



# Neighborhoods and Housing Committee Minutes

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

Tacoma Municipal Building North, Room 16, 733 Market Street, Tacoma, Washington 98402

November 4, 2013

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.

Chair Walker welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for self-introductions.

## **Approval of October 21, 2013 Minutes**

Council Member Ibsen moved to approve the minutes of the October 21, 2013 meeting. Seconded by Council Member Lonergan. Voice vote was taken and carried. The minutes were approved.

## **Neighborhood Councils Recommendations Update**

At approximately 4:35 p.m. Carol Wolfe, Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS), stated the purpose of today's meeting is to present recommendations for revisions to the existing Neighborhood Council ordinance and a Standards and Guidelines document. She stated at the August 19, 2013 meeting, staff presented an overview of the objectives for revisions to the Neighborhood Council Program and the governance language for Neighborhood Councils found in Tacoma Municipal Code (TMC) 1.45, in addition to the creation of a Standards and Guidelines document that would address program and contracting direction. She noted after the August 19, 2013 presentation, staff created a working group with Neighborhood Council representatives who met during the month of October and reviewed draft recommendations.

Ms. Wolfe reviewed additional background information, initial recommendations, and revisions to minimize governance language in TMC 1.45. She then reviewed the Standards and Guidelines document; enhancing program resources; and recommendation objectives. She concluded with next steps, including to propose revised legislation adopting the Standards and Guidelines document by the end of 2013; propose a resolution adopting the adjusted Neighborhood Council boundaries by the end of the first quarter of 2014; and to implement immediate changes and innovative grant review in 2014. Council Member Boe asked if the Neighborhood Councils could be better advertised through TV Tacoma programming; and requested a map of Neighborhood Council districts. Council Member Ibsen inquired about the metrics used for measuring the performance of the Neighborhood Councils.

Public comment was heard from Doug Schaefer, Central Neighborhood Council; Elizabeth Burris, New Tacoma Neighborhood Council; and Skip Vaughn, South Tacoma Neighborhood Council.

**Topics for Upcoming Meetings**

Christina Watts, City Manager's Office, stated the next meeting is November 18, 2013 and interviews will be conducted for the Landmarks Preservation Commission. She noted the December 2, 2013 meeting topics tentatively include a presentation from Metro Parks Tacoma on their planning efforts; an affordable housing update; and a follow-up discussion on the City's approach to temporary homeless camps.

**Other Items of Interest**

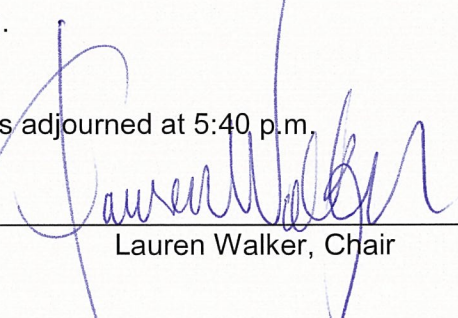
Council Member Ibsen noted one in ten homes in the county have been purchased by out of state investment firms. He noted he is interested in the long-term effects on the market and asked that it be added to the Committee's work plan. Discussion ensued regarding the areas of town where the most homes are being purchased.

**Public Comment**

Public comment was heard earlier in the meeting.

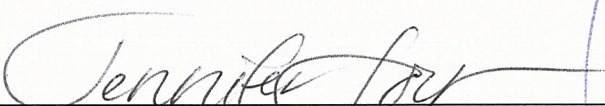
**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.



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Lauren Walker, Chair



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Jennifer Joyce, Office Assistant, City Clerk's Office