

Nuclear Free Takoma Park Committee (NFTPC)

September 13, 2022

Minutes

7:30 pm to 9:30 pm ET

(Due to unforeseen circumstances, the meeting was relocated from in-person in the City Community Center, to a virtual meeting, to Victor Thuronyi's residence:

In attendance: Victor Thuronyi (VT), Julie Boddy (JB), Paul Gunter (PG, note taker) (the link to the virtual meeting was kept open but no one used it). Jay Levy was unavoidably absent.

1) Approval of NFTPC August 9, 2022 minutes: VT, PG (yes) JB (abstained), followed by a discussion of why the committee takes minutes and what is to be recorded and transmitted to the City Clerk.

2) Discussion of committee procedures for approving city contracts in accordance with the Nuclear Free Zone Act. This was reviewed by the Takoma Park Task Force on Sustainable Banking and Finance (Task Force) and discussed in the Task Force's Report. The committee does not feel the need to review every City contract. Instead, the committee seeks the assurance that city has an understanding of its obligations in respect of purchase agreements per the Nuclear Free Zone Act. VT will contact City Manager to review those city procedures. The City might be invited to a future committee meeting to explain or email committee to go over a simplified set of procedures to adequately involve the committee in that review process.

3) The committee reviewed other aspects of the committee's duties and responsibilities as was discussed in the City Task Force Report. VT spoke with Councilmember Dyballa at the Takoma Park Folk Festival re: the time table for Council review and expectations for implementation of Task Force Report recommendations. Presently that time table has not been specified. However, nothing is apparently going to happen within the term of the existing council.

4) The committee discussed the committee's communication strategy and public outreach on its topics. The city website was discussed for the purpose to post committee information on issues and ongoing committee recruitment. We reviewed the current NFTPC page and current postings on the City's website. As a result of the Task Force review, the committee has updated its page by posting a .pdf file listing of additional website pages (International Campaign for the Abolition of Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), Beyond Nuclear, Nuclear Information and Resource Service, Nuclear Ban US, etc.) on the nuclear issues that are regularly updated. The resource list covers a wide range of historical and current nuclear weapons and atomic power issues.

There was a brief discussion of the committee's responsibilities and duties per the Nuclear Free Zone Act to update the status of high-level nuclear waste transport in the United States that could potentially impact Takoma Park. It was decided that PG would prepare a draft document on the status of nuclear waste transport in the US for review and finalization for posting to NFTPC page on the City website. PG will prepare a draft for review at the October 2022 committee meeting.

5) The committee discussed ideas for its contribution to the ongoing recruitment of additional members. The committee anticipates that the City will also continue to outreach on behalf of the committee recruitment effort. The committee ideas include; use of the City website, outreach at City festivals, committee members will keep alert to making personal contact with residents that are potential

qualifying applicants, outreach through the Takoma Park FaceBook page, Takoma Park Mobilization FaceBook page (VT will prepare an “Alert” for MOB FB), other Takoma Park citizen groups like the “coffee clache”, and public service announcements for Takoma Park Community Cable TV (“Community Vision”).

6) JB raised the idea of preparing a Takoma Park Candidates’ questionnaire on nuclear issues, the Nuclear Free Zone Act, socially responsible banking and investment, etc.

7) PG raised the observation that a number, if not all, of TP “Nuclear Free Zone” street signs have been removed. PG will make an inquiry to City Public Works Department on the status of the “Nuclear Free Zone” signs.

8) VT will communicate with the Office of the City Clerk to arrange our next meeting on the second Tuesday of October, 7:30 PM to 9:30 PM, Tuesday, October 11, 2022.

The meeting was adjourned.