



South End Neighborhood Council (SENC) regular meeting

November 19, 2018

Members present: Earl Brydson, Daniel Thomasson, Athena Brewer, Suzanne Skaar, Penny Grellier, Cary Nilson, Tyler Whitmarsh, Tony Caldwell, Christina Rupp, Erik Paulsen, Janis Clark

Absent: none

Call to Order 7:04pm, quorum present

Announcements: Janis read out RCWs regarding general powers of an incorporated organization in Washington. Athena called a point of order since this statement was not on the agenda. City of Tacoma representatives left the meeting.

Melissa Dunbar is running for a place on the SENC and made a statement as to why she would like to be part of the group. Earl would like to know her talents that would qualify her for the group. She is a teacher and a PCO in the local area, and is interested in improving the traffic and safety of the neighborhood. Several questions were asked of her by public attendees, to ascertain her community interests and involvements.

Approval of October Minutes: Tyler moved, Eric second, motion carried.

Treasurer's report: \$50 backflow bill, \$117.10 utility bill for gas station park. \$3222.47 in checking, \$4117.50 in savings.

Committee reports: nominating committee had a meeting by email to get the election process in order. Ballots were handed out to the public at tonight's meeting and votes made. Collecting ballots was Akaysiyah Dunbar, counting ballots was Lt. Darlington and Julia Dolan, recording votes was Penny Grellier, observer Cassandra Brown.

Cary read a statement regarding his recollection pertaining to elections, the bylaws concerning elections and actions of SENC members, as well as the timeline of the process leading to these elections occurring tonight.

Tyler read SENC bylaws regarding removal of a member, requiring approval of 2/3 of members present. Motion made by Tyler, second Suzanne/Eric. Discussion: Eric stated Janis' behavior is unacceptable; her ability to perform duties of Treasurer is called into question. A member of the public asked for further clarification. Suzanne shared examples of Janis' behavior that prohibited her from performing her duties in SENC. Vote called, yea votes/hands raised from Tyler, Penny, Eric, Christina, Daniel, Athena, Suzanne. Motion carried.

SENC seats voted upon (winners noted by \*):

Earl Brydson: 8

\*Tony Caldwell: 21

\*Eric Paulsen: 19

\*Melissa Dunbar: 18

Statements made by Daniel Thomasson and Suzanne Skaar regarding why they are running for the two open positions.

Collecting ballots was Darren Pen, counting ballots was Lt. Darlington and Julia Dolan, recording votes was Penny Grellier, observer Cassandra Brown.

Board positions will be filling the second year of a two-year term. As voted upon:

Treasurer (Daniel Thomasson): 7

Vice Chair (Suzanne Skaar): 7

Suzanne motioned to identify who can act as Treasurer until Daniel takes office in January. As bylaws state, Earl and Cary can sign checks in the interim. Suzanne removed motion.

Liaison Reports:

**Fire Dept.:** none

**Police Dept.:** Lt. Darlington reported 72<sup>nd</sup> and Portland has received a lot of police attention due to new business coming in (Whole Foods?), large transient camp there on County property being addressed. Alling Park neighborhood (1100 block of 61<sup>st</sup>) had active drug house, actions taken to shut it down. Sector 4 is only sector with declining crime reports.

**Metro Parks Tacoma:** no representative present but a report was provided by email from Craig Standridge to the SENCo email and are included at the end of these minutes.

**Tacoma Public Utilities:** none

**City Manager/City staff:** none

**Tacoma Public Schools:** none

**Safe Streets:** Darren Pen reported on holiday safety tips; November 7: had a successful listening session on improving Hosmer businesses quality of life and safety. November 14: had a successful Eastside/South End safety summit. After complaints from public at this meeting regarding U-turns at 38<sup>th</sup> St, the barricades were removed the next morning. Please call 311 for citizen concerns. Recently 22 trees were planted by neighbors on S. 37<sup>th</sup> between Thompson and Alaska.

**Port of Tacoma:** none

**Guest speakers:** none

**Community Concerns:** member of public (Julia) expressed appreciation for the part of the meeting where business was conducted and information shared rather than arguments. She encouraged the meetings to continue in that vein.

Mr. McDonald spoke, lives on other side of freeway (another neighborhood council), asked if neighborhood councils would consider providing a Thanksgiving or Christmas meal for a few families. Also expressed concern over how Janis was dismissed, would hope the process could be improved and in future, issue could be handled more kindly/privately.

Ricky Clausing (sp?) thanked SENCo for supporting traffic circle work last year. He expressed how he does not have time for the kind of behavior shown here tonight; we need to get things done in the neighborhood. Please step up and engage with your community.

Earl feels like new members have taken against the long-time members, who worked on parks and neighborhood improvements for the past 20 years. He feels like the public is saying they have not done

anything; the public present assured him that is not the case. He wants to be recognized for the work SENCo has done over its history.

A community member who spent a long time volunteering with disabled kids spoke. He expressed his concern about his reputation in the community and wanted to clear his name.

Adjourned 8:42pm

Submitted by Penny Grellier, Recording Secretary

MetroParks Report:

**Metro Parks 2019-20 budget:** The park district operates on a two-year budget cycle, and we are working on our spending plan for 2019 and 2020 . Two public hearings are scheduled for 6 pm on November 13<sup>th</sup> and November 26<sup>th</sup>. The Park Board would love to hear any comments. A final vote is scheduled for 6 pm on December 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Event/Activity Focus:**

**Elementary Sports Basketball Registration Open**

December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**Specialized Recreation Cruise**

December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018

**The Art of Agriculture Exhibit at Ft. Nisqually**

September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018-January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**Lusio Lights at Conservatory**

November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018-Nov 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**Zoo Lights at PDZA**

November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018-January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**A Conservatory Christmas**

December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018-January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**Salmon Saturday in Swan Creek**

December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**Monthly Bond Update**

- **Swan Creek** – Master planning continues; we are compiling all of the public input into a plan to present to the Park Board before the end of the year. We are gearing up to utilize a \$750,000 federal grant to add trails, parking improvements, a picnic shelter and new restroom building; design and engineering will occur in 2018, and construction will likely occur in 2019. Pierce County foot bridge replacement intact and complete, connecting trail still under construction.
- **Point Defiance Park** –
  - Waterfront Phase I (Peninsula Park, trails, and pedestrian bridge) will continue throughout the year; Working on getting landscaping planted now so it can grow through the fall and winter. We have to factor in time for the landscaping to mature before people can walk on it. No opening date to report yet.
  - Working on designs for improvements to Owen Beach. New shelter, restrooms, parking lot are all underway. Updating the design based on new projections for sea level rise. Permitting and bidding will take about a year.
- **Arctic Tundra (polar bear) exhibit**- This project is currently on hold.
- **Titlow Park** – Hosting a second on-site community meeting November 7<sup>th</sup>. The overall message from the first meeting seems to be a request that we not over-develop the Hidden Beach area. After the master plan is updated, we plan to rehabilitate the basketball and tennis courts.

- **Oak Tree Park** – Finalizing some permitting reviews before starting construction of parking and landscaping improvements, including improvements to the meadow. Scheduling to go to bid soon; could be under construction in the spring.
- **Conservatory** – Construction continues on restroom; contractor now targeting completion in January.
- **Ruston Way** – Hosted a 3-day community visioning workshop Oct. 29-31, and now the consultant will generate a report to review. This is a joint project with the city to look at future plans for the waterfront.
- **Charlotte's Blueberry Park** –Public garden and trail access construction complete. Playground completion in progress with a completion date TBD. Expected to be complete by late spring of 2019.
- **Foss Waterway parks** – Completed the design phase to support the Foss Waterway Development Authority's projects to build Waterway Park and Melanie's Park. Developing a business and operations plan for Waterway Park, as well as a fundraising plan.
- **Sport Courts** – Stewart Heights tennis court construction in progress. After Stewart Heights, we will make improvements to the Titlow and Browns Point courts.
- **Point Ruston** – We are in the design phase for the construction of a restroom near the splash pad by Wild Fin. Architect under contract now; construction timeline TBD.
- **Dickman Mill Park** – The plan is to expand Dickman Mill Park for display of a restored historic head saw. Permitting will take a year or so. Construction probably another year and a half away. Working now on the public art component.
- **Joint Maintenance Facility with TPS** – With the Madison Elementary site ruled out, we are exploring other venues and next steps.
- **HQ renovations** — After replacing roof last year, now looking at building envelope updates (windows and doors), and evaluation of work spaces, board room and entry lobby. Looking at creating a space for children in the lobby. Design phase is currently in progress, also looking at exterior improvement. Construction timeframe TBD.
- **Norpoint Community Center:** Working on interim fixes and discuss replacement of at least part of the leaking roof. Temporary replacement roof has been installed until further discussion.
- **Tacoma Nature Center:** Early phase of design for ADA and building envelope improvements, assessment currently in progress.
- **Meadow Park Golf Course:** PSE to upgrade the gas line this month so that we can start using the heaters in the covered driving range.
- **Foss softball field:** We contributed to the cost of building a softball field uphill from Heidelberg; construction has started and should wrap up in February.