

**Whittier Alliance Board Meeting Minutes**  
**November 19, 2015 6-8:30 PM**  
**Whittier Park**

**Present:** David Bagley, Erica Christ, Andy Cohen, Ted Irgens, Laura Jean, Christina Le, Araceli Perez, Natascha Shawver, Erin Sjoquist, Daphna Stromberg, Brett Vandebussche, Kenya Weathers **Absent:** Jesse Oyervides  
**Staff:** Marian Biehn

**Call to Order** at 6:15 by Erica Christ, Board Chair. Standard of conduct and conflict of interest were reviewed.  
**Motion** to approve the November 19 agenda with the addition of Solar Gardens **Carried**.

**Comments from the Chair:** Erica Christ will defer her comments due to important business issues and the ED candidate Q & A. A sympathy card is going around for Jesse's mother who died earlier this week. He is on his way to LA for her funeral

**Secretary's Report:** Natascha Shawver

**Reinstatement:** Natascha had submitted a request to be reinstated (on motion sheet). The Exec Committee had moved to reinstate Natascha per her letter asking for reinstatement in order to allow her participation in the Exec meeting. The action needs to be validated by the board.

**Motion:** The Whittier Alliance board moves to reinstate Natascha Shawver to the Whittier Alliance Board of Directors. **Motion Carried**

**Board Minutes:** The minutes from October 22, 2015 were reviewed. The new format was noted and is appreciated--thank you Lucy. A **Motion** to approve the Oct. 22, 2105 minutes as written **Carried**.

**Board Attendance:** The board attendance was reviewed.

**December Meeting.** The December board meeting is short business meeting then a board social/potluck. The committee meetings are late this month making the board meeting a tight fit between the meetings and the Holidays. The need for a Dec. meeting but the date was set for Dec. 17. Whether a Dec meeting is needed was discussed. Several board members will be out of town after Dec.17. Locations were debated. Ted offered his house and David was solicited. David will check his family schedule re having it at his house.

**Executive Committee – Erica Christ**

**ED Search:** Executive Session was called at 6:40 to discuss the ED Search and hire. In Exec Session authority was given to the Board Chair to negotiate terms of hire.

The Board returned to the public agenda at 8pm.

**ED Transition:** Discussion about priorities for the ED position was postponed. It will be taken up by the Exec Committee. Marian is preparing a transition document.

**Event:** A neighborhood party for Marian will be planned for January to recognize her years of service and retirement. Christina and Araceli will plan the party. The Black Forest Inn will donate 20% of their food sales to Whittier nonprofits during Dec. On Fri Dec 11 and honor of Marian's retirement, the Whittier Alliance will be the recipient. The Whittier Farmers Market on Dec 4 and the Whittier School-ski program Dec. 18.

**Acting Committee Reports & Motions:** BA & CI Meetings-- In deference to the time and assuming a new practice of not reviewing the content of the Committee meeting, the board was referred to the committee minutes in the board packet. The Livable Streets Task Force continues to meet and will be presenting a survey and options at the CI meeting. The Safety Task Force is scheduled to meet on Dec. 10. Marian drew attention to the Solar Garden information which was flagged in an email to the board and also in the board packet. Whittier home owners and renters can sign up for a solar share and receive a credit on their Excel bill. You must sign up in advance. For each person from Whittier who signs up through the Community Solar program, the Whittier Alliance will receive a \$50 donation. Please read the info and sign up.

**Strategic Plan – NRP**

**Reopen Nicollet:** The next Workshop is scheduled for **Tues. Nov. 24 6"15pm at HCMC Whittier Clinic.** The focus will be the Greenway Transit. Note the flier in the board packet. Please attend and bring others.

**Reopen Nicollet City Work Group Meeting Nov. 19:** Marian attended the City's reopen Nicollet workgroup and gave an update. The City has not authorized the \$800k with the Kadish group for the land under the Kmart. The Sears/Kmart lease is very complex and not negotiable. Getting the land might not achieve anything more than getting the land. Sears/Kmart could exercise their option of staying on the site through their lease terms which is 2053.

**Finance Committee – Andy Cohen**

**October 2015 Financial Statements:** The October financial report was presented and discussed. The balance sheet was reviewed. The various funding sources and allocated expenses to each were reviewed. The big expense can be attributed to legal fees and the services of the exec search consultant. The budget is right on despite additional expenses during the year. Cash position the same other than we are owed more money from the City. A reimbursement will be submitted to the City for the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter.

**FC Motion 1:** The Whittier Alliance Board accepts the October 2015 financial report for the Whittier Alliance. **Motion Carried.**

**2016 Budget:** The draft 2016 Budget document was reviewed. It has been revised since the October board meeting. There are still some unknown costs. The D & O insurance will become a n'hood expense vs being covered by NCR. This is a system change and has nothing to do with our current lawsuit and the salaries and benefits are still not settled. All other expenses have been adjusted. The budget has increased from \$280k to \$305k. Legal fees and increased operational and activity expenses are the cause. The board can amend the budget once the salaries and D&O costs are solidified.

**Bd Motion 1:** The Whittier Alliance Board moves to approve the 2016 budget for the Whittier Alliance. **Motion Carried**

**Fall Fundraiser:** The letters will start going out to solicit the neighborhood for donations. The board has pledged \$4150. This will be put in the letter as a challenge. Write your pledge check soon. We have 100% board participation which is important for both the n'hood and funders to know.

**Fund Utilization:** Postponed to Dec meeting

**Staff Reports:** Paul's is in the board packet. Camilla just submitted hers.

**Old and New Business:** The **2118 Blaisdell draft Historic Study** was distributed to the board. Make comments if you can. Ted and Marian have submitted comments. At the Feb. 2016 HPC hearing we will need to have community support and testimony. **Blueprint for Equity**--please make comments. They need to be submitted by Nov. 30. This document is less important than the Neighborhood 2020 plan which has had less exposure and is tied to funding and n'hood activities. **Youth Micro Grants:** Grant RFPs have been sent to 30 youth serving organizations. The responses are due by mid-Dec. for 2016 funding. **Board Recruitment:** As of Jan 1, the board application process is open. Please recruit eligible people to run for the board. The Annual Meeting is planned for the end of March. **Assault:** There was an assault at 24<sup>th</sup> and Pleasant. A description of the suspects was finally released but only a limited number of residents in the immediate area.

**Adjourn 8:40PM**

**Minutes respectfully submitted by Marian Biehn.**

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

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Erica Christ, Board Chair

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Natascha Shawver, Board Secretary