

**Whittier Alliance Board Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2019 6-8:30 PM
Whittier Park**

Present: Aldona Martinka, Angela Ritchie, Christina Le, Christine Popowski, Cyndi Hovey, David Bagley, Erin Sjoquist, Jeff Cowmeadow, Martha Nemesi, Mary Gazca, Michael Perez, Scott Melamed, Stephanie Brown

Absent: Crystal Audi, Jen Kader, Michael Malone

Late:

Staff: Kaley Brown,, Marcus VanderSanden

Guests: Madeline Hudek, MPRB

Call to Order at 6:06pm by David Bagley, Chair. Introductions.

Introductions

Standard of conduct and conflict of interest policies were reviewed.

Motion to approve agenda. Seconded. **Motion Carries.**

Secretary's Report

Erin Sjoquist

Attendance: 12-0, 5-1, 1-2, 0-3, 0-4, 0-5, Reinstated-0, Resigned-0, Terminated-1, Vacancies-4

Amendments:

- None

Motion to approve January minutes. Motion **seconded**. Motion **Approved**.

Next Board Meeting:

April 25th 2019

Executive Committee

Kaley Brown

Community Agreements are reviewed and recognized

Finance - Christina Le:

January Financials

Will address these at next Board meeting in April!

2019 Budget- Kaley Brown

Went through line by line at last months board meeting

Highlighted items that needed more conversation these items are:

- **WFM**
- **Advertising- specifically in regard to KRSM sponsorship**
- **Acting Committee Structure**

Another note: Jen and Stephanie had conversation about reasonable consulting fees which Kaley reflected in the budget. Line #7543- \$10,000

Sponsorship amount for the Farmers Market- \$6,000 request

3rd year of funding the market

Good discussion on whether or not to fund at that number due to

Want to make it more of an event and community gathering

Started it to bring something to the neighborhood that it didn't have. Open to changing location. Also open to somebody taking over the management of the market but it is a lot of work to manage.

How can we expand it? Could we research other ideas and models and how could Whittier Alliance assist.

It would feel abrupt to end support of it this year but we can explore throughout the year and support changes that would make it more effective.

Benefit is the Whittier booth, it's an event and engagement opportunity that we don't have to plan

Would like to continue to fund it at this level for this year.

KRSM Radio Station Sponsorship

Conversation about how much communication we need- Monthly updates seem about right and could be decided/updated at board meeting

See's it as a support or sponsorship

\$2000 level is decided upon for partnership with KRSM

Acting Committees

Spending money and investing in acting committees is a new line item from previous years.

Funding options

Between CI and BA would there be 8 new events to put strain on organizational capacity?

Attendance is not there, engagement is not there. Want to strive to make impact.

Not apples to apples but are coming off in terms of business programming- Dining Guide, NDC Scholarship so there is wiggle room in budget.

Amend advertising budget to \$2450?

Motion to approve 2019 Budget as presented. Seconded.

Passed. Unanimously.

Acting Committee Conversation

Loophole in by-laws for vacant committee chairs. Fell on staff to fill those roles straining capacity.
Boards job is to propose acting committees.

It is not explicitly in by-laws that it has to be monthly, simply "regular" Is it important to this board that they have to be monthly? If so what does the board propose to

Meeting are sparsely attended and it takes a lot of time to do things monthly, Last couple months of CI we had good agendas and still only generated 15-20 people. To meet strategic plan goals feels like time it takes to make monthly content would be better served

Advisory versus Acting. Acting has to have a chair that serves on the board advisory does not.

Conversation

Christine- Once every two months or not at all

4 meeting a year makes sense- theme for each meeting was successful in bringing in new faces.

Could recruit chair at Annual Meeting

Angela would be open to change the Business Association to a task force

Stephanie would like to keep committee structure

Mary supports change at some level but feels it would be a strange adjustment and we would need to fully support that change.

Aldona thinks committee chair is good separation from Board at Large

Christina - seconds committee structure to keep diverse voices on the board- notably from BA

- How do we keep information passing component, using SW Parks plan as an example, Could we explore other options location wise

Cyndi- point is whatever is decided has to be supported by board

Aldona- focus on impact- no matter how many meetings we have topic has to be of value and integral to the meeting.

David- our legitimacy comes from our engagement with the community and that is dependent on a monthly basis. Four times a year feels like a failure of our mission.

At Annual Meeting need to reiterate the responsibilities of chair.

Support the financial support of committees but structure and frequency are undecided.

Funding Reallocation -Kaley Brown

Process for reallocation funds to different strategies

Since moving more than \$25,000 to align with updated strategic plan goals and priority areas, it will need board approval. Will be sent out via E-Vote

Has pulled out contracts that are highlighted that are outdated and do not apply to work currently being done.

Goal is to use existing strategies but to tweak language to apply to new work focus areas.

Present Strategic Plan- proposing moving funds to buckets of money to align with general strategy areas however keeping descriptions more general than line item breakdowns in previous contracts to allow for some flexibility within those goals.

Acting Committee & Task Force Reports & Motions

Community Issues

February Community Issues hosted a workshop on breaking down white supremacy
A lot of new faces- mentioned cost and availability of workshops like these as motivation to attend
Effectiveness could be questioned due to time constraints for such a large conversation but it's a really good start.
Think it's worth building on and repeating- more time for discussion in the future.
Creative approach is good way to engage new people with the Whittier Alliance.

Business Association

Marcus VanderSanden

There was no February Business Association Meeting

Housing Issues Committee

Stephanie Brown

Fairly standard meeting. Assigned task and duties to 2019 projects and looking forward to the year.

Staff Reports:

Kaley Brown

Awarded \$40,000 for Façade Improvement Grant 15% of which stays with us.

Guest Presentation- Southwest Service area Masterplan - Madeline Hudek, MPRB Planner

Madeline works within the Southwest service area which is South of 394, West of 35W

Concepts were released January 31st following year long engagement process

End of March will take all input , summarize it to work toward final concept and send it to design team for feasibility and will take those concerns to CAC and CAC will then recommend design, then goes to board for 45 minute comment period, staff process that then brings it back to the board. Potential adoption in summer.

43 Parks in SW all are available for comment
There will be a CAC formed around this project

2 Concepts for each park

A- Somewhat similar to current construction

B- More aspirational

Parks have not had design review since the 1960's.

Key for concepts

Letter equals element staying the same

Number equals a new component

Goal of input to determine a preferred concept.

Concept A for Whittier- Synopsis

Features a seasonal dome would be where gym is now- Dome would be up in Winter time

Ball field is replaced by more multipurpose field

No parking lot

Concept B

Splash Pad in place of wading pool

There has been emphasis on multi-use space in place of specialized uses.

Goal was to community decided and have designers come up with special relationships in park design as well as considering what amenities are present parks close in proximity.

Comments

Parking is crucial to park access, not all people who use park

Splash pad versus pool provides more potential

Urban Agriculture?? – Policy adopted for garden space at parks- either vegetable or flowers

Entry Plaza- would be more robust in Concept B

There is flooding and grading issues at park.

Has trouble with process- why is it changing? What are the principles your trying to achieve and then establish the amenities to match. Seems personal preference driven.

What are the objectives?

How do the designs reflect the list what was established as a need.

David felt were being asked to give comment and we don't know the background of why they came to these conclusions for our park and that feels messy.

Old and New Business

Annual Meeting

6 candidates for 6 spots- how does that work?
Is there still need for Q&A?
It's good for information and getting to know you for audience.

Meeting got long last year it's important to stay on agenda and respect the time.

Candidates

Brigid Higgins- moved to neighborhood on early September was one of the staff members of MobileMia works for Seward Redesign

Christine Popowski- current board member and long time resident.

Jesse Oyervides- previous board member and long time Whittier resident.

Nate Broadbridge- Has lived in the neighborhood for three years and has been active in housing issues and business association and has previously run for the board

Nate Rastetter- Has lived and worked in Whittier for years and is passionate about community and housing issues

Abigail Sellers- New Whittier resident who has been involved with WA since moving here and wants to be more involved on board level

Seeking board volunteer to write up candidate bios, Cyndi volunteers

Outreach Plan for Annual Meeting- Aldona Martinka

Met with Fartun and talked about the engaging communities notably; East African, Latinx and renters

Want to ask each board candidate to do one door knocking shift and will ask candidates if they want to do one
Where to do it?

Multi-family housing
MCAD Students

Bring Draft Strategic Plan to leave at households to convey what WA does and will be doing moving forward.

Good Neighbor/Good Business Awards- Kaley Brown

Received several nominations for businesses and less for neighbors. David proposes staff makes this decision but a smaller group of board member step forward to decide outside of board meeting, volunteers are listed below

- Cyndi
- Michael
- Christine
- Crystal

CPP Annual Report- Kaley Brown

Annual form submitted
Summary of communications

Motion to approve. Seconded.

Approved. Unanimously.

Neighborhoods 2020- Kaley Brown

Different camps of different neighborhood groups organizing in different ways.
Public comment is open now

Consensus is that workgroups were ignored and NCR came up with independent recommendation.

Lobbying is happening for city council to vote down framework proposed by NCR.

Steven Gallagher of NCR feels that City Council will be more receptive to positive, constructive feedback rather than negative

Ward 10 coordinators met with Tina Erazmus and she feels that city council will vote for neighborhood funding but not is current construction.

Meeting tomorrow is with Northside coordinators to vote this down, Phillippe Cunningham and Jeremiah Ellison and are at odds with neighborhood structure.

Not much use in comment because they reject the process and narrative as a whole. Feels arbitrary 75/25 divide. Accountability in cultural groups is different and lacking between orgs and neighborhood groups

Difficult to get consensus because neighborhood orgs are so different but current construction is no good.

As it's broken down currently it would be a decrease in funding for all neighborhood groups.

Christina recommends a joint statement/position from Whittier Alliance as whole to the community?

Negative Mail- David Bagley

Two negative pieces of mail were sent to the office around the February Community Issues meeting, not of major concern but want people to be aware of it.

Motion to adjourn. Seconded. Approved.

Adjourn 8:39 PM

Minutes submitted by Marcus VanderSanden

Meeting Minutes Approved on _____

David Bagley, Board Chair

Erin Sjoquist, Board Secretary