

Approved Minutes
WEST BANK COMMUNITY COALITION
Board of Directors Meeting - Wednesday, June 18, 2008
6:00 p.m., Brian Coyle Community Center

1. Call to Order (6:07)

Present: Jim, Laura, Ben, Jennifer, Doris, Jean Lawrence, Russom, Todd, Robert

Absent: Anne (excused), Abdirizak Abdi, Abdille Mohammed

2. Approve Agenda Ben motioned to approve agenda, Jim seconded, motion passed.

3. Approve May Minutes – 5/21/08 Board of Directors meeting minutes, (sign April Board of Directors meeting minutes)

Approved with edits. Jim moved to approve as amended. Ben seconded. Motion passed.

4. Officer Reports

A. President's Report

a. No June Executive Committee Meeting

b. 2007 Charitable Organization Report mail

c. BOD vacancies – 2 Renter Seats, both terms through the 2008 Annual Elections, no nominations for June; announcement of a 3rd vacant seat (Abdifatah Samatar has had 5 absences this year)

d. WBCC is seeking a representative to the DCC board

e. Excused Absences: Anne Gomez

B. Vice President's Report: (not present)

C. Treasurer's Report

a. Financial Statements

D. Secretary's Report

No formal report, but asked if anyone has heard from our Vice President, Abdi Abdi. Also, if Abdille Mohammed misses tonight's meeting, his seat will be announced as vacant at the next meeting.

5. New Business

A. Amina Harun – Brian Coyle civic engagement project

Eduardo Cardenas from Waite House Community Center in Phillips Neighborhood spoke in her place. Using Wellstone Grant, working on voter registration among unlikely voters and getting community involvement. Will conduct canvassing, high visibility events. Seeking help for next 4 months and passed around a sign-up sheet. EduardoCardenas@mac.com 612-747-9727, Amina Harun 612-481-3065. He also asked about events we were conducting and for ideas on where they can do voter registrations. The following were mentioned:

- Riverside Park Buckthorn removal project
- Safety Committee meetings
- WBBA
- Neighborhood Relations committee (currently organizing Bohemian Flats Day)
- CHANCE

• Cam Gordon Report

• A 20-yr old white male was stabbed at 19th Ave @ 7th Street after leaving Triple Rock.

• George Sherman has agreed to help fund off-duty officers working in neighborhood. Todd suggested we ask George Sherman for extra funding.

• Discussed hiring off-duty police officers for 4 or 6-hr blocks of patrolling, must be 2 officers at a time, \$40/hour apiece. When they are off-duty, they cannot be called away to 911 calls, so they can devote their time to our neighborhood. Jennifer suggested contacting Target Assets Protection for a vehicle – a T3 or Segway-type vehicle. Cam wasn't aware of anyone having contacted them, and the patrols would be very interested in TWO.

• Sgt. Preston has voluntarily downgraded their license to not allow live music due to noise citations and to be a good neighbor.

• 20th Avenue work may begin this fall. Cam agreed to contact Doris to work with LUC about notification.

6. Committee Reports/Items

A. NRP Contract Closeout: reimbursement for final check WBCC has to write still has not processed, per Laura.

B. Land Use Committee

Doris reported that Sherman Associates proposal and PUC sale were discussed at last meeting. See handouts for meeting notes.

The LUC voted to form a Community Advisory Committee, Doris asked for support of WBCC.

Doris made **motion** that The WBCC support the formation by Pillsbury United Communities of a Community Advisory Committee to provide input into expansion/sale of Coyle Center as outlined and defined in the current lease, Article 8, between Pillsbury United Communities and the Minneapolis Park Board.

Jim made amendment, Ben seconded. Amendment passed.

Motion passed.

- C. Safety
Russom reported Citizen's Patrol training was held yesterday. He is asking NRP Steering Committee for funds for safety vests, then patrols will begin two nights a week 7-9pm Tuesday and Friday, and will meet at the Coyle Center.
- D. Bluff Street Task Force
Rosemary sent Laura update: Humphrey Students did Masters research project on land use history of Bluff Street Park area. Park Board interested in selling land. National Park Service may be interested in taking over mgmt of land and possible memorial for bridge collapse victims, and restoring it to natural prairie. Scott Vreeland, Park Board Commissioner, is still getting feedback on board's opinion of what to do with land. Cam mentioned park dedication fee could be of assistance.
- E. Neighborhood Relations (not present)

7. Other Reports

- A. Dania Partners
Jim attended a meeting last week – they are meeting twice a month.
- B. Central Corridor CAC
 - a. Jessica Hill reported that the Northern Alignment proposal was rejected by the Met Council. The extension would've taken away some of the affordable housing, and the #9 bridge would've had to be knocked down as it is 2 feet too narrow for LRT trains. Jessica thanked Rosemary for her researched and comments.
 - b. Supplemental Draft EIS public hearing is upcoming in July
 - c. Jessica needs contact info for person for booking rooms at Coyle – Jennifer will ask Jennifer Blevins who she should contact.
 - d. The Met Council is trying to streamline art processes and location of emergency buttons in all Hiawatha Line stations. The Met Council is also trying making all the stations on the Central Corridor green by including in the design: solar panels and stronger materials that will require less rework, fixing vandalism, etc.
- C. University District Partnership Alliance
Doris and Cam reported on the housing demonstration project. See article in The Bridge or U website. The project encourages 1) homeownership, 2) home buyer assistance program 3) live near your work effort.
- D. CURA Grant
- E. Climate Change Micro Grant: Green Institute hosting gathering of recipient groups Wed. 6/25 5-6:30 @ Green Institute.
- F. WBCC-CRNRP-Cam Gordon meetings
Robert reported there have been 3 meetings so far. NRP has brainstormed the following: a page on the WBCC website, joint grant writing/fundraising, a community calendar, shared office at People's Center. The main issue for the WBCC is the need for staff. Robert and Doris will be working on a proposal to use NRP for staff and strategies that the WBCC can implement. No members of CR NRP were at last meeting.
- G. Todd suggested we invite Sheila Delaney of WBBA to speak at a future meeting.

8. Adjournment (7:56)

Submitted by

Date

Approved by

Date