



Dec. 1, 2011
General Meeting Minutes

Welcome and introductions – Judi Hyman, TWOKOI

President's report - the parking task force will meet Dec. 1, 5 p.m. on the fifth floor of the Tacoma Municipal Building. ORCA passes are still a work in progress. Use downtown parking garages during the holidays for a discount!

Treasurer's report - none.

Secretary's minutes - October minutes were moved and seconded for acceptance.

VP's reports – *Past president/advisor* - Patricia Lecy-Davis will start forming a nominating committee for new board members for 2012. Phyllis Harrison noted that the holiday stars are up and thanked those who assisted, Court C has been reversed and the downtown holiday tree lighting went off with great success.

Safety report, *Rob Jepson, Tacoma Police Department*: several car prowls have been reported near the Melting Pot, usually around 8 p.m. on weekend evenings. Four sector lieutenants and their captains are proposed to revert to sergeants under the city's proposed budget cuts. Over the past three years crime has plummeted downtown, and "A" St. and Fireman's Park have been cleaned up under the efforts of downtown police officers. Interim City Manager Rey Arellano spoke up and added that dealing with the city's budget has been a tough time for everyone at the city.

Downtown utilities update, *Christa Lee, City of Tacoma*: construction will begin around February and last for about three months on a project to replace collapsed sewer pipe around S. 15th St. and Fawcett. Roads will be accessible to drivers. Members expressed concern about the dry cleaning business on the corner of S. 15th and Fawcett.

Social media sizzle, *Halley Griffin, Seabury School*: Halley provided "social media do's and don'ts" for businesses, including **do** be interactive, **don't** get political and more. Additional questions may be directed to Halley at halleyg@seabury.org.

Shift update, *Patricia Lecy-Davis, Go Local*: Shift Happens is scheduled for Jan. 31, 2012, with a "state of the city" address from the mayor around 6:45 p.m. Businesses wishing to host tables may register or find more information at <http://tacomashifthappens.com/>. The national "shift your shopping" campaign is also underway, featuring a poster design by Tacoma's own Hemisphere Design and Marketing.

First Night, *Ricky Gene Powell, First Night*: Sponsorships are still available for First Night. Please consider keeping your businesses open later, especially restaurants. Last year 3,000 people were in the streets of downtown Tacoma at midnight - even more throughout the course of the entire day. Sponsorships are available for fire pits, for \$200 for a name plate, or \$500 to buy a fire pit with your name/logo in it.

Good of the Order: *Judi Hyman* - the ice rink is now open in Tollefson Plaza. *Ingram Drueding* - Festival of Trees is taking place this weekend (Dec. 3-4) at the Greater Tacoma Convention and Trade Center. *Phyllis Harrison* - a new deli called the Sundance Cafe is now open next to LeRoy Jewelers. *Erin Hunter* - construction is ahead of schedule on the steel for the railroad bridge for D-M Street project, and crews are getting ready to set steel for the bridge. *David Boe* - Go see the Puget Sound Revels! *Debbie Bingham* - hearing many people talking about the ice rink - everyone make sure to spread the word. *David Schroedel* - new banners are up in the BIA, thanks to the help of Beautiful Angle. *Chelsea Levy* - the south downtown sub-area plan meetings are underway. *Patricia Lecy-Davis* - Smooth and Juicy now offers hot food.

The meeting was adjourned at 9 a.m. Thank you to the BCPA for the use of the Pantages.