



City of Tacoma Neighborhoods and Housing Committee Minutes

747 Market Street Tacoma, WA 98402

Conference Room 248

December 01, 2014

4:30 PM

Chair Lauren Walker, Vice Chair Joe Lonergan,
David Boe, Anders Ibsen, Victoria Woodards (alternate)

Call To Order

Chair Walker called the meeting to order at 4:37 p.m.

Present: 4 - Boe, Ibsen, Lonergan and Walker

Briefing Items

1. 14-1209 Hearing Code Change
[Lisa Wojtanowicz, Neighborhood and Community Services]

At approximately 4:38 p.m., Lisa Wojtanowicz, Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS), provided background information and reviewed proposed changes to the Municipal Code related to the Hearing Examiner to provide consistent options for appeals, consolidate the appeal function, and standardize the process. Discussion ensued regarding the amount of work that will be added to the Hearing Examiner. Council Members Lonergan and Boe requested information regarding how many and the type of appeal hearings currently heard by the Hearing Examiner. Ms. Wojtanowicz concluded by reviewing next steps.

MOTION: Council Member Ibsen moved to forward the proposed code changes to the City Council for consideration and approval.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Lonergan.

Council Member Lonergan requested staff provide information regarding the Hearing Examiner's scope of work.

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

Ayes: 4 - Boe, Ibsen, Lonergan and Walker

2. 14-1210 Noise Code Update
[Lisa Wojtanowicz, Neighborhood and Community Services]

At approximately 4:46 p.m., Allyson Griffith, NCS, reviewed 2014 changes to the Municipal Code related to noise enforcement, including background information regarding the number of noise complaints over time, complaint types, and types of noise. Council Member Ibsen requested information regarding the spike in construction noise complaints, including the location of the complaints.

Ms. Griffith reviewed recommended changes to Section 8.122 of the Municipal Code to allow for adding a purpose section, changes to language regarding a noise control plan, an appeal for variances, escalating penalties, and additional exemptions. She concluded by reviewing next steps. Discussion ensued regarding the number of complaints and whether they are duplicated if two citizens call for the same issue. Council Member Boe requested staff include language regarding balancing noise from commercial industry businesses.

Public comment was heard from Louise Bray, Schnitzer Steel.

Discussion ensued regarding noise related to historic landmarks, including bells, chimes, and clock towers. Chair Walker and Council Member Boe requested staff include language in the code changes to address noise related to historic landmarks with chimes and bells. Council Member Lonergan requested staff include language in the code changes to address noise related to clock towers.

MOTION: Council Member Boe moved to forward the proposed code changes to Section 8.122 of the Municipal Code, including the addition of language relating to noise from commercial activities and historic landmarks, to the City Council for consideration and approval.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Lonergan.

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

Ayes: 4 - Boe, Ibsen, Lonergan and Walker

3. 14-1211 Code Compliance Community Education Update
[Lisa Wojtanowicz, Neighborhood and Community Services]

At approximately 5:02 p.m., Ms. Wojtanowicz reviewed the Community Services Division's 2015 proposed community outreach and education strategy, including various events and communication tools. Discussion ensued regarding strategies related to political signs, and taking advantage of preexisting networks and groups of individuals that have a track record of being engaged in the community.

Chair Walker requested staff provide information related to political signs to the County to include in their educational event for individuals running for office, as well as sending the information to candidates who have filed with the Pierce County Auditor. Chair Walker then requested staff include outreach and education related to the Annual Fair Housing Conference and Month, and equity and empowerment. Council Member Ibsen requested staff include canvassing to the communication tools list.

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

4. 14-1212 December 15, 2014 - Analysis of Impediments; Single Family Blight Abatement; Neighborhood Council Review Check-In

Genesis Gavino, City Manager's Office, stated topics for the December 15, 2014 meeting include analysis of impediments, single family blight abatement, and Neighborhood Council review.

Other Items of Interest

There were no other items of interest.

Public Comment

Public comment was heard earlier in the meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.



Lauren Walker, Chair



Linnea Meredith, City Clerk's Office