



City of Tacoma Economic Development Committee Minutes

747 Market Street Tacoma, WA 98402

Conference Room 248

October 09, 2018

10:00 AM

Chair Conor McCarthy, Vice Chair Catherine Ushka, Lillian Hunter,
Victoria Woodards, Chris Beale (alternate)

Call To Order

Chair McCarthy called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

Present: 3 - Hunter, McCarthy and Ushka

Absent: 1 - Woodards

Mayor Woodards arrived at 10:07 a.m.

Briefing Items

1. [18-1189](#) City Events and Recognitions Committee Interviews
[Doris Sorum, City Clerk]

At approximately 10:06 a.m., Doris Sorum, City Clerk, provided information regarding vacancies on the City Events and Recognitions Committee (CERC). She concluded by stating Kate Rhoades was not able to attend the interview.

Mayor Woodards arrived here, at 10:07 a.m.

The Committee interviewed Sean Dennerlein, Kim Norton, and Penny Russell.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding CERC vacancies and the number of applicants being interviewed. Discussion concluded on the reasons for the recent resignations in the CERC, if Kate Rhoades was still interested in interviewing for the CERC, applicants' qualifications, CERC's diversity, and recruitment outreach.

MOTION: Council Member Hunter moved to recommend the appointment of Penny Russell to the "At-Large No. 6" position on the City Events and Recognitions Committee to fill an unexpired term to expire June 30, 2020.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.

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

Ayes: 4 - Hunter, McCarthy, Ushka and Woodards

MOTION: Council Member Ushka moved to recommend the appointment of Sean Dennerlein to the "At-Large No. 5" position on the City Events and Recognitions Committee to fill an unexpired term to expire June 30, 2020.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Hunter.

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

Ayes: 4 - Hunter, McCarthy, Ushka and Woodards

Discussion ensued regarding the Tacoma Arts Commissions (TAC) interview timeline, if the Committee can appoint Ms. Norton to the TAC outside of the interview schedule, informing Ms. Norton of the TAC timeline and process to be considered for their vacancies, and if it is necessary to interview her in person again for the TAC.

2. [18-1190](#)

Downtown On the Go's Live.Work.Tacoma Program

[Kristina Walker, Executive Director; Downtown On the Go]

At approximately 10:40 a.m., Jordan Rash, Board President, Downtown On the Go, introduced Kristina Walker, Executive Director, Downtown On the Go, and made opening remarks. Ms. Walker provided an overview on Downtown On the Go's Live.Work.Tacoma program, including the program focus, program partners, background, and presented a video that will be rolled out to all Tacoma businesses describing the program's business bottom line. She described why the program was created, how it works, what it will cost, benefits, results for employees who take advantage of the program, how to participate, businesses currently participating in the program, and businesses with similar programs. She concluded by presenting images of people who already live close to work and the one-year program budget.

Discussion ensued regarding how many people have taken advantage of the program, how long the program has been available, how the program is different from when it started, financial incentives, if the program is used for renting and home ownership, and how long the City has been involved financially. Discussion continued on provision of a map of the economic centers and the one mile radius around them, how this will not exasperate the historical geographical inequities, if there is an expectation that a person stay at their job for a length of time after participating in the program, if there are limitations on how many incentives one person can receive, and eligibility. Discussion concluded on the annual budget, past City contribution, if there is City contribution to Downtown On the Go in the current biennium budget, concerns around having enough housing near jobs in Tacoma, and next steps.

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

3. [18-1191](#) October 23, 2018 - Parking Changes at Tacoma Dome Station;
Manufacturing Industrial Council

Chair McCarthy stated the meeting on October 23, 2018 will include parking changes at the Tacoma Dome Station and Manufacturing Industrial Council.

Other Items of Interest

Chair McCarthy stated about two months ago the Economic Development Committee moved a recommendation to fund the Downtown Works retail project, which is a partnership with the Business Improvement Area (BIA). He stated at the time there was not a commitment to recommend a dollar amount to the full City Council because there was going to be additional discussion. He further stated this topic was not brought to a City Council study session with the hope of working with the BIA to come to an agreed budget. Chair McCarthy asked about the progress of coming to an agreement.

Jeff Robinson, Director, Community and Economic Development, and David Schroedel, Manager, BIA, provided an update on the progress of the agreement.

Public Comment

There was no Public Comment.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.



Conor McCarthy, Chair



Jessica Jenkins, City Clerk's Office