

Minutes
Joint Municipal Action Committee
March 14, 2014

PRESENT Clare Petrich, Chair (Port of Tacoma)
Debbie Winskill, Vice-Chair (Tacoma School Board)
Tim Reid (Metropolitan Park Board)
Erik Hanberg (Metropolitan Park Board)
Anders Ibsen (Tacoma City Council)
Kurt Miller (Tacoma School Board)
Connie Ladenburg (Pierce County Council)
Rick Talbert (Pierce County Council)
Alisa O'Hanlon (City of Tacoma)
Nancy Davis (Metropolitan Park District)
Teri Blair (Pierce County)

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Clare Petrich called the meeting to order at 8:06 a.m.

INTRODUCTIONS

The attendees introduced themselves. Also in attendance were: Hunter George, Pierce County; Dan Voelpel, Tacoma School District; and Mark Williams, Pierce County.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Tim Reid moved for approval of the agenda. Vice-Chair Debbie Winskill seconded the motion. The chair declared the motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Tim Reid moved for approval of the minutes of February 14, 2014 and Anders Ibsen seconded. The chair declared the motion passed.

AGENDA ITEMS

2015 U.S. Open – Connie Ladenburg began the presentation. The U.S. Open is one of four events that the USGA hosts every year throughout various regions of the United States. This will be the 115th U.S. Open and the only venue in the northwest. There will be about 9,000 people who will try to qualify for the U.S. Open. One hundred fifty-six people will play in the tournament and twenty of those will be amateurs. It is a seven day event. The tournament itself is four days with three practice days which are open to the public. The tournament will run June 15-21, 2015.

The USGA is not the same as the PGA. The focus of the USGA is to make a great experience for the golfers and the attendees. Over the course of the seven days the attendance is expected to be 235,000 people and 5,000 volunteers on the course every day. There will also be additional economic impacts to the area, i.e. hotels, restaurants, taxis, etc. Currently, there is a USGA championship director working as a liaison with the different agencies in the area.

Corporate hospitality is sponsorship. Shared hospitality is \$6,000 per table. The sponsorships are selling very quickly. The corporate hospitality that the USGA contracts with is MSG Promotions and they can be reached at www.msgpromotions.com or 484-223-3295.

The USGA plans to sell approximately 35,000 tickets per day. Ticket sales started March 1, 2014 for weekly passes for USGA members only. The weekly and daily pass tickets will go on sale June 9, 2014. Children 12 and under get in free and there are complementary tickets for military persons for the practice days.

The USGA is working on a transportation and traffic plan which is adjustable up until the tournament itself. There will be satellite parking lots. There is a 90% chance there will be a Sounder train coming to the course and there will be a temporary platform on site. Everyone will arrive at the course on a shuttle bus. No one will drive to the course. The persons who live in the area will have special passes.

There will be 2,000 credentialed members of the media attending the event. Next year Fox Sports will take over televising the event.

Hotel rentals in the area – visitors will not be staying just in Tacoma. The USGA is looking at a housing plan within 60 miles. There is not a huge market for house rental within walking distance of the course.

There was discussion on how to support the U.S. Open, i.e. with business and/or corporate sponsorships, ticket and merchandise sales, roll out the welcome mat, etc. There is information on the website at www.chambersbaygolf.com/usopenfaq.

Chair Petrich asked if there were programs in the area to raise awareness of golf for students. Connie Ladenburg responded that there is a First T program that is a non-profit and there is one at Meadow Park which is a curriculum based program. Vice-Chair Winskill commented that the youth golfing program was a good program to present to the high schools. It would be a good teaching tool. Hunter George stated that he, as well as other County staff is available for presentations and Danny Sink, the USGA Championship Director has responded to requests for information on how to begin a golfing program.

Metro Parks Bond Breakdown – Erik Hanberg began the update by reporting that the bond is \$198 million and will be on the ballot on April 22, 2014. There are three categories – the first is the Zoo and Aquarium. The main fix there is replacing the fifty-one year old North Pacific Aquarium. The second category is Regional Parks and Attractions. This applies to the big parks, waterfront parks, i.e. Point Defiance Park, Swan Creek Park, Northwest Trek, etc. The third category is the neighborhood parks. Many of them were updated with the bond in 2005, but there is still some work that did not get done. Dan Voelpel asked about the biggest investment in Northeast Tacoma. Tim Reid responded that there are very preliminary conversations regarding the golf course and reconfiguring of space and possibly change the course from an 18 to a 9-hole par 3 course with the rest open space, trails, picnic area, and park space.

Legislative Update – Alisa O’Hanlon reported that no capital budget was adopted this year, and no transportation package. There were 2,300 bills introduced and less than 10% passed. Nancy Davis reported that there was \$158 million towards education but that did not include teacher salaries or cost of living increases. Vice-Chair Winskill asked why the capital budget was not passed. Ms. Davis replied that regarding

the capital budget there was some agreement made last year for a ceiling on a building that would house the State Patrol and it was exceeded because the bids were wrong on it. The House passed a budget, but the Senate could not come to an agreement. Ms. O'Hanlon continued that there were legislators who worked very hard regarding recording fees that were adopted years ago to support homeless programs. Kurt Miller stated that it has been extended for four more years and because of that 65 young people experiencing homelessness are currently being housed. Mr. Reid added that in addition to that the military and veterans received the waiver on the one year requirement of residency in order to receive in-state tuition.

DISCUSSION OF MUTUAL INTERESTS AND CONCERNS/FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

There was discussion on possible mental health issues to discuss at future meetings. Kurt Miller stated that he sees mental illness for young people and the impact that it has on housing and everything else. Mr. Reid replied perhaps it would be good to focus on one aspect of mental illness such as the youth. Vice-Chair Winskill stated she would like to look at specialists in the school district as well as counselors who really know the issues to present to JMAC. Mr. Miller stated that Comprehensive Life Resources has mental health counselors in the schools.

SETTING OF NEXT MEETING AGENDA

Youth Mental Health Issues
Mental Health Specialists (Tacoma School District)
STAR Certification Presentation (City of Tacoma)

Future Agenda Items

Mental Health Services in Tacoma/Pierce County
Mental Health Care Report: Port of Tacoma (John Wolf)
Enrollment Trends & Future Planning Update: Tacoma School District
(Carla Santorno) – May 9th quarterly meeting
Metro Parks Bond Update (May 9, 2014)
Smoke Reduction Zone/Nonattainment Update (June 13, 2014)
Update on 2015 U.S. Open (November/December, 2014)
Youth Mental Health Issues: Trafficking, Housing/Shelters, Gangs, etc.
Economic Development and Impacts
Earth Week Citizen's Academy Update (Anders Ibsen)
Transport of Coal through Tacoma
Affordable Housing Policies (Anders Ibsen / Lauren Walker)
Foss/Hylebos Recontamination (Port of Tacoma)
Earth Economics (Metro Parks Tacoma)

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Friday, April 11, 2014 at 8:00 a.m. in Conference Room 248. Minutes for April to be taken by Tacoma Public Schools.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:16 a.m.