



As Approved 12-12-2022 by BWNA Board

## BWNA Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 14, 2022, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

ZOOM MEETING

7:00 – 7:10 **Welcome** (Patty Nelson, BWNA President)

**Attendees:** Board Members: Aaron Breakstone, Sam Balto, Patti Koehler, Gary Hancock, Susan Trabucco, Al Ellis, Karla Lenox, Tim Gillespie, Angela Frome, Patty Nelson; Adam Ballard, Jasmine Pemberton, Jim

**Absent:** Carlos Montalvo, Barbara Struck, Laurel Marshall, John Sandie, Colin O'Neil

7:10 – 7:15 **Meeting and Association Governance**

- **Meeting Agenda:** Motion to approve Meeting Agenda, seconded and approved with no changes with unanimous vote.
- **Meeting Notes:**
  - Motion made by Gary Hancock to approve October 10, 2022 General Meeting Minutes revised and distributed 11-14-2022 and including updates to signature authorization for banking accounts and seconded by Karla. Approved unanimously with no changes.
  - Motion made and seconded to approve October 8, 2022 Board Retreat Meeting Notes, unanimously voted to approve.
- **Treasurer's Report:** Karla Lenox reported that as of 10-31-22 the BWNA had the following balances in their accounts:
  - Checking Balance: \$13, 820.89
  - Venmo: \$ 125.22

Nothing In accounts receivable.

Informational Items: Pamplin Invoice for \$1,125 for Nov/Dec Newsletter paid. Payment to Gary for Zoom Oct/Nov to be made. Zoho renewal reimbursed. Receipt needed to be forwarded to Karla. Website renewal coming up In December. Keys to Church retrieved from Andrew and given to Al.

- Patty reminded everyone that CNN is providing free training open to all, as part of their DEI Training series: Identity-Based Privilege and Disadvantage Dec 5th 6 – 8 pm. Registration Is required. See CNN website for more Information.

1) **Candlelight Vigil In Remembrance Vivian "Gayle" Phillip: December 21st Update :** Family is grateful and interested in attending. Husband, Dennis would like to say a few words and is very eager to coordinate with art work for crossing. Would like to have a plaque but has been informed that city guidelines and approval must be secured and no words can be used in art work. Susan volunteered to notify BBA of event. Patty has mentioned event to Black Bird, Green Dog and Rolof Construction located at the corner. Suggestion to have PBOT present but discussed wanting to focus on Gayle and not media event for city. Highlighting BWNA and City partnership to implement improvements will be highlighted at event. Patty to coordinate a planning meeting with volunteers Patti, Angela and Laurel. Patty made a motion to approve expenditures up to \$100 toward the event. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved by board.

2) **September Newsletter Bikeway's Article & Neighborhood Response:** Resident of BWNA Jim Karlof had requested the board discuss the Bikeways article and possible coordination with other neighborhoods in working with the City at the August meeting. This request was deferred to this meeting and added to the agenda. Jim was not present at time the agenda topic was raised and recommendation to defer topic to a General Meeting with larger participation. Concerns were raised regarding transportation's public engagement process with people unclear whether or not NA or public input influenced the outcome for bikeway improvements given the Alameda/Fremont experience. Patty shared her understanding that the Skidmore project provided more opportunity for public feedback to influence solution, based on project manager Zef Wegner that it was in the planning phases and initial feedback provided would be used to develop options. Scott Cohen has since taken over as the lead for the section of the project fronting Wilshire park due to complexities of the issues raised, including parking demand from Little League, speeding concerns, preference to keep parking curb tight. Patty will follow up with city to schedule a future meeting when they can come and present on the project. The board also requested that they clarify how the BWNA and its members can influence or not, the final design. While it is understood the NA do not provide direction, it is hopeful that options can be presented that incorporate neighborhood feedback and the board can vote to select its preferred option.

Concerns were raised about tone of meeting and ensuring that we support our city partners. A commitment was made to structure and facilitation of the meeting would provide for a balanced, respectful dialogue with clarity provided up front, on what role the public input can have on the outcome. If the city is not able to come to a meeting, a suggestion was made to have them video tape. Patty will follow-up with the city to schedule for future meeting allowing time for the NA to do outreach to encourage participation to better represent the voice of the neighborhood. The board was

reminded we do not speak for everyone In the neighborhood but do our best to represent based on the feedback and engagement of its residents.

3) **Board Retreat Debrief & Discussion:** The board held a retreat on October 8th. Patty asked the board - What worked well? Should this be an annual event? What should we do differently?

Susan: Enjoyed the warm-up exercise but would like more time over all for the event.

Patti: Enjoyed the outdoor setting, found It educational, liked the small groups, would like more time to work through goals - but It was a first step.

Sam: Tim's get to know you game was great, having a facilitator was helpful

Karla: Training helpful, need more time to plan what we want to do

Tim: Yes have annually, beneficial to connect with board and get to know each other, with number of new members - helpful to have CNN training but not needed every year, prefer not to have break out groups

Patty: Enjoyed and thought It was helpful to have training so everyone on same page, liked break out groups and enjoyed seeing common themes for goal setting, would like to see every year. Need more time to work through follow-up tasks - are people Interested In doing that or using board meeting time?

4) **Board Goals - Activities for Next Year - What do we want to focus on?**

The board retreat resulted In a number of great Ideas for future BWNA activities. It also provided a start to creating an annual calendar In which planning and budgeting can take place. The board members were asked to Identify their top two picks which were: ***Neighborhood Clean-up - Adopt a Block Concept and Community Festival Wilshire Park.*** Additional Ideas were captured and may still be Implemented In some fashion In the future. Some had overlaps and there may be opportunities to Incorporate a few Ideas Into one event. Example: Community Festival at the park could Include a movie, family focused activity and a dog event.

A suggestion of having an Events Committee was raised. The formation of standing committees needs to be voted on by board. Committees operate under the direction of the board. A suggestion was made to review standing committees for alignment with neighborhood interests and board operations as part of a future board agenda item. The proposed Events Committee could be considered at that time.

Ad Hoc committees can be formed to work on selected events or activities based on Interest and resources needed.

Other Items that were discussed relating to board governance that may be worth considering are: By-Law Updates (Incorporating best practices from CNN provided, update as desired to provide clarity In topics such as communication, board vs general meetings, etc), Committees (revisit committee names, clarify committee mission/role, perhaps create new committees to reflect needs and Interests of neighborhood)

Questions were raised about doing passion projects, projects that may not have the majority support but still have a champion Interested In leading the effort. Concerns were raised by experienced board members cautioning about spreading the board too thin, with limited people and energy to accomplish things. In general the board supported the Idea of having a few major board sponsored events but being open to other Ideas that come forward from Its membership and deciding on additional projects on a case by case basis. This has been the practice In the past.

**Clean-Up Event:** Tim reported that 3 years ago BWNA partnered with Beaumont Middle School PTA and held a spring clean-up event. BWNA provided volunteers and event took place at school, charging \$10/vehicle. The event has not been held since due to COVID. Tim has been In contact with Beaumont Middle School Foundation who Is Interested In partnering with BWNA on a similar event.

A motion was made to have Tim research a Clean-up Event with Beaumont Middle School and report back regarding BWNA role, including volunteers needed and any financial support. This motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Aaron, Patti, Al and Karla all volunteered to work with Tim on this project.

**8:00 – 8:25**

### **Committee Updates**

- 1) Transportation (John S): John was not present but emailed an update. Soft bump outs completed along Fremont. Alameda/Fremont Diversion Project planned for March/April 2023, No update on Skidmore Project,
- 2) Newsletter (Susan Trabuco): Working to pull together next edition.
- 3) Friends of Wilshire Park (Gary Hancock, Chair) - reported event held to celebrate full funding for dog park water thanks to Commissioner Rubio. Date and Information to be forwarded. Mary from FWP working with Susan for article In next newsletter
- 4) Crime Prevention/Safety (Bill Markwart, Chair) - reported no change
- 5) Central Northeast Neighbors Update - Patty reported meeting held. DEI training on-going.
- 6) Land Use Issues - Patty updated that there was an Informational meeting on development of Hollywood Transit Center Into housing and shared out with neighborhood. Design review notifications received.
- 7) New Neighbor Welcoming Project - Al reported that slow down In home sales apparent with decline from their 12 - 18 welcoming packets to 7 - 8 Issued recently.

**8:25 – 8:30**

**Next Meeting: General Meeting      Monday, December 12, 2022 ZOOM**

**Topics:** Budget & Goal Confirmation with Membership? Plan for By-Law Updates?