

West Bank Community Coalition
Minutes Special Membership Meeting
Wednesday, September 13, 2006, 6:00 pm
Cedar Pavilion, 630 Cedar Avenue South

The meeting was called to order at 6:22 PM by the WBCC Board President, Jim Ruiz.

Board members attending include: George Gammans, Bob Metcalf, Marvin Loxterkamp, Abia Ali, Hashi Abdi, Mohamed Isse, Africa Abdi, Doris Wickstrom, Jim Ruiz and Deven Nelson, NRP Director, helped sign in participants. We were honored to have Hussein Samatar volunteer as translator. see sign in sheets for attendance.

Discussion of proposed changes allowed for 5 people to speak for or against the First proposal and 3 people for each side on the other proposals.

Amendment 1: It is proposed that Article V, Sections 1, 2 (second paragraph) and 4, be amended to provide that the limitations on the number of resident tenant directors who may reside in the same apartment complex and cooperatives be increased from 2 to 5; that the time period for director candidates to submit nomination forms shall be between 30 and 10 days prior to the annual membership meeting; that the meeting notice shall specify the number of directors to be elected and the categories within which they are to be elected; and that obsolete implementation provisions be deleted.

Amendment change passed by over 2/3 majority of those attending.

Amendment 2: It is proposed that Article V, Section 2 (last paragraph) be amended to provide that there shall be no term limits for directors.

Amendment change passed by over 2/3 majority of those attending.

Amendment 3: It is proposed that Article V, Section 7, be amended to provide that a director may be removed from the board only for cause by a three-quarters majority vote of all board members.

Amendment change passed by over 2/3 majority of those attending.

Amendment 4: It is proposed that Article V, Sections 9 and 10, be amended to provide that the president shall create meeting agendas in consultation with such other officers as the president deems appropriate; that the board of directors may form an executive committee consisting of three or more officers; and that committees need not have the same rules for operating as the board.

Amendment change passed by over 2/3 majority of those attending.

Some comments made included “This is a new day for everyone to be able to participate. More voices will make this a better place.”

“We want participation of all and not to exclude anyone.”

One person expressed how ‘proud he was of all the Somali and African people who came out to participate.’ “We were not aware of how things work”

“Pleased to have men and women participate. It shows we can live peacefully.”

“This is our city and we can make changes.”

Council Member Cam Gordon spoke to the importance of the WBCC participation in planning for the city. The health of the neighborhood coalition is important to work in city hall. He encouraged people to come out and run for the Board seats and to get involved with NPR. “This is an exciting time for the West Bank neighborhood with millions of dollars coming into the neighborhood. Also the Small Area Plan will work to determine a shared vision for all of us.”

Meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM

Our Thanks go to those who provided the wonderful food: Abia Ali, Sahara Restaurant and Ubah Cafe.

notes: DW