

Whittier Alliance Board Meeting Minutes Draft

December 16, 2021 6:00-8:00 PM

Online Zoom Meeting

Present: Cyndi Hovey, Stephanie Brown, Kami Brodie, Nick Hutchinson, Nate Rastetter, Daniel Perez, Brigid Higgins, Nate Broadbridge, Kate Davis, Danny Villars, Allison Bross-White, George Rishmawi, Shinjan Sengupta, Sydney Burroughs

Absent: Katie Heimer

Non-board Community Members: Leslie Modrack, Kristy Carlson

Presenters:

Staff: Kaley Brown, Robb Larson, Fartun Ismail

Call to Order at 6:04pm by Cyndi Hovey

-The agenda is reviewed. **Motion to approve the agenda. Seconded. Motion passes.**

-The Standard of Conduct, Conflicts of Interest Policy, and Anti-Discrimination Policies are reviewed.

-The Board community agreements are shared and read aloud.

A round of introductions is done.

Discussion question: 1. How are you physically/mentally/emotionally/spiritually on a scale from 1-10?
(1 = struggling/totally depleted, 10 = grounded/fully rested)

2. Racial Justice work: What concrete skill(s) are you hoping to develop in our work with the YWCA?

- Microaggressions
- Colonization and capitalism
- Personal biases and overcoming fear of confrontation
- Learning more about the history of Whittier and cultivating a more historically informed WA
- Learning how to organize with people of different backgrounds in ways that don't replicate existing systems that are oppressive
- Understanding how to lead conversations and create a safe space for people to express themselves
- How to recognize racism and oppression in the US
- How to recognize opportunities to be antiracist
- Learning real ways to create antiracist spaces
- Educating your community about the good people that are out there
- Thinking about how we allocate our resources
- How to have tough conversations with people

Secretary's Report:

We have 14 active board members and 3 vacant seats (2019 Resident, 2021 Resident, 2021 Nonprofit Representative). So far, 4 of 5 meeting absences in this board term have been excused by volunteer hours contributed in the month prior or following the missed meeting.

Board Attendance Tracking Summary Below:

As of October Meeting	
Zero (0) Unexcused Absences	15
One (1) Unexcused Absence	1
Two (2) Unexcused Absences	0
Three (3) Unexcused Absences	0

Deja' has resigned her position as a 2021 resident director.

Motion to approve the December 2021 meeting minutes. Seconded. Motion carries by consent.

Motion to appoint Sydney Burroughs to the open 2019 Resident seat to complete her one-year term. Seconded. Motion carries 13-0-0.

Treasurer's Report:

December Ledger:

- ~\$2,000 in fundraising through Paypal - We were over our fundraising goal
- Received ~\$25,000 on the NRP contract
- Spent ~\$5,000 on Great Streets
- 3 payrolls in December threw the numbers off a little bit
- 2021 PPP loan was forgiven
- \$10,000 awarded in foundation grants from CURA; \$15,000 receivable for Lake Street Alignment Process contract (McKnight Foundation via Cultural Wellness Center)
- Ended up net positive

Motion to accept December 2021 financials. Motion carries by consent.

Motion to approve 2021 fiscal year financials. Motion carries by consent.

Kmart Engagement RFP for 2022-2023

- City released RFP for Kmart engagement. Whittier Alliance intends to bid in partnership with consulting partners. Scope of work requires different areas of expertise.
- We are looking for a partner to be the lead contractor and project manager, and Whittier Alliance would be a subcontractor.

Board Recruitment & Officer Roles

- Anyone who is interested in an officer role is welcome to sit in on executive committee meetings.

WA Staff Workload balance

- Board members are encouraged to sign up for projects and support staff by attending community meetings as board ambassadors.

Acting Committees

- **Housing and Land Use**
 - All information is in the cover memo.
 - Our Streets Minneapolis is asking Whittier Alliance to send a letter to the City about the [Whittier Lyndale Bikeway project](#) and ask for clarification and transparency on the timeline.
 - City contact sent updated timeline on 1st Ave reconstruction to Kaley
 - Next meeting will be Tuesday, February 15.
- **Community Engagement**
 - All information is in the cover memo.
 - Community Engagement will start meeting every other month.
 - Next meeting will be Wednesday, March 9, which will focus on planning an Earth Day event.
- **2116 Nicollet Ave Steering Committee**
 - City of Minneapolis has assigned a planner to work with us
 - Setting up working groups for developing the RFP

Next steps

- Board discussed interest in task forces for hybrid meeting setup, staff policy concerns, and annual meeting.

Motion to adjourn at 7:19 PM. | Minutes respectfully submitted by Robb Larson.