

NEW TACOMA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

February 8, 2006

ATTENDANCE: Board Members Present: Marty Campbell, Denny Faker, Bill Garl, Dalton Gittens, Forest German, Mae Harris, Rollie Herman, Juanita McBride, Pam Orazem, Nick Schuder, Terrie Vestal, Mar-Le Wendt, Dan Wolch. **Excused:** Scott Gruber, Max Messman, Darion Reese, Kirsten Reynolds, Ruth Swanson. **Absent:** Pam Brewer. **Staff:** Elton Gatewood, Ryan Petty. **Guests:** Ken Abbott, Trevina Anderson, Gary Brackett, Corey Darlington, Lindsay Hertwell, Greg Hopkins, Steve Pfeifer, Steven Shanafelt, Larry Steiner, Nick Stevens, Julie Dahlen (excused), John Wright, Laura Wolch.

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

CORRESPONDANCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: Denny Faker was given Get Well card from the NTNC and he was welcomed back as a Board member.

Bill Garl suggested the NTNC's donated paint allotment from the Community Council be donated to the senior citizens living at the Cascade Park Vista.

Laura Wolch invited all to the 8th & I Park Grand Opening on March 9th & 10th.

STAFF REPORTS: City: Elton Gatewood mentioned that the deadline for Innovative Grants is April 7, 2006. There will be Application Workshops for these grants on February 13th and March 30th, 2006, in the 9th Floor Conference Room at the Tacoma Municipal Bldg., 747 Market Street. The Arts Commission is forming a panel to identify art for the police substation on 16th & MLK. Call 591-5229 if interested. A subcommittee is also being formed for the grand opening. The Government Leadership Institute Urban Studies Program continues at the UWT.

Ryan Petty said the planning division is continuing its active role in dealing with a special needs ordinance. CED continues to assist the City Council on issues surrounding the Winthrop. There is a lot of interest in Tacoma from outside investors and momentum appears to be building.

Tacoma Police Department: Corey Darlington said the police substation would move from 9th & L to 16th & MIL in April. They are looking for additional volunteer staffing. There was a triple homicide today near 6th & Union. It appears to be drug related. Nuisance activities continue around the King Center. TPD is continuing their set missions in this area. Concerns exist about the Brick City (Club Friday & Club Impact) and a melee that occurred a couple weeks ago. There is some concern about the mix of residential areas with local night club activities.

Greg Hopkins talked about his role on the Community Based Services program. He's been working with Comprehensive Mental Health and Pierce Transit, and is also focusing on CPTED and lighting issues. They've been tagging abandoned vehicles and towed 25 last month. There have been compliance issues on G St. around 18th and 23rd. Concerns were also expressed regarding the location of the Needle Exchange, with some consideration of an indoor venue. There is a meeting scheduled on March 9, 2006 (Thursday at 5:00 PM) at the HAC office. There is concern about an upcoming statewide meeting to lift the cap on liquor licenses for bars, clubs, & taverns. There has been some discussion regarding a way to reduce noise via an ordinance that would require soundproofing for buildings which house nightclubs. DOT is looking at possibly fencing areas under 705 to help deal with the transient problems.

Fire: Larry Steiner said a CERT class would graduate on April 15, 2006. The Dept. is partnering with a literacy program and focusing on reaching people for which English is a second language.

CITIZENS FORUM: N/A

PRESENTATIONS: Sallie Shawl (Paint Tacoma –Pierce Beautiful) distributed fliers on this year's campaign. Their Mission Statement is: "We organize volunteers to paint the homes of low-income seniors and low-income disabled men and women throughout Tacoma and Pierce County." Applications are now available from Associated Ministries, 1224 South I Street, Tacoma, WA 98405. (253) 383-3056, ext. 105. Check out their web site at www.paintbeautiful.org. The Final Deadline: Applications must be postmarked by April 1, 2006. Sallie would like each neighborhood council to identify 5 houses to be painted, and would be thrilled to see us step up to assisting with organizing a painting crew.

Steve Shanafelt (Public Works Engineering Division) distributed guidelines and Neighborhood Council Project Application forms. The NTNC's one time funding of \$100,000 has a minimum project cost of \$15,000 and to be infrastructure improvements such as sidewalks, streets, and lighting. The council should look at the ability to leverage money whenever possible. The deadline for Phase 1 is May 31, 2006 (5:00 PM), and Phase 2 is October 1, 2006 (5:00 PM). The council should look at ways to prioritize projects based upon safety issues, numbers of people served, or critical areas/functions. Business districts are also getting some funding, so partnering with them may be advantageous. (As an aside, it was noted that the St. Helens lighting was in the works, and has been opened for bids. There is a change order for Tacoma Ave. lights).

OLD BUSINESS: Marty Campbell assisted with prioritizing the action strategy. Specific projects are now being identified for the NTNC's attention (e.g. Litter). Some optimism was expressed that focusing on projects, while keeping in mind an overall strategy, would allow the council to move forward with improved momentum.

Terrie Vestal continued her presentation on illegal dumping, distributing a packet of research materials and pictures. Phase 1 is to focus on identifying illegal dump sites, perpetrators, and notifying police and city staff of ways to address immediate problems. Marty Campbell talked about Phase 2 and the need to work toward changing City legislation to increase penalties/fines for illegal dumping. Information was distributed regarding the major discrepancies between City and State penalties. Residents can call Tacoma Cares at 591-5001 or Call to Hall at 573-2468 or Illegal Dumping at 591-5001. It may be important to include an educational component to address this issue. A committee was formed to work on getting the groundwork together to get laws strengthened and increases in fines. Volunteers for the committee were: Bill Garl, Terrie Vestal, Mar-Le Wendt, Denny Faker, Nick Schuder and Marty Campbell.

NEW BUSINESS: A motion was approved to send 6 people to the NUSA conference in May, 2006 (NTNC to spend up to \$1,075 per individual for a total of up to \$6,450). This motion requires confirmation at the next NTNC meeting in March, 2006. A discussion surrounded which individuals would be chosen to go to NUSA. Bill Garl had NUSA Request forms available for anyone wishing to be considered.

The Executive Committee expressed a wish to have the Innovative Grants considered differently this year (3 grants of up to \$5,000 apiece, and 10 grants of up to \$500 apiece. This consideration was being made to provide more impact throughout the NTNC's area).

REPORTS: Community Council Meeting: The Regional Transit project proposals include an extension of the Tacoma Link to Tacoma Community College via Stadium District and 6th Ave. There was discussion on need for review of proposals and impact on neighborhoods, businesses, and parking. They voted to send the Executive Board to NUSA. Continuing discussion on distribution of donated paint.

Across The Fence: Next month will cover Downtown as a Neighborhood.

Treasurer's Report: \$ 11,656.39

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:55 PM.