



**City of Tacoma
Sustainable Tacoma Commission
Meeting Minutes**

Date: February 20, 2020

Commission Members Present: Emily Pinckney, Matthew Benedict, Elly Claus-McGahan, Jade Monroe
Evlondo Cooper, Lexi Brewer, Grace Hope, Ashley Sloan, Tony Ivey
Phil Coughlan, Todd Hay, Liberty Evans-Agnew

**Commission Members
Excused:**

**Commission Members
Absent:**

Others Present: Patrick Babbitt, Kristin Lynett, Jim Parvey

Call to Order

This meeting was called to order by Jade Monroe at 5:00 p.m.

Approval of January 23, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Motion: Jade Monroe

Seconded by: Tony Ivey

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

Ayes: All

Abstained: None

Approval of February 20, 2020 Meeting Agenda

Motion: Jade Monroe

Seconded by: Tony Ivey

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

Ayes: All

Abstained: None

Staff Updates

Sustainability Expo – Saturday, March 14, 2020, 10:00am-3:00pm

The event will be held at the Tacoma Convention Center and will showcase a Sustainable Fashion Show – New Trash Fashion. A sign-up sheet will be going out for STC members to volunteer to cover the booth for one-hour blocks.

Staff will prepare signage and snacks for STC Expo booth. The Commission is asking for Commissioners to sign-up for booth shifts. Staff will prepare a Google drive file to sign-up.

TCC Wetlands / Heidelberg Sports Complex Study

Metro Parks Tacoma (MPT) aims to update its recommendation on use of the site sometime in the spring. MPT is asking for applicants for a steering committee. The timeline is unclear, but the committee is tasked with developing site selection criteria. Currently, the project is scoped for 8-10 fields. There is concern whether they could fit without harming the wetlands and negatively impacting Tacoma's tree canopy. At this time, there is no development permit.

Tideflats Interim Regulations

The City is developing a review and public hearing process. Lexi Brewer is serving on an advisory committee outside her Commission role, and will provide further context about this soon.

Pierce Transit Bus Rapid Transit

Pierce Transit is asking for public comment on project updates provided through a virtual open house.

Sub-Committee Updates

Lexi Brewer reports she is tracking two City projects: Waste Stream Mapping and Residential Infill Pilot. Todd Hay reports he is participating on Tacoma Public Utility's Integrated Resource Plan committee. Grace Sullivan and Todd report they are interested to continue a discussion about building decarbonization in a Commission subcommittee. Phil Coughlan reports other cities are discussing whether to ban single-family housing.

Sustainability Small Grants – Quarterly Review

Leah Michaelson presented on each Earth Day-focused grant that the STC Commission will vote upon.

“Gentle Giant” Tree Sculpture – Awarded at full value: \$5,000

To build a movable, reusable tree sculpture for Earth Day South Sound. Artist to own product in the end. Commission identified follow-up questions for staff to clarify with artist: costs for food, transportation, number of volunteers, and whether public could make use of sculpture beyond Earth Day South Sound. Upon satisfactory response to these questions, the sculpture is to be awarded as noted above.

“Urban Food Forest Digital Design Exhibit” – Awarded up to \$4,000 (requested \$5,000)

To develop a digital design exhibit to engage the public about urban trees through food forest design workshops. Commission identified follow-up questions for staff: whether Alma Mater and Metro Parks Tacoma are supportive, how the artist will ensure adequate public engagement, if the artist can provide examples of past work, if the artist can provide details about what this workshop-like demonstration/presentation will look like. Staff will review the scope of work and budget with the artist. Upon satisfactory response to these questions/comments, the exhibit is to be awarded as noted above.

“Wingin’ It” Sculpture Display – Awarded at full value: \$2,500

To build a butterfly sculpture display. Artist has provided concept design and pictures of past work. Artist will own the sculpture. Commission identified a follow-up question for staff: how sculpture can be available beyond Earth Day South Sound for public use in order to achieve

public art threshold. Upon satisfactory response to this question, the sculpture is to be awarded as noted above.

Grants Vote: Voting to approve all but Urban Food Forest Digital Design Exhibit at full request with conditions communicated to staff.

Motion: Jade Monroe

Seconded by: Tony Ivey

Action: Voice vote was taken and carried.

Ayes: All

Abstained: None

STC Priorities for 2020

The Commission discussed potential priorities to guide their 2020 work plan. This is initial discussion, which will continue in the Commission's Google drive folder and in future meetings. Initial priorities may be:

- Partnerships for sustainability with Tacoma Public Schools, Port of Tacoma, Puyallup Tribe of Indians
 - Green Schools guidelines

STC Subcommittee Assignments

Postponed until next meeting.

Public Comment

No public comments were given.

Objectives for or before the Next Meeting

- Commission feedback for staff for 2020 Commission activities
- Review Environmental Action Plan 2019 progress report draft
- Conversation with Councilmember McCarthy (Chair of Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee)
- Approve amended Rules of Procedure
- Work plan development
- Subcommittee rosters

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

The next meeting of the Sustainable Tacoma Commission will be Thursday, March 19, 2020 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., Tacoma Municipal Building, 747 Market Street, Room 248.

Lexi Brewer, Chair

Patrick Babbitt, Staff