



# City of Tacoma Economic Development Committee Minutes

747 Market Street Tacoma, WA 98402

Conference Room 248

**May 14, 2019**

**10:00 AM**

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Chair Robert Thoms, Vice Chair Conor McCarthy, Lillian Hunter,  
Catherine Ushka, Chris Beale (alternate)

## Call To Order

Chair Thoms called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

**Present:** 4 - Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms and Ushka

## Approval of Minutes

1. 19-0487 Approval of the Minutes of the April 9, 2019 meeting

**MOTION:** Deputy Mayor McCarthy moved to approve the minutes of the April 9, 2019 meeting.

**SECONDED BY:** Council Member Ushka.

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

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

2. 19-0489 Approval of the Minutes of the April 23, 2019 meeting

**MOTION:** Deputy Mayor McCarthy moved to approve the minutes of the April 23, 2019 meeting.

**SECONDED BY:** Council Member Ushka.

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

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

## Briefing Items

3. 19-0490 City Events and Recognitions Committee Interviews  
[Doris Sorum, City Clerk]

At approximately 10:02 a.m., Doris Sorum, City Clerk, stated the Committee would be interviewing two applicants for the City Events and Recognitions Committee vacancies and reviewing written response from Rhonda Ware, who was unable to attend the meeting. Ms. Sorum informed the Committee that Ashley Jones is seeking reappointment and described the positions available.

The Committee interviewed Ashley Jones and Adela Schoolderman.

Discussion ensued regarding setting up a phone interview with Ms. Ware, filling the Council District No. 2 position, and candidates' qualifications.

**MOTION: Council Member Hunter moved to recommend the reappointment of Ashley Jones to the "Council District No. 4" position on the City Events and Recognitions Committee, effective July 1, 2019, to serve a three-year term to expire June 30, 2022.**

**SECONDED BY: Deputy Mayor McCarthy.**

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

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

**MOTION: Council Member Hunter moved to recommend the appointment of Adela Schoolderman to the "At-Large No. 1" position on the City Events and Recognitions Committee to fill an unexpired term to expire June 30, 2020, followed by a three-year term to expire June 30, 2023.**

**SECONDED BY: Deputy Mayor McCarthy.**

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

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

4. 19-0493 Tacoma Opportunity Zones Update  
[Elly Walkowiak, Assistant Director, Community and Economic Development]

At approximately 10:25 a.m., Elly Walkowiak, Assistant Director, Community and Economic Development, presented the Tacoma Opportunity Zone regulations update, including background, benefits of the program, additions to the regulations, and what the City is doing to utilize the program effectively.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding bringing the presentation to the full City Council, how projects are picked, development incentives, long-term holds and investment timelines, target investments, what types of businesses would utilize the program, how the regulations can be used to build relationships in the City, working with building owners, and how to make the most of the zones.

Public Comment was heard from:  
1. Mitch Shook, Advanced Stream.

### Topics for Upcoming Meetings

5.     19-0496     May 28, 2019 - Cancelled

Chair Thoms stated the May 28, 2019 meeting has been cancelled.

### Other Items of Interest


Council Member Ushka stated she will bring a proposed policy pathway to a future agenda. She further stated she would like to address tenant and landlord rights for retail businesses at a future meeting.

### Public Comment

Public Comment was heard earlier in the meeting.

### Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:44 a.m.

  
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Robert Thoms, Chair  
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Katie Foster, City Clerk's Office