



City of Tacoma

Community Vitality and Safety

Committee Minutes

747 Market Street Tacoma, WA 98402

Conference Room 248

September 26, 2019

4:30 PM

Chair Keith Blocker, Vice Chair Catherine Ushka,
Chris Beale, Robert Thoms, Lillian Hunter (alternate)

Call To Order

Chair Blocker called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m.

Present: 3 - Beale, Blocker and Ushka

Absent: 1 - Thoms

Approval of Minutes

1. [19-1038](#) Approval of the minutes of the September 12, 2019 meeting

MOTION: Council Member Ushka moved to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2019 meeting.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Beale.

ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.

Ayes: 3 - Beale, Blocker and Ushka

Absent: 1 - Thoms

Briefing Items

2. [19-1039](#) Domestic Violence Strategic Alliance
[Linda Stewart, Director, Neighborhood and Community Services]

This item was not addressed.

3. [19-1041](#) Closed Captioning Request for Ordinance
[Lucas Smiraldo, Management Analyst, Office of Equity and Human Rights]

At approximately 4:34 p.m., Lucas Smiraldo, Management Analyst, Office of Equity and Human Rights, made opening remarks and presented the request for a closed captioning ordinance, including an overview; background; recent history; proposed revisions; fine structure; other elements, noting background and foreground colors, high contrast, and preventing segregated access; education campaign; benefits; economic impact; and the request for a closed captioning ordinance.

Discussion ensued regarding if there is a warning prior to issuing a fine, economic benefits, implementation date, the meaning of being complaint based, and closed captioning covering sports scores.

MOTION: Council Member Ushka moved to recommend the draft closed captioning ordinance to the full City Council for consideration.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Beale.

ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.

Ayes: 3 - Beale, Blocker and Ushka

Absent: 1 - Thoms

4. [19-1042](#) Neighborhood Council Program Review
[Allyson Griffith, NET Manager, and Bucoda Warren, Senior Management Fellow, Neighborhood and Community Services]

At approximately 4:56 p.m., Allyson Griffith, NET Manager, Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS), made opening remarks and introduced Bucoda Warren, Senior Management Fellow, NCS. Mr. Warren presented the Neighborhood Council review, including an overview, background, and outreach. He outlined 10 proposed changes, noting administrative changes, changing the function of the Neighborhood Councils in the Municipal Code, a process of creating new Neighborhood Councils and adjusting boundaries in the Code, changing the definition of membership on the Neighborhood Council Program, alignment with Tacoma 2025, requiring certain provisions in bylaws, outlining expectations and responsibilities, creating a section in the Standards and Guidelines, adding program support, and defining funding categories. Mr. Warren concluded by reviewing next steps.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding separating the policy from the operational document regarding Standards and Guidelines, limits on new Neighborhood Councils, resources given to the Neighborhood Councils, the number of attendees at a public meeting, the process of creating a new Neighborhood Council, balance across the City, outreach, businesses being included as participants, support for equity questions, examples of internal conflict mediation, Neighborhood Council members who have exceeded eight years of service, issues regarding member recruitment and engagement, and a plan for sustainability.

MOTION: Council Member Ushka moved to recommend the proposed Neighborhood Council Program revisions to the full City Council for consideration.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Beale.

ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.

Ayes: 3 - Beale, Blocker and Ushka

Absent: 1 - Thoms

Public Comment was heard from:

1. José Chavez, resident.

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

5. [19-1040](#) October 10, 2019 - Community Engagement, Code Compliance Pilot, NCS Mobilization Contracts
October 24, 2019 - Project Peace

Bucoda Warren, Committee Liaison, stated the next meeting will be on October 10, 2019, and will include a presentation on community engagement.

Other Items of Interest

Council Member Ushka requested information regarding landlords who sold their rental homes after the Tenant Rights Ordinance implementation and a measurement of the impacts due to rental rate increases. She further informed the Committee of the Tax and License division's collaboration in tracking rental home business licenses in Tacoma.

Chair Blocker requested information on implementing an electronic sign-in sheet.

Public Comment

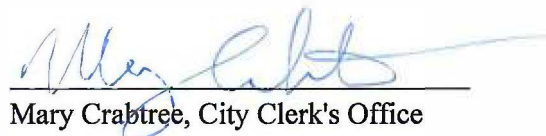
Public Comment was heard earlier in the meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.



Keith Blocker, Chair



Mary Crabtree, City Clerk's Office