



## South End Neighborhood Council

Fire Station #8, 4911 South Alaska St., Tacoma, WA 98408

South End Neighborhood Council (SENC) **virtual** meeting

May 18, 2020

Members present: Athena Brewer, Penny Grellier, Cary Nilson, Daniel Thomasson, Christina Rupp, David Thompson, Tony Caldwell. Absent: Melissa Dunbar, Eric Paulsen, Libby Armstrong

Called to order at 7:00pm

Welcome & Roll Call

Note Tyler Whitmarsh has resigned (Chair thanks him for his time and dedication), Christina is acting vice chair. Other attendees were introduced. About 9 attendees

Agenda and February meeting's Minutes approved.

Community Concerns (3 minutes): none

Liaison Reports (3 minutes each)

TFD: none

TPD: Lt. Scripps, March stats are latest available, no big spikes in crime compared to same time last year, no quarantine-time stats, tip of the month will be posted on [senco253](http://senco253.com) website: pool safety, summertime safety. Reminders that Safe Streets is ready to help with neighborhood-level assistance. CLOs have been very busy with 311 requests.

City of Tacoma: Linda, recognizes CM Beale is here as well. COVID-19 is impacting City; Council receives updates at 2pm each Friday, streamed live on Facebook; [www.tvtacoma.com](http://www.tvtacoma.com) has recorded past meetings. Community Cleanup season is postponed; curbside pickup option with specific Saturdays for each neighborhood group: [www.cityoftacoma.org/communitycleanup](http://www.cityoftacoma.org/communitycleanup)

New temporary microshelter site to be located near 64<sup>th</sup> and McKinley, moving from temp site at 8<sup>th</sup> and MLK plus extra unit (max 65). Virtual town hall on June 4 from 6-7:30pm; nearby residents will receive postcards. Can contact Linda at 253-591-5225. Email her at [lstewart@cityoftacoma.org](mailto:lstewart@cityoftacoma.org)

Safe Streets: Darren, thanks all the CMs, CLOs and Lt Scripps for keeping everyone updated during quarantine. He has seen neighborhood groups helping those in need. Safe Streets has some extra funds since they are not travelling; can be used for neighborhood projects or assistance.

Port of Tacoma: Leslie, kudos to a number of Port employees and tenants who are doing creative fundraising for local COVID-19 relief and supporting local efforts. Port has been fully operational with no COVID cases, admin staff teleworking since mid-March, no layoffs or furloughs (funding comes from land rent). Safety measures detailed. Trucks are now being admitted by appointment to encourage spacing; asking trucks to show up on time, not early, to avoid backups on Hwy 509.

TPU: John, a shout-out to those at the City who are leading the charge during the pandemic, remind everyone TPU is following CDC and TPCHD guidelines, priorities are safety and reliability to provide utilities to customers. TPU has increased emergency funding available to \$2.4 million for customer bill assistance. Several payment assistance options are also available. Call 253-502-8600 or see their website.

Environmental Services: Preston, Maria Teresa and John; update on recycling program changes. Reminder that outreach and education is important so people know what to recycle and how. Curbside glass collection was not cost effective and there was only a 25% set-out rate. Result: a surcharge of \$2.82 per customer per month. Glass collection will remain curbside until collection sites are established. Community education will continue, much will be virtual since community events are delayed now. Call Preston at 253-593-7707. Download Recycle Coach app for smart phones. Recycling center is open Friday through Monday right now.

#### Committee Reports

Treasurer: Checking Balance \$5264.79, 5/18/20 \$26.36 at Walgreens, 5/18/20 \$131.29 Anahuac Mexican restaurant, 5/18/2020 \$901.25 Hong Kong Supermarket, 5/14/2020 \$561.68 Anahuac Mexican restaurant, 5/1/2020 \$16.51 Zoom meeting, 4/29/2020 \$198.36 Wordpress annual cost; savings account balance \$4123.34 including 35-cent interest (March) and 34-cent interest (April).

Outreach: no report, Melissa has been doing a good job maintaining the Facebook pages

Bylaws: no updates, recognize Rebecca who has been helping rewrite the bylaws

#### New/Old Business

Old: Innovative grants available for neighborhood projects through June 30, 2020 (apply online for up to \$8000)

Adopt-A-Street: Tony reports that he hasn't seen the sign replaced referencing SENCo, hoping we can do a walk of the site and see what supplies we need, can post date and time on our Facebook page and website

New: Front Line Worker meal donations were approved by SENCo and purchases/deliveries began this week, meals from local restaurants given to local first responders, nursing home staff, clinic staff. Photos and info on website. Do we want to give more meal donations? Majority gave thumbs up for it.

SETNA (south east Tacoma neighborhood association): designed to be the community action arm of SENCo, this group represents those south of S. 56<sup>th</sup> and would like to be recognized as such by SENCo via resolution. Chris Beale and Penny give an overview of SETNA meetings and discussions so far. Darren comments that he appreciates CM Beale advocating for this effort. Vote to recognize SETNA as an action arm and give a liaison report at each SENCo meeting. Christina asks for clarification on financial relationship; Athena reminds that nothing in SETNA resolution can contradict SENCO bylaws. Resolution acknowledges that fact. Vote: two thumbs down, two abstentions, nine thumbs up so resolution passes.

Open seat for new Board member due to Tyler's departure. Due to social distancing, we shall postpone election of new member until we can meet in person. Christina will act as Vice Chair. David suggests we have virtual elections. Christina suggests we postpone for one month and get an Elections Chair (which was Tyler) named in the meantime.

CM Beale presented an overview of activities at COT and in our neighborhood, response to COVID-19 situation. Following Governor's guidelines is important, using science and data, use reputable sources of information (City, Health Dept., Governor's website). COT has taken measures to deal with budget shortfall. Tacoma received \$6.3 million from CARES Act. Town Halls are being held to engage public, final one is May 21. See [www.cityoftacoma.org/coronavirus](http://www.cityoftacoma.org/coronavirus) for more information. Chris introduced "20 Is Plenty"/Vision Zero concept to lower speeds in neighborhoods for cyclist/pedestrian safety. [www.cityoftacoma.org/visionzero](http://www.cityoftacoma.org/visionzero).

Richard: Bus Rapid Transit open houses are now online, get project updates and make comments: [rideBRT.com](http://rideBRT.com). No roundabouts in Tacoma city limits, a lane where Pacific crosses over WA 512, no extra lanes between 56<sup>th</sup> and 72<sup>nd</sup>, added lanes between 40<sup>th</sup> and 54<sup>th</sup>. Please see Pierce Transit's website for the latest bus route and schedule information: [www.PierceTransit.org](http://www.PierceTransit.org)

Athena reminds everyone to wear a mask or face covering for the health of our community.

Adjourned 9:13pm      Next mtng June 15, 2020

Submitted by Penny Grellier, Recording Secretary