

# Westside Coalition

## Minutes of October 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 5:30 pm Ended 7:40 pm      Wi-Fi Password: Nswfl\$1234

Board Members Present (#)	Charlotte Fife-Jepperson, CJ Hellige, Terrance Marasco, Kevin Parke, Daniel Strong, Nigel Swaby, Daniel Tu’utau, Jason Wessel, Jake Erickson, Jason Wessel, Chilton Hawk, Maria Garciaz
Board Members Excused or Absent (#)	Turner Bitton, Chaise Ware, Dorothy P. Owen, Esther Jackson-Stowell, Joseph Arrington, Rick Silver
Others Present:	Sarah Hoy, Lizz Merrill Jazmine Walton
<b>Item 1</b>	<b>WELCOME</b>
Welcome	Welcome Chilton Hawk, our new appointee from Westpointe Community Council!
<b>Item 2</b>	<b>Elections</b>
Board Member Elections	<p><b>1. Izumi Okamura’s Candidacy</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;"><b>a. Daniel Strong</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">i. Vacancies exist at the at large position, and the WSC has some community council appointees who don’t show up so there exist opportunities to replace them. Izumi is looking to take on the at-large position. The bylaws for the board on the at-large position state that a person must stay in that position until the next annual meeting.</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;"><b>b. Nigel Swaby</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">i. Nigel is in favor of bringing anyone in to the Westside Coalition who wants to participate. Plus, if someone wants to get involved in the WSC and a designee hasn’t shown up, do the bylaws force a vacancy based on absences?</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;"><b>c. Daniel Strong</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">i. With more than three absences the position could be deemed vacant and the council chair would have the option to replace them.</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;"><b>d. Charlotte Fife-Jepperson</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">i. We do have another candidate from Glendale: Sarah Ferrot, but we already have</p>

	<p>a Glendale appointee in Billy. So Sarah would not be able to be a Glendale appointee but rather an at-large.</p> <p><b>e. Jason Wessel</b></p> <p><b>i.</b> Formally motions that the WSC nominates Izumi Okamura to fill the at-large position that Blake vacated.</p> <p><b>ii.</b> Daniel Tuutau seconds the motion.</p> <p><b>iii.</b> Vote passes in favor of Izumi Okamura becoming a member of the Westside Coalition.</p> <p><b>2. Charlotte Fife Jepperson</b></p> <p><b>a.</b> Elections should not be carried out so quickly. There is also the ongoing question of what to do about existing members who aren't showing up. The WSC should have an 18 member strong board. Charlotte asks Nigel Swaby what he feels needs to be done.</p> <p><b>b. Nigel Swaby</b></p> <p><b>i.</b> Is of the belief that in order to strengthen the WSC people need to encourage more involvement from others and present them with opportunities for involvement to avoid burnout. So, more membership development and recruitment is what's needed.</p>
<b>Item 3</b>	<b>I-15 Issue Area</b>
<p>Issue Area Updates: I-15 Expansion</p>	<p><b>1. UDOT Meeting on October 24<sup>th</sup> at the Marmalade Branch Library from 6:00pm to 8:00pm in the multipurpose room.</b></p> <p><b>a. Sarah Hoy</b></p> <p><b>i.</b> Parking will be available at the LDS church. UDOT will present for 15-20 minutes followed by a question and answer session.</p> <p><b>b. Daniel Strong</b></p> <p><b>i.</b> The WSC is opposed to I-15 expansion. But if it happens, then the coalition has the following positions stated for the public record: no houses should be removed, efforts must be targeted towards prioritizing recycling, improving infrastructure, and publishing air quality accountability studies.</p> <p><b>c. Nigel Swaby</b></p> <p><b>i.</b> Nigel attended the Davis County meeting last week where a majority of comments expressed were negative. Many individuals voiced concerns over air quality and lack of mass transit alternatives. Nigel expressed concern that a</p>

semantics game is being played, and that values based on the land are being favored over the expression of housing values. Citizens wouldn't be getting a major financial windfall by leasing properties to UDOT during the time that they acquire easements. So, the priority should be to compensate property owners fairly.

**d. Kevin Parke**

i. Interested parties impacted by these events should have the option offered to them to at least explain what an easement is.

**e. Daniel Strong**

i. Daniel read the Environmental Impact Study, where there's a good two pages that go through the history of redlining on the westside. It was also positive to see mention made of the WSC. However, while there are no mandatory removals, there were some possible removals mentioned. So, Daniel asked his contact at UDOT to inquire whether any individuals will be forced to move. His contact stated in the negative, but that those residents will have the option to move. So, the twenty or so impacted homes do have the option of staying.

ii. UDOT is especially interested in learning whether there is any interest on the Westside for a new underpass or overpass.

**f. Nigel Swaby**

i. We don't as of yet have a clear idea of what's being designed since the price tag has already doubled and it is only set to grow. Questions regarding next steps or even what the construction process looks like must be answered for the WSC to develop a more clear action plan. It also takes somewhere between a year and 18 months to sign contracts while still implementing 70 percent of the design.

**g. Jason Wessel**

i. Nigel and Daniel, please tell us what your councils want so that we can emphasize the need for transparency in the implementation phase of expansion.

**h. Sarah Hoy**

i. The external third party, Smart Growth America, will be here on November 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> at Mestizo Coffeehouse from 8:00am to 1:00pm. This is an opportunity to chat with them and ask what this will look like. Northpoint America is here to tell us what we can ask for and how big we can dream.

**i. Nigel Swaby**

i. Our community council vote included 50 people who expressed that they don't want more traffic and are especially concerned about an increase in criminal elements if a new underpass is created. Increasing connectivity would be fantastic, but questions over how long that process would take remain a real obstacle to changing votes to the affirmative.

**j. Terrance Marasco**

i. Take the Las Vegas water grab experience as one example: we never gave up and said it shouldn't happen. This was done through the courts, never being at the table, and saying we don't want it. There is no rational reason based on air quality research with ozone that this highway is going to reduce the pollution. There's no consideration of growth for any other sector. And as soon as you put up another lane, the highway fills. If we send a letter, we should ask that the project be put on hold until the ozone issue, methane issue and reduced demand issues are all studied.

**k. Nigel Swaby**

i. This is a 5 billion dollar project, and what is good for the community would be the building out of the mass transit system.

**l. Daniel Strong**

i. The WSC has always led out with this being a terrible idea. However, we don't want to see the west side of Salt Lake City miss out on tangible public benefits. UDOT also doesn't have the power to say that expansion isn't wanted.

**m. Chilton Hawk**

i. Mass transit alternatives need to get people from point a to point b within 15 minutes. A greater push is also needed for better ridership by emphasizing free fare.

**n. Jason Wessel**

i. The original point was to get an update on this. Do we want to reorient our position? If not, let's continue following up on Billy's work and see what he reports to us. UDOT's acknowledgement of redlining is also messaging we can use to emphasize that they are indeed doubling down on redlining.

**o. Kevin Parke**

i. In bringing up Davis County residents, the listed homes along the highway are

	big expensive homes. The trailer park will also be heavily impacted and the residents don't know.
<b>Item 4</b>	<b>School Closures Issue Area</b>
Issue Area Updates: School Closures	<p><b>1. Community Feedback</b></p> <p><b>a. Maria Garciaz</b></p> <p>i. Last Saturday there was a Spanish language meeting at franklin elementary school where 12 people showed up and had very good questions. There is a coalition of school community council chairs who are trying to bring in all of the salt lake city school community council chairs because if so many schools are closed and students are redistributed then everyone will be impacted.</p> <p><b>b. Daniel Strong</b></p> <p>i. There doesn't appear to be a plan with this vote coming up: the district seems to be planning to vote and then plan boundaries after the vote. We've expressed that a reversal of that approach is necessary.</p> <p><b>c. Charlotte Fife-Jepperson</b></p> <p>i. The projected numbers were off for granite school district, but population projections are tricky to get right.</p> <p><b>d. Daniel Strong</b></p> <p>i. At least some investigation is needed to look at how many kids will leave the district if schools close. Will closures force more departures as a result? That doesn't seem to be something there's been any study or emphasis on. One of the reasons that they don't project more students is because there are no housing projects planned. Our neighborhood in Newman has gone from 500 to 250 so people are moving out because the neighborhood has stagnated since not enough affordable houses have been created.</p> <p><b>e. Nigel Swaby</b></p> <p>i. What Daniel described is in fact happening throughout the valley. The WSC has to tie housing to the need for affordable, family sized housing and emphasizing that over the concept of microunits.</p> <p><b>f. Jason Wessel</b></p> <p>i. Our strategy has been to stay neutral while emphasizing that we need transparency in the process to make sure it's fair. In other words, by stating we'd like to see the process, what we're really saying is that we'd like to see the data.</p>
<b>Item 5</b>	<b>Thriving in place</b>

<p>Issue Area Updates: Thriving in Place</p>	<p><b>1. City Council Meeting on October 20<sup>th</sup></b></p> <p><b>a. Jason Wessel</b></p> <p><b>i.</b> Anti displacement initiative adopted by the city council at its regular meeting. The whole WSC is behind the Thriving in Place initiative (two year study which conducted a private-public partnership to implement an anti displacement and anti gentrification plan). Aim of trying to keep the nature of the community the same.</p>
<p><b>Item 6</b></p>	<p><b>Homelessness</b></p>
<p>Issue Area Updates: Homelessness</p>	<p><b>1. What to do about the Ramada Inn property.</b></p> <p><b>a. Nigel Swaby</b></p> <p><b>i.</b> The Miller family will be buying the property.</p> <p><b>b. Jason Wessel</b></p> <p><b>i.</b> The property developer started working without a permit, and the city kept its money. The city will lose those units that were promised for the homeless.</p> <p><b>2. Deeply Affordable Housing Schemes</b></p> <p><b>a. Jason Wessel</b></p> <p><b>i.</b> Jason has spoken with Victoria and the other mayoral candidates, who all agreed that there needs to be rapid turnaround with an emphasis on deeply affordable housing that's shovel ready. The city can't wait another two years for deeply affordable housing.</p> <p><b>3. Homelessness Forum</b></p> <p><b>a. Jason Wessel</b></p> <p><b>i.</b> The WSC's next community event will be in February and focused on homelessness on the westside. The aim is to angle this towards smaller stakeholders.</p> <p><b>4. The Other Side Village</b></p> <p><b>a. Nigel Swaby</b></p> <p><b>i.</b> A staging center called 'the school' is being built to keep people off the street with more units set to begin being constructed.</p>
<p><b>Item 7</b></p>	<p><b>River District Business Alliance</b></p>
<p>Community Engagement Updates</p>	<p><b>1. River District Business Alliance</b></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>a.</b> Charlotte Fife-Jepperson <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>i.</b> The Dana foundation, our largest donor, asked Charlotte to become more involved on the architectural planning study around the river area at 3<sup>rd</sup> south and 5/400 north. The Jordan river commission and the river district business alliance are heading this project up.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>b.</b> Maria Garciaz <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>i.</b> It's an application to bring in national consultants to consult existing studies to make recommendations that better connect north temple with the Jordan river.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>c.</b> Charlotte Fife-Jepperson <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>i.</b> The alliance has brought up other projects to give us some ideas like the San Antonio river walk. In Ogden they took a river and cleaned it up so that they could use it for recreation.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>d.</b> CJ Hellige <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>i.</b> CJ motions that charlotte is our representative to this grant committee to report back to us.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>e.</b> Kevin Parke <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>i.</b> Kevin seconds the motion.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>f.</b> The motion passes: Charlotte Fife-Jepperson is now the WSC's designated contact to the River District Business Alliance.</li> </ul>
<b>Item 8</b>	<b>WSC Community and Internal Procedures</b>
WSC Housekeeping and Community Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1.</b> August Minutes Approval <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>a.</b> Daniel Strong <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>i.</b> Daniel Strong motions to approve WSC's August minutes</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>b.</b> Kevin Parke <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>i.</b> Kevin seconds the motion.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>c.</b> Motion to approve minutes from August passes.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>2.</b> Neighborworks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>a.</b> Maria Garciaz <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>i.</b> November 1<sup>st</sup> is Neighborworks' annual celebration.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<p><b>3. Aspire Designation on I-15 Corridor</b></p> <p><b>a. Fawn Groves</b></p> <p><b>i. Fawn will talk with the WSC about the aspire designation on I-15 corridor and is keen to collect feedback from the westside and the coalition at large.</b></p>
<b>Item 13</b>	<b>Adjourn</b>
	<p><b>Daniel Strong:</b> Motion to adjourn</p> <p><b>Rick Silver:</b> Second.</p>
	<p><b>Next Meeting:</b> DATE November 28th 5:30 PM at same NeighborWorks location</p>