

April 20, 2016 WCC Board Meeting Minutes

Attendance:

Board: Sam, Brad, Chris, Jevon, Lyle, Aaron, Lee, Emily R, Cathy, Travis, Emily W, Michael, Den

Public: Cat Rodrigues, Justin Harford

Sam greeted the new Board members and reviewed the structure of the WCC Board

The board listens to community concerns at general meetings and provides feedback or determines response/action plans at board meetings.

Teams - There are a couple of teams established within the WCC Board:

Arts (WCAT) – Emily West is the chair.

Parking – Sam is the chair. Added to the Parking Team: Sam nominated Aaron and Lee, Emily W seconded. Unanimous vote.

New Team: Rental/Housing/Gentrification. Jevon is the chair of the Rental sub-team. Sam nominated, Aaron seconded. Unanimous vote. Jevon is going to work on getting the Alliance of Tenants at the May Board meeting. Michael mentioned he knows someone working at the state level on rent control issues (Julian). Michael is going to follow up with Julian. Rent control is currently unconstitutional under state law and so the State constitution would need to be changed.

Treasury – Den provided an overview of the bank accounts he administers.

General Fund

Down Payment Fund (for purchasing the Glenn Lot between 5th and 6th and Blair). Currently \$7,500 in this fund. Need to raise \$100,000 by March 2017 to purchase the lot.

Physical Sponsorship Fund (Funds Pass-through for community activities, such as the Whiteaker Block Party)

Parking (Monthly parking lot rent and expenses). Funds are collected from various Whiteaker businesses and used to rent the three parking lots and take care of expenses, such as gravel and signage). The fund is currently operating at a small profit over monthly rental to help with the lot expenses. At some point we will need to hire a Parking Lot administrator to carry out the charter for the lots the WCC Board sets. Sam and Den will review within the Parking team and come back to the Board with what this charter looks like. It is hoped that at some point we will be able to make a profit from the three lots to assist with other community activities.

Tacovore has agreed to make additional contributions, such as gravel, over the monthly payments they make into the Parking fund as their customers largely use the Glenn lot.

The Arts Team has produced an RFP (Request for Proposal) for art for the walls surrounding the Glenn lot.

Den distributed the Conflict of Interest informational sheet and Board Form. All Board members need to sign and return the form to Den by the May board meeting.

Jevon reminded everyone Lucy Vinis, City of Eugene Mayoral Candidate will be at Old Nick's Pub on May 1.

Railroad Quiet Zone– The Board members each expressed their viewpoint on the quiet zone initiative.

Brad clarified that in the proposed quiet zone, the Railroad Engineers would be required to Not honk their horns unless someone was on the tracs.

Approximately 5-8 years ago, the Railroads did increase the volumes of the horns significantly.

There does not have to be a single quiet zone, there can be three zones in Eugene.

- Amtrak Station-east (Pearl, High, not-yet-built E 8th),
- Lincoln to Madison
- Van Buren

Current estimate of QZ Lincoln ->west is \$3.8-4.3M (will be higher)

Current crossing closure is leaning towards Lawrence, but could change back to Lincoln in response to public input. (That means, if the developers change their minds about their preference, the city will change its recommendation again to suit them.)The Quiet zone advisory committee is looking at closing Lincoln because the City wants to open a new crossing near the EWEB property and to open a new crossing, two existing crossings have to be eliminated.

Brad is going to create a bullet point information sheet for everyone to reference for a central repository of facts by end of day Friday, April 22 and post to our Board FB files.

Kelly Werner from the City of Eugene will be attending the May general meeting to provide the community with information on the Quiet Zone initiative.

Different approaches to how the WCC Board is going to handle the Quiet Zone initiative were discussed, these included:

Dissention Letter - Sending a letter direct to the Railroad with a dissenting opinion, siting community concerns about the Quiet Zone. [no action plan for this yet]

Letters to the Editors to the Register-Guard, Eugene Weekly and distributed through social media. Keep in mind we need to understand the supporters' position and we need to keep a professional tone to our communications. Emily R will edit the letters. Letters need to be done by Monday, April 25, Emily R will complete editing by Friday, April 29. Everyone should mail their letters by Monday, May 2.

- Safety Concerns (Emily W)
- Will It Work? (Cathy)
- Rent Increase/Gentrification/Who Pays? (Jevon/Michael) [Could look at history and patters of current landlords/developers who own land in Whiteaker]
- Protection/Homeless/Social Services (Michael) [Could discuss City of Eugene's Social Services Disbursement Policy and how 80% of Social Services are in Whiteaker]

Survey – Brad will write the Survey. Brad and Michael will walk around with the Survey. Aaron will put the survey online.

Bullet Point Mailer – Travis will take points from Brad's fact sheet and create a bullet point mailer. This needs to be ready for the printer on Monday, April 25. Printing and postage for the mailer will come out of the General Fund.

Meeting Adjourned.