

Westside Coalition

Minutes of January 23 Westside Coalition Board of Directors Meeting

Minutes Taken By: Jake Erickson – Board Secretary

Location: NeighborWorks Community Mtg Room 622 W 500 N SLC **Online:** Zoom Meeting

Time: Started 5:36 pm Ended pm **Wi-Fi Password:** Nswfl\$1234

Board Members Present (#)	Charlotte Fife-Jepperson, Daniel Strong, Rick Silver, Jake Erickson, Turner Bitton, Kevin Parke, Jason Wessel, Chaise Warr, Izumi Okamura, Chilton Hawk, Terrance Marasco, CJ Hellige, Nigel Swaby, Daniel Tuutau
Board Members Excused or Absent (#)	Darin Mann
Others Present:	Jasmine Walton, Maria Garciaz, Lexie Tuddenhan, Bill Watts, Daniel Mendoza, Noemi Molina
Item 1	WELCOME
	Introductions
Item 2	Motion to Approve Our Minutes
Motion to Approve November 28 th , 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Motion to Approve Our Minutes by Daniel Strong <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Second by Turner Bitton b. Motion to approve the minutes for November 28th, 2023 passes. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Charlotte Fife-Jepperson abstains.
Item 3	EPA Grants
EPA Grant Funding	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. EPA Funding Summary <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Daniel Strong <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. A large pot of EPA funding tied to last year’s infrastructure bill is targeted to disadvantaged communities. There are two tracks for these grants: infrastructure/community improvement grants of \$10-12 million, and community structure grants to facilitate public engagement in a \$1-3 million dollar amount. Let’s talk about these two different tracks. 2. Track 1 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Daniel Strong

- i.** Track 1 grants include the following themes: community driven, environmental justice, community resilience. Lexi Tuddenhan from HEAL Utah and Professor Mendoza from the U are here to talk about Strategy 5: community resilience hubs.
- ii.** To summarize, we seek to create some kind of a resilience hub using some of the buildings we already have during extreme events (heat, dust). This idea has morphed since then. Since talking to the city, we have now been trying to identify how to fit this into our infrastructure. We looked at bus routes and would like more people to use the bus. So perhaps we could look at bus structures like route 9 and route 1 to see if we can bulk up the transit infrastructure. There are currently cooling zones/centers but nobody really knows they exist so we'd also be looking to transform them to be more engaging with the community. Lastly, we'd like to see WSC funding for staff here.

b. Lexi Tuddenhan

- i.** We think the WSC is a perfect receptacle to make these interventions that build long term climate resilience and short term improvements in environmental health. One of the ideas we especially like is this progression in understanding that heat in particular is the largest weather related killer and we feel that it can be addressed through the cooling zones. On a single day last year there was a 14 degree difference in temperature between different parts of the city. People suffering from the worst heat were often associated with the highest public health costs. So let's frame this around climate resilience and build community around that concept.

c. Daniel Mendoza

- i.** We originally were looking at emergency shelters. But we now want to build community gathering spaces like bus shelters whose structure currently seems to harm or disincentivize participation. Our ultimate goal is to make amenable transportation hubs by working directly with the communities themselves to encourage participation.

d. Daniel Strong

- i.** We are not yet at the detail phase here, but our goal is to make sure the westside is well represented and that the WSC has the funding. We just want to get support from everyone.

e. Chilton Hawk

- i.** I'm concerned about people's health in hot environments, so it'd be nice if we

could get some help to those people so that they can stay cool by replacing swamp coolers.

f. Daniel Strong

- i.** Can we get funding to get air filters and electric appliances in people's homes? These are the questions we need to be asking. What I'd like to see from this project is to create a place to connect people to those resources: replacing swamp coolers, heat pumps, zero scaping yards, etc.

g. Rick Silver

- i.** Attended Utah clean energy meeting. They will assist you to get a heat pump.

h. Jason Wessel

- i.** The county and Salt Lake City have programs to help subsidize these items.

i. Daniel Strong

- i.** Is acting as the point person for this effort.

j. Terry Marasco

- i.** This is a sensible plan. The Northwest Rec Center comes to mind – there are lots of those spaces around.

k. Chaise Warr

- i.** The Northwest Rec Center is one of those spaces.

l. Lexi Tuddenhan

- i.** Transportation – we look at air quality on e-buses and in public transportation connectivity is a really important thing.

m. Rick Silver

- i.** What is your plan to inform people of this effort?

n. Lexi Tuddenhan

- i.** We are amping up our communications capacity. We don't just want to bring people in crisis, but also give them other reasons to come in.

o. CJ Hellige

- i.** Moves that Daniel continues serving as the designee.

ii. Jason seconds

iii. Committee approves motion that Daniel Strong remain the grant designee.

3. Track 2 EPA Grants

a. Daniel Strong

i. Are there ways we can connect with other groups doing similar work? Daniel talked to the city and asked how we could strengthen our voice to the city. Maybe there could be a westside environmental justice board. Does anyone have any ideas?

b. Charlotte Fife-Jepperson

i. It would be helpful to see the language of the track 2 community governance proposals.

c. Daniel Strong

i. An environmental advisory board is an option (i.e. connecting constituents to lobby the government). What about a green banking initiative? The EPA does have a technical assistance component.

d. Charlotte Fife-Jepperson

i. We need to do this because it's aligned with our mission, not because there's a big pot of money available. I've been approached by UU journalism classes and the Great Salt Lake Journalism Collaborative and they really want to focus on the west side because the drying of the lake will affect our community most. So there are groups out there, could they be a tie to future grant funding?

e. Rick Silver

i. If you have good ideas, don't hesitate to bring them up since I'll be working on a budget for the rest of the year.

f. Daniel

i. We need more resources to do our jobs better.

g. Charlotte

i. This could be a committee under issue advocacy.

Item 4	WSC Membership Discussion
WSC Membership Vote	<p>1. WSC Memberships</p> <p>a. Daniel Strong</p> <p>i. Elections are coming up in April, and appointees expire every two years. Each community council has two positions: a chair and an appointee. An appointee is a two year term. Just because your chair changes doesn't mean your appointee would change however.</p> <p>b. Terrance Marasco</p> <p>i. Darin Mann hasn't been to our meetings. Terry reached out to him saying that he'd like to replace him. We should consider voting to remove Darin and make his seat vacant.</p> <p>ii. I need someone else in that chair. I request that the board remove Darin so that we can replace him. I make the motion.</p> <p>c. Rick Silver</p> <p>i. Seconds</p> <p>f. Turner Bitton</p> <p>i. Friendly amendment. Let's make the position vacant.</p> <p>g. Terrance Marasco</p> <p>i. Seconds</p> <p>h. Daniel Strong</p> <p>i. Motion to make the position vacant passes with all in favor of vacancy.</p>
Item 5	Fairpark
Community Council Update: Fairpark	<p>1. Update from Fairpark</p> <p>a. Chaise Warr</p> <p>i. We do have elections this week. Regardless of who becomes chair, we will update you on how the election goes.</p>
Item 6	Legislative Update
Update On the Legislative Session	<p>1. Summary of the WSC's efforts during the Legislative Session</p> <p>a. Jason Wessel</p> <p>i. This legislative session we were trying to see whether the issues team could lobby the legislature. The training for lobbying never came through however. Terry has offered to give some training, and Dan could give some advice. If anyone needs help or assistance reach out to them. I'm putting together lists and summaries and sending them out to the issue areas team. People on the</p>

issues team can look at these summaries and testify in person, virtually, send an email, etc. We got a letter from senator Escamilla who sought to clarify some points, so our elected officials are aware that we are being more engaged.

b. Daniel Strong

- i.** Le.utah.gov is how you can learn more about the legislative session, see what's happening, and it's a great way to get engaged. If you want to join the hearing, once it starts you can participate virtually by clicking on the link that appears at the time at which it is set to commence.

c. Charlotte Fife-Jepperson

- i.** Attended the anti-dei committee meeting during the house education committee hearing. Thought about drafting a letter on behalf of the westside coalition about opposing the bill. Should I draft something and email it out to everyone? What is the procedure on this?

d. Jason Wessel

- i.** You have to track the legislation and directly lobby your westside representatives and give them your position you'd like them to vote on. Representative Hollins, Senator Alexander Wiler might be amendable.

e. Terrance Marasco

- i.** It would be helpful if you write this letter and send it to all committee members because the others need to hear this.

f. Jason Wessel

- i.** If we don't want to do it as the WSC, there's nothing stopping any individual member chiming in on the issue. Each legislator's email address is available. You can email the entire legislature if you wish.

g. Charlotte Fife-Jepperson

- i.** Should we do so without mentioning our position? Certainly mention residency on the westside.

k. Jason Wessel

- i.** You can have that as your byline, but we should have communications before talking about wedge issues.

l. Kevin Parke

- i.** We do more damage to the coalition getting involved with very partisan bills. Do what you want as an individual.

Item 7	Homelessness Forum Update
Homelessness Forum Planning Report	<p>1. Homelessness Forum Planning</p> <p>a. Charlotte Fife-Jepperson</p> <p>i. We are planning a public meeting on homelessness and we’re doing it in the format of living room conversations. We’re also partnering with the human rights commission in planning the event, while UNP will be providing funding to the homeless. This will take place on March 2nd at Glendale Middle School from 2-4:30pm. We will be inviting people through all of the community councils and also individually. We want to bring everyone around the table and have a structured, constructive conversation. This won’t be a session to bash homeless people. We will have constituents represented – two homeless/formerly homeless people at each table. 6-8 people at each table with a structured conversation. Tabling and food for the first hour. There will be an information session, followed by the conversation.</p> <p>ii. We may have a follow-up event if this proves successful.</p> <p>b. Rick Silver</p> <p>i. Rick motions that WSC give \$40 to match UNP’s \$60 per gift card. This would be around \$400.</p> <p>ii. Cj Hellige seconds the motion.</p> <p>iii. Motion passes.</p>
Item 8	Budget
Treasury Report	<p>1. Budget Update</p> <p>a. Rick Silver</p> <p>i. If you have a project in mind, think about it and propose it and we can use it to try making a budget. I’d like a preliminary on that by the 27th so if you could have it by then that’d be great. Think about your ideas. Think about how to use money.</p>
Item 9	Annual meetings
WSC Annual Meeting Plan	<p>1. Delegation of Duties</p> <p>a. Daniel Strong</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. We will host our annual meeting on April 23rd. Start inviting groups for tabling, figuring out the entertainment. ii. Jake, Kevin, Izumi volunteered to do the annual meeting – Jake will submit a proposal to the team and to Rick Silver. This will be at the Fairpark again. Chaise and partner volunteer to help after the event ends. Charlotte can also help.
Item 10	Request from Fairpark
<p>Jordan River Commission Request</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jordan River Commission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Chaise Warr <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Introducing Bill Watts b. Bill Watts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. We’re asking for support amongst the community members to require more from the Police Department between 10th west and the river. There’s a great deal of drug use. The river area ecosystem is being affected by the use of fentanyl. His partner was told by a couple of Police Department members that they will be pulling unmarked police cars. If anyone would like to sign a document stating opposition to the pulling of unmarked police cars, we intend to send it to the mayor. Almost every affidavit is unenforceable because they’ve expired. We are trying to bring them back to date to make them enforceable. c. Terrance Marasco <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Ask the PD why. It is a disaster, as the unsheltered were tenting on the trail when he walked by. The river is being trashed. It’s taking an asset out of the city and out of our community. Any support we can give them we need to do it. e. Jason Wessel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Has it gotten to a point where WSC is being asked to provide support? Either Jordan meadows or Fairpark need to take the letter and bring it to the board to motion the WSC to take a position. f. Bill Watts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Next week is when we are looking to send the letter. h. Turner Bitton <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Motion to bring this to the exec board to vet the letter and notify the board about its decision on behalf of the WSC. Chaise seconds.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. The motion passes.
Item 11	Utah Clean Cities Update
Community Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Utah Clean Cities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Noemi Molina <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Noemi is wrapping up her community project. The last event will be on February 17th at the Natural History Museum in partnership with Spyhop. They'll be interviewing residents about their experience with air quality with a new exhibit called a climate of hope. Fliers will be sent out. We've also partnered with the department of air quality to talk about air sensor hosts to place pm 2.5 sensors. They are looking for community members to host these sensors. Anyone can apply, but the site has to be residential – preferably homes, but it can also be an organization or business.
Item 12	Ballpark Planning Process
Big League Utah Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Update on the Potential for a Ballpark <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Daniel Strong <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Outreach to the ballpark folks designed with the intent of having a more formal relationship to the project. b. Terrance Marasco <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. When these projects come in they bring in chained businesses. So there is a threat to small businesses and small restaurants especially. c. Jason Wessel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Normally I'd be in favor but after rocky mountain power put in a plan for a power plant and it fell through I've since changed my mind. I think it's a net loss for the quality of our neighborhood. d. Bill Watts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. I expressed my concern in several meetings about our being in a food desert. When we start bringing in these ideas of a ballpark that's going to bring more residents and create a bigger problem that nobody seems to be looking at. The city from what I've heard doesn't necessarily want to bring people. To incentivize people you need to have the people there. e. Daniel Strong <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. My hope is that any time the initial reaction is that there is change there's fear. We want to be at the table. Let's look at what the change is. f. Bill Watts

	<p>i. It's not fear based. We don't have a lot of stores knocking on our door. The Smiths on north temple is interesting. I come from a food safety background and I don't see a lot of resources being put in that store. We don't have a lot of resources in Jordan meadows, Fairpark.</p> <p>g. Maria Garciaz</p> <p>i. The Larry H. Miller group will be working with groups to make sure that voices are heard. They need to commit to the vision they share. Protect small business. Tell them to bring data to the westside coalition. I don't think our voice will be left out. They recognize we are a food desert. It's good to have a grand vision, but we need commitments.</p> <p>h. Daniel Strong</p> <p>i. There will be a lot of negative feedback and we need to be on solid footing to take a position. We need to reassure ourselves first and then reassure others.</p> <p>i. Bill Watts</p> <p>i. It's not that I'm against the ballpark, I just don't want the redlining reinforced. We need facts presented to us because we deserve facts.</p> <p>j. Terrance Marasco</p> <p>i. I have been communicating with Ben Hart, who was supposed to start a community advisory committee. The northwest review group said we'd meet with the city. Ben wants to see where that group goes. We need a westside community group. I'm going to come back and push that idea.</p>
Item 13	Adjourn
Meeting Adjourned	<p>Motion to Adjourn: Daniel Strong</p> <p>Second: Jake Erickson</p> <p>Meeting Adjourns</p>
	<p>Next Meeting: February 27, 2024 5:30pm – 7:30pm</p>