



Neighborhoods and Housing Committee Minutes

<http://www.cityoftacoma.org/NH>

Tacoma Municipal Building, Room 248, 747 Market Street, Tacoma, Washington 98402

March 17, 2014

Chair Walker called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m.

Council Committee Members Present: Boe, Ibsen, Lonergan and Walker.

Council Committee Members Absent: None.

Approval of March 3, 2014 Minutes

Council Member Ibsen moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 3, 2014. Seconded by Council Member Lonergan. Voice vote was taken and carried. The minutes were approved.

TCRA Update

At approximately 4:37 p.m., Carey Jenkins, Housing Division Manager, Community and Economic Development (CED), stated the purpose of today's presentation is to provide the Committee an opportunity to review and comment on Program Year 2014-2015 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding recommendations for housing assistance, economic development, and public improvement activities. He noted the recommendations will be presented at the March 18, 2014 Study Session, for incorporation in the 2014-2015 Annual Action Plan (AAP) which outlines Tacoma's use of CDBG, Home Investment Partnership (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding allocations. Mr. Jenkins reviewed the three annual federal funds: CDBG, HOME, and ESG, and the programs that benefit from them. He provided background information on the CED's process, noting the Council approved the 2-year funding priorities on December 3, 2013, 2014-2015 CDBG funds were released December 6, 2013, and 11 applications were received. He stated the Tacoma Community Redevelopment Authority (TCRA) Board approved the funding recommendations on February 27, 2014.

Mr. Jenkins reviewed slides for the five-year funding cycle, CDBG funds for 2014-2015 with an estimated 3 percent reduction, requested housing funding, TCRA housing activities, requested economic development funding, recommended housing funding, recommended economic development funding. He then reviewed slides for HOME funds for 2014-2015, with an estimated 3 percent reduction, the City's housing service and economic development service providers, neighborhood projects, down payment assistance, and multifamily residential. He briefly reviewed TCRA initiatives for 2014, including 2016-2020 Consolidated Plan preparation, another update to this Committee, and continued operational enhancements; then concluded with next steps, including: a Study Session presentation on March 18, 2014, publication of the Annual Action Plan on April 1, 2014, a public hearing before Council on April 22, 2014, Council consideration in early May, and submission of the AAP to the

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) before May 15, 2014. Discussion ensued regarding how neighborhood projects are selected, and if the City could work with partners in the real estate industry to flip properties in targeted area to promote home ownership in key corridors. Discussion continued regarding areas of opportunity and having equity in the City and whether the TCRA receives training or information on these issues because they make decisions on where to fund housing.

Temporary Homeless Camps Permit Process

At approximately 5:04 p.m. Brian Boudet, Division Manager, Planning and Development Services (PDS), stated in 2010, the Washington State Legislature granted broad authority to religious organizations to host temporary homeless camps for individuals experiencing homelessness on property owned or controlled by such organizations. He noted there is interest in the community to address homelessness and to provide options for persons in this life situation. He stated today's presentation is the initial presentation of the Planning Commission's recommendation for amendments to the Municipal Code and staff's associated work on a fee recommendation for the application. John Harrington, PDS, reviewed proposal components, including the permit process, occupants, siting, and other development standards. Discussion ensued regarding how warrant and background checks would be conducted for the camps and how long they take to process; and storm water considerations. Council Member Lonergan asked that PDS staff have Environmental Services review stormwater considerations.

Mr. Harrington showed a map outlining church distribution and transit stops. He then concluded with next steps, including a presentation at the March 25, 2014 study session, a public hearing by the City Council on April 1, 2014, follow up to this Committee on April 7, 2014, and Council consideration of an ordinance on April 15 and 22, 2014. Council Member Ibsen asked tent-city supporters in attendance to speak about their experience with temporary homeless camps hosted by religious organizations and whether it helps.

Public comment was heard from Neil Rogers, citizen; Patricia Menzies, citizen; and Alan Oldstident, citizen.

Discussion ensued regarding church distribution and transit stops. Committee members requested staff look at Pierce Transit's policy for qualifying for shuttle service.

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

Christina Watts, City Manager's Office, stated the next meeting is April 7, 2014 and tentative topics include TCRA interviews, a briefing on the Neighborhood Council boundary adjustment, and a follow-up to the temporary homeless camps permit process if needed. She noted the April 21, 2014 meeting is tentatively cancelled at this time due a lack of a quorum for that meeting.

Other Items of Interest

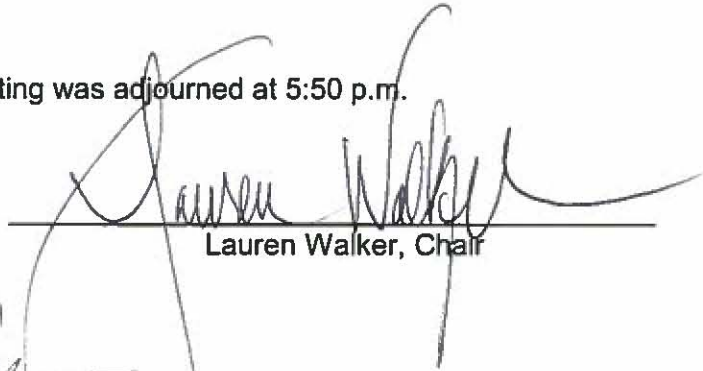
None.

Public Comment

Public comment was heard earlier in the meeting.

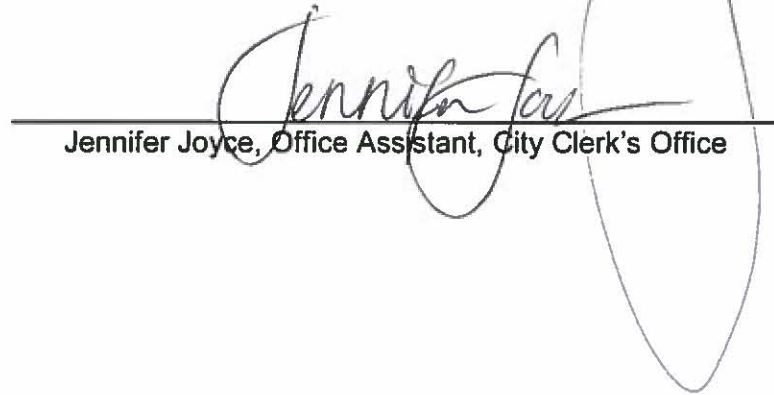
Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lauren Walker", is written above a horizontal line.

Lauren Walker, Chair



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Joyce", is written above a horizontal line.

Jennifer Joyce, Office Assistant, City Clerk's Office