



# City of Tacoma Community Vitality and Safety Committee Minutes

747 Market Street Tacoma, WA 98402

Conference Room 248

August 08, 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 4:30 p.m.

**Present:** 3 - Blocker, Hunter and Thoms

**Absent:** 2 - Beale and Ushka

Council Member Ushka arrived at 4:33 p.m.

## Approval of Minutes

1. [19-0824](#) Approval of the minutes of the July 25, 2019 meeting

**MOTION: Council Member Thoms moved to approve the minutes of the July 25, 2019 meeting.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Hunter.**

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

**Ayes:** 3 - Blocker, Hunter and Thoms

**Absent:** 2 - Beale and Ushka

## Briefing Items

2. [19-0825](#) Tacoma Area Commission on Disabilities Interviews  
[Doris Sorum, City Clerk]

At approximately 4:31 p.m., Doris Sorum, City Clerk, informed the Committee they would be interviewing eight applicants for the Tacoma Area Commission on Disabilities, including Lori Allison and

Anthony Caldwell, who are seeking reappointment, and Robert Hersey and Ivanova Smith, who will be participating telephonically. Ms. Sorum concluded by stating there are six positions open on the Commission, including a youth position; however, there were no youth applicants.

Council Member Ushka arrived here, at 4:33 p.m.

The Committee interviewed Robert Hersey, Ivanova Smith, Lori Allison, Anthony Caldwell, Lukas Barfield, Marilyn Kimmerling, Sherelle Rogers, and Richard Smaby.

Discussion ensued regarding available positions and applicant qualifications.

**MOTION: Council Member Hunter moved to recommend the reappointment of Lori Allison to the Tacoma Area Commission on Disabilities to serve a three-year term to expire August 31, 2022.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.**

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

**Ayes:** 4 - Blocker, Hunter, Thoms and Ushka

**Absent:** 1 - Beale

**MOTION: Council Member Ushka moved to recommend the reappointment of Anthony Caldwell to the Tacoma Area Commission on Disabilities to serve a three-year term to expire August 31, 2022.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Hunter.**

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

**Ayes:** 4 - Blocker, Hunter, Thoms and Ushka

**Absent:** 1 - Beale

[19-0825](#)

Tacoma Area Commission on Disabilities Interviews  
[Doris Sorum, City Clerk]

**MOTION: Council Member Ushka moved to recommend the appointment of Lukas Barfield to the Tacoma Area Commission on Disabilities to fill an unexpired term to expire August 31, 2021.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Hunter.**

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

**Ayes:** 4 - Blocker, Hunter, Thoms and Ushka

**Absent:** 1 - Beale

**MOTION: Council Member Thoms moved to recommend the appointment of Richard Smaby to the Tacoma Area Commission on Disabilities to fill an unexpired term to expire August 31, 2019, followed by a three-year term to expire August 31, 2022.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Hunter.**

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

**Ayes:** 4 - Blocker, Hunter, Thoms and Ushka

**Absent:** 1 - Beale

**MOTION: Council Member Hunter moved to recommend the appointment of Sherelle Rogers to the Tacoma Area Commission on Disabilities to fill an unexpired term to expire August 31, 2020, followed by a three-year term to expire August 31, 2023.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.**

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

**Ayes:** 4 - Blocker, Hunter, Thoms and Ushka

**Absent:** 1 - Beale

**MOTION: Council Member Ushka moved to recommend Robert Hersey and Ivanova Smith to a shortlist for future consideration on the Tacoma Area Commission on Disabilities.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Hunter.**

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

**Ayes:** 4 - Blocker, Hunter, Thoms and Ushka

**Absent:** 1 - Beale

3. [19-0826](#)

Rental Housing Code Update

[ChiQuata Elder, Landlord-Tenant/Crime Free Housing Coordinator, Office of Equity and Human Rights; Matthew Jorgensen, Program Development Specialist, Neighborhood and Community Services]

At approximately 5:26 p.m., ChiQuata Elder, Landlord Tenant/Crime Free Housing Coordinator, Office of Equity and Human Rights, introduced Matthew Jorgensen, Program Development Specialist, and Erica Azcueta, Homelessness and Household Stability Program Manager, Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS). Ms. Elder provided an update on the Tacoma Municipal Code Chapter 1.95 relating to the Rental Housing Code (RHC), including background, timeline and process of implementation, number of people served, impacts, enforcement and ensuring habitability, lessons learned, and next steps. Ms. Azcueta reviewed background regarding tenant relocation assistance. Mr. Jorgensen concluded by providing a brief overview of the Tenant Relocation Assistance Program and program updates.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding Code accessibility for people with disabilities, utility and garbage service policies, business licenses, the rollover of funds, the number of languages available for the Tenant Relocation Information Packets, RHC website update, transitional and temporary housing, and clean and sober housing.

## Topics for Upcoming Meetings

4. [19-0827](#) August 22, 2019 - Parks Code Amendments, Fireworks After Action Report 2019, Neighborhood and Community Services Mobilization Contracts

September 12, 2019 - Project Peace, Neighborhood Council Program Review, State of Black Tacoma

Bucoda Warren, Committee Liaison, stated the next meeting will be on August 22, 2019, and will include Park Code amendments and a fireworks after-action report. He further stated the presentation regarding the NCS mobilization contracts has been moved to the September 12, 2019 meeting.

## Other Items of Interest

Council Member Thoms expressed interest on bringing the safe and clean initiative discussion to the Community Vitality and Safety Committee.

Discussion ensued regarding overlap of other Standing Committees, Business Improvement Area patrols, cost of adding pilot programs, and having a joint meeting or study session to discuss the topic.

## Public Comment

There was no Public Comment.

## Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:29 p.m..

---

Keith Blocker, Chair

---

Mary Crabtree, City Clerk's Office