



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

Date: January 23, 2020

Commission Members

Present: Evlondo Cooper, Lexi Brewer, Grace Hope, Ashley Sloan, Tony Ivey, Emily Pinckney, Matthew Benedict, Elly Claus-McGahan, Jade Monroe (5:24pm)

Commission Members

Excused: Phil Coughlan, Todd Hay, Liberty Evans-Agnew

Commission Members

Absent: Suzanna Smith (Resigned)

Others Present: Kristin Lynett, Patrick Babbitt, Jim Parvey, Nechelle Ratliff

Call to Order

This meeting was called to order by Lexi Brewer at 5:00 p.m.

Approval of November 14, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Motion: Lexi Brewer

Seconded by: Grace Hope

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

Ayes: All

Abstained: None

Review of Agenda

Motion: Matthew Benedict

Seconded by: Lexi Brewer

Action: Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was 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.

Beer and Building Codes Event – Tuesday, February 11, 2020 from 5:00-8:00pm at Black Feet Brewing

Event organizers will explain WA building energy code changes.

New Tacoma Sustainability Office Instagram Account - @TacomaSustainability

Earth Day Event

Kristi Lynett shared that multiple organizations have proposed having an Earth Day event at Wright Park where the community could try to break the world record for most people hugging trees.

Sub-Committee Updates:

Postponed until next meeting.

STC Role and Rules of Procedures – Staff Presentation

James Parvey went over the Rules of Procedure of the Sustainable Tacoma Commission in order to communicate the expectations and guidelines that govern the Commission Members. The Rules of Procedure will be updated and adopted, unless there is further discussion or changes, at the Commission's February meeting.

Sustainability Small Grants – Quarterly Review:

Leah Michaelson presented on each grant that the STC Commission will vote upon.

TCC Learning and Giving Garden \$4458 – Awarded.

To build wheelchair-accessible garden beds on Tacoma Community College's campus that will supply the campus food bank with an ongoing source of fresh produce.

Harvest Pierce County \$5000 – Awarded.

To construct a covered shelter and concrete pad at Viet Huong Community Garden. The shelter will provide much needed shade for gardeners (some of whom are as old as 90 years) and events for the Vietnamese immigrant community.

Carly Ko Performance – Not awarded.

A multi-media and movement-based theatrical performance. The scene: an unexpected conversation between planet earth and humanity where the public is given the opportunity to personally relate to the planetary story.

STC Comments: STC did not feel comfortable funding this grant based on the type of sustainable practices described and because the proposed performances were not going to take place within the city of Tacoma.

Tacoma Tree Foundation \$5000 – Awarded.

This project will focus on recruiting and training a community of tree stewards, or tree planting leaders through an eight hour training program taught in Spanish and Korean.

Tacoma Ocean Fest \$5000 – Awarded.

Ocean Fest 2020 brings arts, sciences, and water fun in a free, one-day festival to inspire environmental action. It includes a beach clean-up the day before, and this year also includes ongoing community art-

making, a Youth Story Contest, and other June ocean events such as a film festival, shore and water clean-ups, speaker workshops and other art.

Grants Vote: Voting to approve all but Carly Ko Performance at full request with conditions communicated to staff.

Motion: Matthew Benedict

Seconded by: Grace Hope

Action: Voice vote was taken and carried.

Ayes: All

Abstained: Lexi Brewer for Tacoma Tree Foundation, Tony Ivey & Emily Pinckney for Tacoma Ocean Fest

STC Subcommittee Assignments -

Postponed until next meeting.

Tideflats Advisory Group Participation Update:

Lexi Brewer was awarded a seat on the advisory group. It is unclear if this is an STC seat or was specifically awarded to Lexi. It needs to be clarified if there is an option to have an alternate so there could be a rotation of STC members that could sit on the Advisory Group. Patrick Babbitt will reach out to Steve to clarify if the seat awarded is a STC seat.

Year in Review/ Year Ahead-

Patrick Babbitt presented a PowerPoint highlighting STC's 2019 Year in Review, including activities and accomplishments.

Work Plan Development-

STC will begin a conversation in February about its 2020 priorities and how to implement these in Commission meetings and other activities.

Vice-Chair Nomination:

Jade Monroe was nominated. Jade accepted the position on the condition that the position is mainly to facilitate and that her position as Vice-Chair will end in April.

Motion: Grace Hope

Seconded by: Matthew Benedict

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

Ayes: All

Abstained: None

Public Comment:

The City of Tacoma website needs to display the correct meeting date and time.

Objectives for or before the Next Meeting-

- Discuss and accept amended Rules of Procedure

- Tideflats Advisory Group participation update
- TCC Wetlands / Heidelberg Sports Complex project
- Small Grants review for Earth Day-related applications
- Plan for Commission participation in the Sustainability Expo event
- Work plan development
- Subcommittee rosters

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

The next meeting of the Sustainable Tacoma Commission will be Thursday, February 20, 2020 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., Tacoma Municipal Building, 747 Market Street, Room 248.

Lexi Brewer, Chair

Nechelle Ratliff, Staff