

Approved minutes  
WEST BANK COMMUNITY COALITION  
Board of Directors Meeting - Wednesday, March 19, 2008  
6:00 p.m., Brian Coyle Community Center

1. Call to Order (6:05)

Present: Laura, Doris, Jean Lawrence, Russom, Jennifer, Abdi, Jim, Bob.

Absent: (all excused) Todd, Abidifatah, Anne, Ben, Abdille

2. Approve Agenda Jim 2<sup>nd</sup> Jen with additions

3. Approve Minutes – 2/20/08 Board of Directors meeting minutes, approved with typo edits

4. Officer Reports

A. President's Report

a. 3/11 Executive Committee Minutes

b. BOD vacancies – 2 Renter Seats, both terms through the 2008 Annual Elections. No nominations received.

c. WBCC is seeking a representative to the DCC

d. Framework for the Future comment letter sent

B. Vice President's Report

Made fixes to website improving function.

C. Treasurer's Report

a. Financial Statements

b. CIP funds and NRP funds have been deposited

D. Secretary's Report

a. WBCC Capacity Building; April 9<sup>th</sup> confirmed date, will communicate updates via email.

b. Wells Fargo funding for teen violence prevention; Received RFP from Cam today, proposals due April 4<sup>th</sup>.

Bob made **motion that Safety Committee make proposal for Wells Fargo Grant**, Jim seconded. Motion passed.

5. Cam Gordon Report

Discussed gang activity presentation.

University District Partnership Alliance; developing report for legislature. Homeownership/homebuyer piece could fit in with WBCC.

RNC protest group registration. Restrictions say any group with 26+ in public area should register w/city. Constitutionally questionable. April 23 discussion in our neighborhood.

Doris asked if his office would support 5<sup>th</sup> Street sidewalk proposal. Cam confirmed they have more support than ever.

6. Committee Reports/Items

LUC

Sgt. Preston's business licensing: noise variance.

Resolution request: The WBCC supports the efforts of residents to work with the Police, City Attorney and other council members to re-write a noise ordinance that the courts will uphold. Doris proposed resolution, Jim 2nds. Motion passes. 2 abstentions – Jean Lawrence and Russom.

Currently, the discussion focuses on the bar owners being responsible for noise. LUC wants police to have access to decibel meters for Sgt. Prestons and Corner Bar. Russom questioned adding more rules to bars that already have a multitude. Jim had heard that parts of current ordinance are unenforceable.

Cam explained that some parts were deemed too vague. At least if there is a decibel meter, there is a method of measurement. He encouraged calls to police, 311 and his office if there are noise complaints.

Brian Coyle being sold to PUC: Park Board has to maintain building. Will be item at next LUC meeting.

Neighborhood policing: send in questionnaire.

a. Grant submission to University Good Neighbor Fund

Would like funding to build sidewalk from 5<sup>th</sup> Street to Cedar Avenue. **Russom made motion to support agreement in principle for resources to build sidewalk from 5<sup>th</sup> Street to Cedar Avenue.** Bob seconded, motion passed.

b. City of Minneapolis Grassroots Climate Change Micro Grant

Doris and Laura worked on \$1500 grant received to plant trees and hold event with food to be placed in Riverside Park,

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Riverside Plaza and Cedar Square.

Jim made **motion to approve City of Minneapolis Grassroots Climate Change Micro Grant Application**. Bob seconded, motion passed.

B. Bluff Street FT

Rosemary gave introduction. Mary Benasutti explained Capstone project. Students want to help us be aware of issues so we make informed decisions about the Bluff Street area. The deliverable is a ppt. showing us the most useful information to help community engage in a constructive conversation. Goal to get area designated permanently as park land.

a. Resolution re: MOA with Humphrey Institute students on Bluff Street student capstone project:

*WHEREAS, the Bluff St. Park Task Force, a Task Force of the West Bank Community Coalition, accepts the Work Plan for the Humphrey P.A. 8081 Capstone Project as set forth in the attached document, now therefore be it*

*RESOLVED, that the West Bank Community Coalition will:*

- Approve the aforementioned Capstone Project
- Receive a final report when the project is complete
- Participate in a summary presentation upon completion of the report

Bob made **motion to approve Capstone project resolution**, Jim seconded, motion passed.

C. NRP

a. Follow-up meeting pending with Cam

Bob Metcalf said Cam wanted a small meeting, so Laura chose Jim and Bob. Jennifer B, John Beuche, Jim Eurchl and Jim White represented the NRP SC. Discussed continuing as a workgroup. Goals are to ensure smooth functioning of the NRP and build Coalition's capacity. Hani could be laid off at end of month if we don't extend contract through end of April.

Jim made **motion to approve resolution to extend NRP Administrative & Program contracts**. Bob seconded, motion passes.

Jennifer brought up disappointment regarding everyone not being invited to this meeting. Laura explained that Cam wanted 3 people representing each entity. Bob stated that no decisions would be made without board approval. Jim Erchul mentioned we will have to work together on some future projects, but SC's main concern is keeping progress moving forward on projects.

Jennifer asked for clarification of item 1 – 45 days prior on WBCC/CR NRP Roles. Laura explained that it's a way to mirror citizen input, an attempt to articulate citizen input process. Russom suggested we move quickly on items which the NRP has already approved Scope of Service. Bob agreed that it is a goal to not hinder the NRP processes.

D. Housing/Economic workgroup Mary Mellen announced they are helping Africa Abdi and others attain first time home loans in Cedar/Riverside. The workgroup is trying to get \$10,000 instead of \$7,500 per person. 8 applications received. Resolution: that the WBCC agrees to increase the maximum grant/loan amount for home buyers assistance from \$7,500 to \$10,000 contingent on passage of a similar resolution by the CR NRP and approval by the NRP Program Office.

a. Resolution re: funds available through CEE grant/loan program (NRP FAP Strategy 2.1.2, p. 13)

*RESOLVED, that the WBCC agrees to increase the maximum grant/loan amount for home buyer's assistance from \$7,500 to \$10,000 contingent on passage of a similar resolution by the CR NRP and approval by the NRP Program Office.*

7. Other Reports

A. Dania Partners – Jim reported that Anne Gomez was hired to conduct interviews with all Dania Partners members. They are working on creating a leadership group.

B. University District Partnership Alliance – comments requested on sketches

C. Central Corridor CAC – submitted by Tim Schwarz via email

D. CURA grant (Project Open Door) update

Meeting with representative from Dar al-Hijra April 19<sup>th</sup> member of Coalition giving presentation to their congregation and community member how WBCC can better work with their community.

E. CURA – Neighborhood Partnership Initiative grant proposal

April 15 deadline, engaging youth and seniors in community, building connections with WBCC. Create program where Somali youth and elders matched up for oral history projects. Cultural memories documented. Present in a community forum. Requesting Board support idea in principle to work with Dar Al-Hijra. Bob made **motion to authorize submission of grant proposal incorporating these concepts**. Jim seconded, motion passed.

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8. New Business

A. Approve and resubmit 2005 Charitable Organization Annual Report

Jeanne at Lotts prepared 2005 Charitable Report for WBCC, but wasn't mailed. Laura fixing Attorney General's record of our year ending in December, not October. We need to ask for extension.

Board needs to at March meeting.

Jim made **motion to pass a resolution approving the year end date change:**

*We hereby state and acknowledge that we are duly constituted officer of the organization named in the this Annual Report, being the President and Vice President thereof Respectively, that this Annual Report is executed on behalf of the organization pursuant to resolution of the WBCC BOD on this day, approving the content of this Annual Report and all its attachment.*

Doris seconded, motion passed.

B. Citizen Engagement TF Report comment letter

Bob made motion to authorize Laura to send letter to CE coordinator. Jim seconded (with corrections the stating the "R" sections are language taken from report), motion passed.

9. Adjournment 7:57pm

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Submitted by

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Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Approved by

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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