



SOUND CITIES ASSOCIATION

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SCA Board of Directors MINUTES

May 20, 2015 10:00 AM

Billy Baroo's at Foster Golf Links, Banquet Room A
13500 Interurban Ave S, Tukwila, WA 98168

1. Call to Order

Matt Larson, SCA President, called the meeting to order at 10:07 AM.

Members present: Nancy Backus, David Baker, Chris Eggen, Don Gerend, Jim Haggerton, Bob Harrison (arrived late), Dennis Higgins, Dave Hill, Matt Larson, Bernie Talmas

Members absent: Bill Allison, John Marchione, Amy Walen

Staff present: Deanna Dawson, Kristy Cole-Burwell

2. Public Comment

President Larson asked if there was anyone present to provide public comment. Seeing none, he closed this section of the meeting.

3. Consent Agenda

Dave Hill, moved, seconded by Nancy Backus, to approve the Consent Agenda. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. President's Report

President Larson reported that he and Dawson continue to visit each of the SCA member cities; most recently to Newcastle. Larson noted that it has been a great experience, has learned the history of member cities and much better understands the perspective of the city. President Larson reported on the Resilient Cities Summit.

5. Executive Director's Report

Deanna Dawson, Executive Director, reported that she was invited to attend a small meeting with the Brookings Institute regarding the "digital divide" and the need for additional STEM training for people in King County, especially in underserved areas of the County.

Dawson reported that she is continuing to plan the public sector development summit, an event SCA will co-sponsor with King County.

Dawson reported that the next SCA Events Committee is scheduled for May 28, and that there is a call for nominations for the RISE presentation for the July 1 SCA networking dinner. Dawson stated that invitations have been extended to legislators to provide an update on the legislative session for this dinner event.

Dawson reported that several SCA members will be joining the Seattle Chamber on their upcoming intercity mission to Chicago, due to SCA's new partnership with the Chamber. SCA is also on the steering committee to plan the Chamber's 2015 Leadership Conference. She encouraged members to attend the conference.

Dawson provided an update on the meetings of the Executive Board with regional leaders, including Seattle Mayor Ed Murray and Seattle Council President Tim Burgess. These meetings will continue on a quarterly basis. President Larson added that the three main topics of discussion were Best Starts for Kids levy, transportation, and homelessness.

Dawson reported that there are many SCA members who will be retiring at the end of the year, which means transitions within SCA including committee and board appointments, as well as the Board of Directors.

She provided an update on the work of the Committee to End Homelessness and how connections within the community have helped stakeholders to reach consensus on the committee's draft strategic plan.

Dawson reported that she met with Dan Satterberg, King County Prosecutor, on a variety of topics including Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) program, which will be the topic for the June pre-PIC workshop, as well as the work of the Domestic Violence Initiative Task Force (DVI) and Regional Law Safety and Justice (RLSJ).

6. PSRC Regional Project Evaluation Committee (RPEC) Appointment

Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director, reported that a member of the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) Regional Project Evaluation Committee (RPEC) has retired and therefore creating a vacancy for an alternate position. SCA continues to work towards gaining another member seat, and possibly another alternate seat on RPEC. Dawson continued that another member is planning to retire and would create yet another vacancy. Dawson noted that members of RPEC had stressed that it was important to have representation on the RPEC from members from all 3 subarea transportation caucuses.

Members discussed that all of the nominees were highly qualified, and provided input on preference which included geographic equity.

President Larson stated that it is important that the members and alternates of RPEC reach out to cities that are not represented to make sure that projects are being advocated for across all SCA member cities.

Members concluded that the nominee from Kent should be appointed as an alternate to the RPEC for this open seat, and that the next open seat shall be filled by the Kenmore nominee.

Nancy Backus moved, seconded, by Jim Haggerton, to appoint Chad Bieren, City of Kent, to the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) Regional Project Evaluation Committee (RPEC) for the vacant alternate seat.

The motion passed unanimously.

Chris Eggen stated that the RPEC carries out the policies set by PSRC and that it would be beneficial for elected officials to attend the meetings of the RPEC to provide another perspective.

7. PSRC Transit Access Working Group Appointment

Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director, reported that a vacancy occurred on the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) Transit Access Working Group and SCA sent out two calls for nominations, without any response. In the absence of a city representative, Dawson suggested that an SCA staff person could be appointed to the committee, and recommended SCA Senior Policy Analyst Katie Kuciemba.

Bernie Talmas moved, seconded by Dave Hill, to appoint Katie Kuciemba, SCA Senior Policy Analyst, to the vacated seat on the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) Transit Access Working Group.

There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

8. PIC Chair's Report

Bernie Talmas, Public Issues Committee (PIC) Chair, reported that the two main discussions were on the topics of the work of the Committee to End Homelessness (CEH) and its draft strategic plan, and the Best Start for Kids Levy.

Chair Talmas reported that the PIC unanimously voted to bring back to the next meeting of the PIC the potential policy position on the CEH draft strategic plan, which includes governance structure as well as the obligations of cities.

Chris Eggen inquired about the regulatory impact that this plan would have on cities. Dawson responded that the plan will not impact city comprehensive plans or require adoption of housing incentives.

Dawson reported that CEH and SCA staff have offered to give presentations to councils before the June 10 PIC meeting. Any cities that have questions should arrange for a presentation.

Eggen also inquired on the language surrounding the issue of "criminalization of homelessness." Dawson responded that a subcommittee is working on this portion of the plan to address concerns raised by cities. The final language will likely not refer to cities "criminalizing homelessness," but will

address the disproportionate impact of some types of ordinances by persons experiencing homelessness. The plan will not contain mandates for cities, but will contain a menu of options.

Chair Talmas reported that the PIC asked for a potential policy position on the Best Starts for Kids levy to be brought back to the next meeting of the PIC. Dawson added that the PIC will have the first reading of this issue at the June PIC, with a potential vote at the July PIC meeting to ask the County Council to put the levy on the ballot.

Eggen inquired if the Regional Policy Committee (RPC) is involved in the governance structure of the levy. Dawson stated that she will follow up to formalize the role of the RPC.

Chair Talmas reported that the PIC received an update on the Service Guidelines Task Force and deferred to members of the task force to give an update. President Larson reported that the Metro has taken several meetings to give background information without significant opportunities for members to discuss the issues. He continued that at the most recent meeting members were able to discuss issues as well as the work and concerns of the Regional Transit Task Force (RTTF). Chris Eggen commented that policy set forth by the RTTF is good, but has not been implemented well by Metro. President Larson stated that there seems to be agreement on the definition of social equity. He continued that Metro has not been taking destinations, for example education, employment, or medial facilities, into consideration and rather defends its current method of scoring routes. Don Gerend reminded members that the 40-40-20 split was replaced with geographic and social equity policies and wants to make sure that the distribution of new service is fair, especially since the city of Seattle has its own way of adding service through Proposition 1. President Larson agreed that they need to be separate and stated that there needs to be regional support. Chair Talmas reported that the PIC expressed concerns that there may be too much lecturing and not enough input from cities, elected officials, and task force members at the meetings of the Task Force. President Larson noted that Seattle Councilmember Rasmussen reached out to Chris Eggen and himself to understand SCA's position and issues that affect the whole county. President Larson also stated that through SCA's concern that Metro only held one visioning event located in Seattle, Metro agreed to hold two additional visioning events outside of Seattle. Unfortunately, there was short notice for these additional events and therefore a lack of publicity and attendance. Dave Hill reported that he had a discussion with Metro regarding park and ride needs. David Baker stated that he is seeing a change in society where the millennials prefer to use transit and many do not own cars, therefore increasing the need for public transportation. Dennis Higgins stated that many are moving out of the Seattle core and into SCA member cities, and that the need for public transit is growing.

Chair Talmas concluded his report in stating that there was also a legislative update.

9. Finance Committee Report

Don Gerend, Treasurer, reported that the SCA Finance Committee met and discussed the 2014 form 990 tax return and the 2014 financial audit with the auditors. Deanna Dawson, SCA Executive Director, added that after the 990 was circulated to the Board of Directors, it was filed and accepted by the IRS. If there are any questions, let staff know. Treasurer Gerend reported that the Finance Committee also discussed the investment portfolio and asked that committee members share strategies on city

investments. He concluded his report stating that there was discussion concerning membership dues and the possibility of tying an annual increase to the CPI.

10. City Manager's Report

Bob Harrison reported that at the May 6, 2015 meeting of the City Managers and Administrators the main focus surrounded the work of the Committee to End Homelessness and concerns and challenges of cities. There was also a presentation from Lloyd Hara, King County Assessor, on the new data portal called LocalScape, an effective tool for both cities and citizens.

11. Economic Development Council of Seattle and King County Report

Nancy Backus, Treasurer of the Economic Development Council of Seattle and King County (EDC), reported on the May 14, 2015 meeting. Backus gave an update that the majority of the meeting discussed the EDC's membership, both changes in existing members and the addition of new members. Backus also announced that she volunteered for a subcommittee that will address staff performance reviews.

12. Discussion Items

Committee Term Limits Discussion

Deanna Dawson reported that this item has been discussed at April 22, 2015 Executive Committee meeting, continued from March 18, 2015 and April 15, 2015 meeting. Dawson inquired if members were interested in leaving the committee term limit policy as is or submitting an amendment to the Bylaws for consideration by the membership at the 2015 annual meeting. Members discussed the importance of engaging new members on committees as well as the value of continuity and expertise. Based on discussion, President Larson noted that the majority of members wanted to further explore language that provided flexibility for exceptions to be made in unusual circumstances to the six year term limit. Dawson stated that she will provide possible language.

Board meeting and committee attendance

The Board discussed attendance issues at meetings. Dennis Higgins noted that he had a scheduling conflict with the Finance Committee, and resigned from the committee.

Update on Board Retreat Items

Dawson reported that the documents relating to Mapping Board Relationships have been sent out and she is looking forward to responses or any questions from members.

Solid Waste Comprehensive Plan, Recycling Targets

Chris Eggen reported that there was a pre-PIC workshop on the Solid Waste Comprehensive Plan and the recycling targets within that plan. He stated that discussions will continue at the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) and Municipal Solid Waste Advisory Committee (MSWAC).

13. Upcoming Events

- a. Public Issues Committee – Wednesday, June 10, 2015 – 7:00 PM – Renton City Hall
- b. SCA Board Meeting – Wednesday, June 17, 2015 – 10:00 AM – Kenmore
- c. SCA Networking Dinner – Wednesday, July 1, 2015 – 5:30 PM – Snoqualmie TPC Golf Course

14. For the good of the order

Dave Hill inquired on a piece of legislation that King County was lobbying for regarding a utility tax and how it might affect SCA members. Dawson responded that as reported to SCA, the proposed utility tax would only apply to residents of unincorporated King County.

15. Adjourn

Nancy Backus moved, seconded by Jim Haggerton, to adjourn the meeting at 12:08 PM. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously.