

**Whittier Alliance Board Meeting Minutes**  
**April 27th , 2017 6-8:30 PM**  
**Whittier Rec. Center**

**Present:** Andrew Nordick, Araceli Perez, Carrie McCabe-Johnston, Chafoxey Mitchner, Christina Le, Christine Popowski, Daphna Stromberg, David Bagley, Erin Sjoquist, Jennifer Kader, Jesse Oyervides, Kenya Weathers, Laura Jean, Marie Listopad, Martha Nemesi, Mary Garza, Michael Malone, Scott Melamed

**Absent:** Kaley Brown, Geri Jerez

**Staff:** Ricardo McCurley, Joey Whitesman

**Call to Order** at 6:15PM by Laura Jean, Board Vice Chair. Standard of conduct and conflict of interest were reviewed.

Introduction of new and old board members are made.  
Laura Jean introduces Standard of Conduct

Changes to agenda:

Move up Geo Restriction discussion to Crime and Safety

Add Bike lanes on 26th/ 28th to Old and New

Add City 2020 meetings to Old & New

**Motion** to approve the April agenda **Carries**.

**Comments from the Vice Chair**

Laura Jean

It's ok to disagree, focus on issues not people.

Openly state conflicts of interests

**Secretary's Report**

Erin Sjoquist

**Review** of March 23rd, 2017 Board Meeting **Minutes**. **Motion** to approve minutes **Carries**.

Ricardo explains Attendance procedures

- Strike Trump, current administration
- Spelling errors

Board Meeting **Attendance**

**Motion** to Reinstate Daphna

17-0-0 Motion carries unanimously

Next Board Meeting: 5/25/17

Board Chair Election

Erin nominates David Bagley

David Accepts

Comments from David: Erica did an outstanding job for 12 years, depth of knowledge. Excellent management.

Support: Visionary leadership, could help us move forward

**Motion** to elect David Bagley Chair

17-0-1

David facilitates meeting now as Chair

Vice Chair Election

Marie nominates Laura Jean

Kenya nominates Mike Malone

Both Accept and answer several questions:

Mike:

Reason for running: There is a ton of momentum in neighborhood. Crucially important to keep it going. Not limited by past. Overcome divisions. Mobilize and unify community behind a shared vision. Engagement is key to that. Building new connections and preserving the old. Bridging the gap in experience is important. Thank you for listening

Laura Jean:

Reason for running: Involved with the organization for 10 years, back then open seats couldn't fill. 1st interaction with WA was an Annual Meeting. Started working on Youth Grant programs. Helped with swimming, art organizations, etc. The neighborhood has to be a safe place for kids. Worked on the Crime and Safety task force in the past and was then elected to the Board where she worked on the 2012-2017 Strategic Plan with Erica and Marian. Helped in the hiring process of a new ED and has been involved in the Affordable Housing Complaint against HUD. Would like to serve One more year as Vice Chair and then will not re-run. David and Ricardo will need support in their transition.

Closed Ballot, Laura Jean is elected Vice Chair

Treasurer Election

Nominations for Christina Le

Christina Accepts

**Motion** to elect Christina Le Treasurer

17-0-1

### Secretary Election

Laura Jean nominates Erin Sjoquist

Erin Accepts

Kenya nominates Jen Kader

Jen Declines

**Motion** to elect Erin Secretary

17-0-1

No minutes for March, no chance to look those over. Wait until next month. New columns, account for things more clearly. City combined our reimbursements in a strange way. Accountant will come in September to help familiarize the board with the process. One of our primary duties is to oversee finances of the organization.

### **Acting Committee & Task Force Reports & Motions**

#### **Community Issues**

Scott Melamed

Proposed variance for 2449 Lyndale:

- Converting a home at the address to a multi-unit building
- We try to preserve single family homes in strategic plan
- There is demand to live here

The Votes we make as a board go on public record

Ricardo: Voting clarifies our ability to take position to CPED or Planning commission

Variances require city approval

Conditional Use Permit- lightest of request types

Developer has not submitted plans to commission yet

#### **CI Motion 1**

Approve the variance for the three-foot setback on the southern border of the property

Contingent that: they have the neighbors approval, reconsider height and design elements to fit context of surrounding houses, and that they move the house so its not destroyed to a location within the neighborhood and cover the cost of moving it.

#### **Motion to approve the CI motion 8-3-7**

Motion **Carries**

Scott presents a motion:

Scott wants CI to reflect neighborhood better and reach more people

Next CI is not until June, wants to meet people in neighborhood and find ways to make CI more inclusive. Scott moves to have the support of the board to engage community members as CI chair

Board decides that Scott, as CI Chair, has the authority to makes changes to achieve this goal and no motion is needed

-Elected new board members

-35W expansion took over conversation. Many businesses unsatisfied with plans

BA Motion recommendation to fill empty Board seat Deb Girdwood,

Thoughts:

- Full board
- Just had election
- Deb helped revive quarterly youth meeting

Decision to hold off on filling empty board seat

Crime & Safety/ Geo Restrictions info. & comments:

- You can be geo restricted by a judge from an individual business
- penalty - breaking of your parole
- City attorney considering making an individual in contempt of court as well
- Appellate court said not constitutional
- Crimes that result in ge restrictions vary
- Up to 90 days in jail and \$1000 fine
- Feeling that this policy is part of institutional racism
- It's in criminal provisions package...within rules about protesters...we want to avoid blanket statements
- Geo-restricted areas are larger than businesses
- Supportive services could be in area they are restricted
- Does this work? Does this reduce crime?
- No independent research showing this works
- Neighborhoods like Whittier highly impacted by Larceny, we have more than our share of supportive housing
- This is one tool Law enforcement has to use
- Talking about escalating the consequences
- This seems like something where we don't have all the info
- Not the subject for board to decide
- Perhaps put to CI

Announcement from Chief Harteau-

Staff movements

Loring park sector meeting

We need more tools to fight crime

ESTF: Mary

Pollinator patch application to the city. We got it!

This Saturday people's march for climate change

Harriet House Tour 5/20

Earth Day cleanup was last Saturday

**Staff Reports:**

Reports from Paul, Ricardo, and Camilla are in the board packet.

**Old & New Business:**

**Adjourn                      8:35PM**

**Minutes submitted by Joey Whitesman.**

Meeting Minutes Approved on \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Erica Christ, Board Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Erin Sjoquist, Board Secretary

