



City of Tacoma

Community Vitality and Safety

Committee Minutes

747 Market Street, Tacoma, WA 98402, Conference Room 248
Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 859 6160 4917
Webinar Link: www.zoom.us/j/85961604917 Passcode: 614650
August 24, 2023
4:30 PM

Keith Blocker, Kiara Daniels, Sarah Rumbaugh, Catherine Ushka,
John Hines (alternate)

Call To Order

Chair Ushka called the meeting to order at 4:36 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: 3 - Blocker, Daniels and Rumbaugh

Absent: 1 - Ushka

Chair Ushka and Council Member Daniels participated virtually.

MOTION: Vice Chair Blocker moved to conduct the Public Comment portion of the meeting to after the briefing items.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Rumbaugh.

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

Ayes: 0

Absent: 1 - Ushka

Public Comment

Public Comment began at 4:38 p.m.

The City Clerk's Office received one written comment for regarding the Tacoma Police Department Violent Crime Reduction Plan.

Public Comment ended at 4:39 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

1. [23-0840](#) Approval of the minutes of the March 9, 2023, meeting.
MOTION: Chair Ushka moved to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2023, meeting.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Daniels.

ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.
Ayes: 3 - Daniels, Rumbaugh and Ushka
Absent: 1 - Blocker

2. [23-0841](#) Approval of the minutes of the April 13, 2023, meeting.
MOTION: Chair Ushka moved to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2023, meeting.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Daniels.

ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.
Ayes: 3 - Daniels, Rumbaugh and Ushka
Absent: 1 - Blocker

Briefing Items

3. [23-0836](#) Interviews for the Tacoma Area Commission on Disabilities
[Susan Haigh, RIM Administrator and Deputy City Clerk]

At approximately 4:42 p.m., Susan Haigh, Deputy City Clerk, informed the Committee they would be interviewing four applicants for the Tacoma Area Commission on Disabilities (TACoD); there are five open positions on TACoD; no applicants qualify for the Youth Position; Haley Edick's interview will take place on September 14, 2023; and Amin Hester is seeking reappointment and should be considered based on his prior committee experience.

The Committee interviewed Billie Periman, Cheri Coleman, Wanda McRae, and Evelyn Ramirez Ramsay. Hayley Edick was unable to attend this interview and will be interviewed during the next Community Vitality and Safety Committee meeting on September 14, 2023.

Discussion ensued regarding the number of applicants and open positions, scheduling for interviews, options to make recommendations at tonight's meeting and additional recommendations at the next meeting, and the

candidates' qualifications.

MOTION: Council Member Rumbaugh moved to recommend the reappointment of Amin Hester to the Tacoma Area commission on Disabilities to serve a three-year term, retroactive to September 1, 2023, to expire August 31, 2026.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Daniels.

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

Ayes: 3 - Daniels, Rumbaugh and Ushka

Absent: 1 - Blocker

MOTION: Council Member Rumbaugh moved to recommend the appointment of Billie Periman to the Tacoma Area commission on Disabilities to serve a three-year term, retroactive to September 1, 2023, to expire August 31, 2026.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Daniels.

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

Ayes:

Ayes: 3 - Daniels, Rumbaugh and Ushka

Absent: 1 - Blocker

MOTION: Council Member Rumbaugh moved to recommend the reappointment of Cheri Coleman to the Tacoma Area commission on Disabilities to serve a three-year term, retroactive to September 1, 2023, to expire August 31, 2026.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Daniels.

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

Ayes: 3 - Blocker, Daniels and Rumbaugh

Absent: 1 - Ushka

MOTION: Council Member Rumbaugh moved to recommend the appointment of Evelyn Ramirez Ramsay to the Tacoma Area commission on Disabilities to serve a three-year term, retroactive to

September 1, 2023, to expire August 31, 2026.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Daniels.

Council Member Rumbaugh withdrew her motion.

Discussion ensued regarding Wanda McRae and Evelyn Ramires motions to be decided during the next meeting.

4. [23-0837](#) Managed Intake Overview for The Tacoma-Pierce County Humane Society and Animal Control
[Dr. Jennifer Bennett, Chief Veterinary Officer, Humane Society for Tacoma and Pierce County]

At approximately 5:50 p.m., Corey Darlington, Police Captain, introduced Dr. Jennifer Bennett, Chief Veterinary Officer, Humane Society for Tacoma and Pierce County and Joseph Satter-Hunt, Animal Control and Compliance Supervisor, together presented appointment based intake with an overview, managed intake, definitions, and surrenders.

Discussion ensued regarding the new intake process for community members bringing in animals to the shelter, animal control and plans to assist community members with the new process, concerns with illnesses that pass between the animals when there is an overpopulation of animals at the shelter, and temporary housing. Dr. Bennett continued regarding having a quarterly meeting for updates, looking into a dispatching system to aid placement of animals. Satter-Hunt, discussed concerns with animals being turned away at shelters, not having enough staffing levels, investigations, abandonment's, and resources. Chair Ushka requested whether the shelter can take horses, a request for estimated hours and resources required, fee structure changes, concerns with overcrowding, and a proposal to present more information at the December 14, 2023, Committee meeting.

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

5. [23-0838](#) September 14, 2023 - Rental Housing Data Project; Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Sales Tax: Mental Health Assessment
September 28, 2023 - Crystal Judson Family Justice Center Update; Health Metrics and Achieving Equity
October 12, 2023 - Amendments to Tacoma Municipal Code Chapter 8.17- False Reports of Crime

D'Angelo Baker, Committee Liaison, stated that the September 14, 2023,

meeting will include the Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Tax and mental health assessment, and an additional TACoD interview; the September 28, 2023, meeting will include the Crystal Judson Family Justice Center Update and a presentation on health metrics, environmental justice, and achieving equity; and the October 12, 2023, meeting will include the amendments to Tacoma Municipal Code Chapter 8.17 related to False Reports and the Rental Housing Data Project update.

Other Items of Interest

Council Member Daniels and Chair Ushka discussed the Charter Review Committee process and the Rental Housing Code data project follow up.

Council Member Rumbaugh requested to have Puget Sound Clean Air Agency attend a meeting to discuss the end of the year data collection.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.



Catherine Ushka, Chair



Hollyann Piotrowski, City Clerk's Office