

NEW TACOMA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

January 11, 2006

ATTENDANCE: Board Members Present: Marty Campbell, Bill Garl, Dalton Gittens, Scott Gruber, Mae Harris, Juanita McBride, Max Messman, Darion Reese, Nick Schuder, Ruth Swanson, Terrie Vestal, Mar-Le Wendt. **Excused:** Denny Faker, Rollie Herman. **Absent:** Forest German, Pam Brewer, Pam Orazem, Kirsten Reynolds. **Staff:** Elton Gatewood. **Guests:** Corey Darlington, Greg Hopkins, Wayne Beals, Larry Steiner (excused), Dan Wolch, Florentine Hamm, Susan Tahra Smith, Julie Dahlen, Phil Farrell, Blaine Johnson, Gary Pederson, John Wright, Jake Fey.

Meeting Called to Order at 5:35 PM by Bill Garl.

CORRESPONDANCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: A motion was made and approved to have Denny Faker replace Sherry Bockwinkel's position on the Board.

STAFF REPORTS: City (Elton Gatewood): The City has reinstated the full \$5,000.00 per year operating funds for the neighborhood councils and has allocated \$100,000.00 for each neighborhood council (criteria for expenditures will be forthcoming). The following were distributed: Nomination forms and information for the 2006 City of Destiny Awards, Metro Parks Today newsletters, December meeting's "Suggested Visions," and The Government Leadership Institute Urban Studies Program calendar of events.

There was a short discussion on some of the city street lights that were out. Julie Dahlen said many of them will be repaired soon.

Tacoma Police Department: Corey Darlington stated he was happy to be back on the job (after his return from the FBI Academy) and has been working on the concerns near 15th & MLK and 13th & Tacoma Ave. He also introduced Wayne Beals, new CLO. Greg Hopkins brought us up to date on the transient encampment issues covering areas from the Narrows Bridge to Wapato. The CLO's in Sector 1 met with Pierce Transit to discuss the issues around 9th and Commerce. Tim Farrell, Pierce County Council, has appropriated \$20,000.00 to the City for security for Tacoma Avenue, near the King Center. Some businesses on Tacoma Avenue have had their insurance policies cancelled. The Community Based Services project will be targeting the 8th & I, Bryant, and Tacoma Avenue neighborhoods. The Winthrop issue still exists although some issues have been resolved. The alley behind the King Center has been closed off, and lighting has been added around 13th and Tacoma Avenue and 13th and Fawcett. The Family Justice Center is now open: It's a one-stop center for domestic violence victims.

Fire: Phil Ferrell indicated the department is in the process of replacing the fire marshal. Fire Prevention and School Education programs are going well. The Fire Dept. will be working with the Community Based Services project.

Tacoma Power: Julie Dahlen distributed workshop brochures and indicated that there would be no rate increase for 2006.

CITIZENS FORUM: Marty Campbell distributed information on the Tacoma Dome and School Bond Issues for the February 7, 2006 election and also distributed letters from Laura Hanan, which will be used as background information for next month's meeting.

PRESENTATION: Blaine Johnson and Gary Pederson gave a presentation on "Ledger Square," a newly proposed "park" where Market, St. Helens and 7th St. intersect. They indicated that Tacoma's Public Works has stepped up by saying they would maintain the area. A net gain of 3-4 parking spaces would be secured in phase 1 of the plan. There would be some loss of parking in phase 2. Greg Hopkins has indicated a willingness to assist with CPTED design and lighting issues. Information was passed out in relation to a cost breakdown of the plan. There was some concern about ability of council to approve such a project, but there are specific street and lighting components of the plan that could be specifically addressed by the Council in any decision.

OLD BUSINESS: Marty Campbell reminded council members of need to continue prioritizing the action strategy; that we need a picture of where we're going for the new year, and we need to be more focused at our next meeting. The council also needs street lighting suggestions.

Terrie Vestal brought up the topic of illegal dumping and would like the laws strengthened, increased fines, etc. Terrie will research this further and this topic will be readdressed in the February meeting, as well as the following information provided by Mar-Le Wendt.

Mar-Le Wendt distributed a flier on a Hollywood Florida "Cash for Trash" program. The council will take this issue up at the February meeting. Issue includes whether the NTNC should financially support a similar program, purchase logo T-shirts for any participants, and whether we should use such a program to also support schools/Boys & Girls Clubs. Can we partner with Tacoma Cares/Blight Mobile?

NEW BUSINESS: A committee was formed to address concerns about sending NTNC members to NUSA: Members are: Darion Reese, Rollie Herman, Max Messman and Bill Garl.

REPORTS:

Community Council Meeting. No December Meeting.

Across The Fence: Update on what's happening among the Neighborhood Councils. Next month will cover Innovative Grants.

Treasurer's Report: \$11,696.19

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:40 PM.