meeting the 2nd and 4th Monday at 6 p.m. Go on record and tell them how you feel about the Center. Venus suggested that people join the neighbors next door. Jen Davis is the administrator if anyone would like to join.

**Neighborhood Council Board** – Pennie brought pictures of the traffic circles she has done. Thanks Pennie. Bruce mentions that there will be an Edison Meeting Aug 20th 3007 so 58th street at 6 p.m..

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**: Chairs – No Reports

**Agenda Speaker’s Topics:**

**Habitat for Humanity: Jason Gauthier, Dir. Of Operations**

Feasibility study was done for the Manitou Property to include an Arts Center, but since the study did not pencil out, Habitat for Humanity, as of August 31, will not be taking that property on at this time. Jason suggested that, like what was said, to voice your opinion to Metro Parks at one of their Board Meeting. RFA is going to be put out to the general public about meetings concerning this Property. Please go to these meeting to voice your comments and concerns.

Habitat for Humanity is an affordable housing program, established in 1976. Future home owners put in 250-500 hours of sweat equity into their home. A family can make approximately $20,000-$53,000 per year, depending on the average median income for the area, in order to apply for Habitat for Humanity Housing, and they have to go through a Homeowners Education course that take about 6 months. The loans for these houses are either no interest or very low interest loans and 93% of people that have Habitat for Humanity homes, stay in these homes. 15-20 homes are built per year. Jason said a study from the University of Tennessee found that 116% of children from owned homes graduated from college than from rentals. Habitat homes can include rehab foreclosures, normally Habitat builds new homes. They have green building techniques with mini split heat pumps as a feature. There are two local Habitats for Humanity Stores, one on South Tacoma Way and one in Lakewood. If they decide
in the future to get the Manitou property Jason will be back for future meetings. Habitat houses have to have enough equity in their home in order to sell this is called an equity share agreement.

**INNOVATIVE GRANTS PROJECT PRESENTATIONS:**

- **Pennie Smith** – Traffic circles, $1210.90
- **Pennie Smith** – Graffiti removal kits $1267.88,
- **Jim Rich** – South Tacoma Business District - $25,000 for uniform Art in the business district,
- **Skip** described **Chris Beale’s** grant- Welcome to South Tacoma Sign on 74th and Tacoma Mall Blvd. $15,000

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**Special Board Meeting after General Meeting:** Discussion on what innovative grants will be recommended to the City of Tacoma. Motion made by **Bruce** to approve the grants for graffiti removal, traffic circles, up to $15,000 for Welcome to So. Tacoma sign on 74th and Tacoma Mall Blvd and the remaining balance of approximately $18,521.52 to the So Tacoma Business District Art project, motion was seconded and approved.

On proper motion, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

**Heidi White, Secretary,**

**Manitou Representative**