

Active Lifestyles and Community Wellness Council
May 26, 2016 Meeting Minutes

I. Roll Call

Present:

Council Members Ron Harpel, Darren Campbell, Brian Looper, Steve Wells, J. Preston Childs, Will Niemann-Ross, Meagan Kula, Jane Moore and William Privett.

Staff: Commissioner Reid, Bob Houston, Joey Furuto, Andrew Austin

II. Review and Acceptance of Previous Minutes

The minutes for the April, 2016 meeting were reviewed and accepted with one correction to the list of Members present.

III. Program and Facilities Updates

A. 150 teams are now playing baseball.

B. The new field at SERA is programmed every evening. Parking in wrong places is an issue, and signage will be added to direct cars to correct parking places. The new lights are awesome as well as more efficient.

C. Spray parks are now open 7 days each week.

D. Following discussion by the Council, restrooms at Star Center are now remaining open for 30 minutes following closure of play area.

E. Following our discussion of the preliminary plan for the Foss Waterway, it may be possible to see the consultant's renderings at our next meeting.

F. Commissioner Reid explained the impact of the closure of sport salmon fishing on the budget for the Pt. Defiance boathouse.

G. Commissioner Reid reported the signing of a new 25-year lease with the Tacoma Yacht Club. There will be a review of the rent amount after 8 years to ensure it reflects the market. Having a long term lease enables the club to seek a bank loan.

H. Commissioner Reid explained that the lease for the Tacoma Outboard Association ends at the end of 2016. The club cannot afford needed repairs to water and sewer much less the construction of a new access bridge.

IV. Safe Routes to Parks

A. Andrew Austin invited discussion of possible policy guidance for establishing Safe Routes to Parks. He pointed out that several critical factors are in alignment creating an opportune time to address MPTs role in ensuring safe access. Those factors include:

1. the City streets bond provides funding for safety improvements
2. MPTs mission-led comprehensive plan update gives a window for review of safety goals and policies.
3. Non-motorized access to parks is consistent with the MPT Sustainability Plan.
4. The Puyallup Watershed Initiative is funding Safe Routes to Schools.
5. MPT is now reviewing interlocal agreements with the City of Tacoma and with Tacoma School District. Those agreements can identify Safe Routes as a shared priority and define which entity will do which tasks.

Given these factors, Andrew asks what is MPTs role? Tacoma's role? What elements are controlled by MPT? What can MPT do as a good partner with the City and County?

Our discussion included asking what events can be used to demonstrate known safe routes to parks. We suggested that school PTAs can be an effective partner, as well. We asked Jane and Meagan to draft a resolution from our Council to the MPT Commissioners asking that Safe Routes be given priority for inclusion in the interlocal agreements being negotiated.

V. New Business

A. Bob reported briefly on changes to the elementary schools sports program, and further details will be shared at next meeting. Basically there is a partnership among the YMCA, Boys and Girls Club, Tacoma School District and MPT to provide coordinated programming to 35 elementary schools for soccer, flag football, basketball and baseball.

VI. Good of the Order

A. Next Meeting: Thursday June 23 at 6:30 in Main Conference Rm.

VII. Adjournment