

Westside Coalition

Minutes of May 27th, 2025 Westside Coalition Board of Directors Meeting

Minutes Taken By: Jake Erickson – Non-Member

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

Time: Started 5:40 pm Ended 7:30pm Wi-Fi Password: Nswfl\$1234

Board Members Present (#)	Daniel Strong, Jason Wessel, Billy Palmer, Dan Potts, Chilton Hawk, Izumi Okamura, Sam Higgenson, Kevin Parke, Charlotte Fife-Jepperson, Jeff Olson, Martha Wiley
Board Members Excused or Absent (#)	Carlos Palestina, Turner Bitton, Justice Morath
Others Present:	Kassidy Sweeney, Jake Erickson, Maria Garcia, Ted Lewis, Jeff Olson, Soren Simonsen, Nigel Swaby
Item 1	March 25th General Meeting Minutes
Postponing the March 25th General Meeting Minutes	<p>1. March 25th General Meeting Minutes</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">a. Charlotte Fife-Jepperson</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">i. Highlights inconsistencies in the March 25th WSC Board of Directors Meeting minutes, proposes delaying passage until revisions are submitted to the Secretary.</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">b. Daniel Strong</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">i. Daniel assents to delaying the March 25th board meeting minutes pending revisions.</p>
Item 2	Jordan River Trail Walk
Overview of the Jordan River Trail Walk Planning Proposal	<p>1. Jordan River Trail Discussion</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">a. Charlotte Fife-Jepperson</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">i. The Jordan River is a treasured amenity in our neighborhood, but it's a contentious topic on public forums with portions of it being closed. The condition of the river and trail is not what we desire as a community, and we really want to do something about this to reactivate it for the community.</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">ii. We propose doing a Jordan River walk in which we go around the</p>

neighborhood and build upon existing assets to envision the trail as a place to be.

- iii. We look at this as an intervention, and a few people have already said they'd like to be part of the effort, including: Charlotte Fife-Jepperson, Daniel Strong, Nigel Swaby, Jeff Olson, Dan Potts, Soren Simonsen.

b. Soren Simonsen

- i. We have organized a couple of Jane Jacobs walks in the past with several hosted on the Westside. These are opportunities to observe, look at what's working and see what needs changing in the effort to create vibrant communities and preserve the neighborhood.

- ii. What is the timeframe?

c. Jason Wessel

- i. September is our best bet, and we shouldn't have any problems doing this in the early fall.

- ii. We'd also like to offer up a history of the river where people are educated on the positives of the trail.

- iii. Let's talk about the 24th and 28th of June.

d. Soren Simonsen

- i. September is our 'Get to the River' festival, so there might be some conflicts that arise there.

- ii. How big of a group do we anticipate attending?

- iii. Salt lake city is currently doing an update to the Northwest Community Master Plan. That boundary is currently being proposed to shorten, and it's all outside of the existing planning area. This means we won't have a vision and a master plan. To lose the northern part of Salt Lake City and not have a comprehensive plan for it could be really damaging.

e. Dan Potts

- i. We shouldn't have limits on this, and I'd love to be part of the educational effort.

- ii. I'd like to see us break into small groups and then rotate.

f. Nigel Swaby

- i. Let's invite our City Council and the Mayor.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> g. Billy Palmer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Let’s say our goal is 50 people. Maybe we can have folks stationed, with people in those groups getting a punch card to visit the stations. Then we could repeat the same model as a workshop. We also will need a working document to track progress. h. Daniel Strong <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Is everyone comfortable with the two dates Jason proposed in June? ii. Dorothy seemed on top of the small area plan. i. Jason Wessel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. It seems like the arrangement of dates for this event will need to be taken offline.
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Item 3	Board Governance
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<p>Discussion on Board Finances</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Board Governance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Izumi Okamura <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. We’ll be publishing a financial report on our website. ii. We had \$20K budgeted out for 2024, and with the quantity of donations we received, \$7K ultimately went unused. We received a total of \$39K in donations. iii. Here’s our running budget for the year of 2025. I cut down our food from the meeting’s budget so that \$1800 for the year would go to food. I also split community engagement into more specific categories. b. Jason Wessel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. We should get branded awnings, vertical signs, and more tabling materials. c. Kevin Parke <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. We have done a bunch of work with Spanish speaking communities in the past, so Spanish-language branding might be a good idea. d. Ted Lewis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Ted will help with fundraising ideas and processes. e. Cassidy Sweeney
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Regarding the Intermountain Health grant: it's pretty open ended and depends on what you guys want to see in your community addressed.
Item 4	Board Officer Elections
<p>Elections for the Roles of First Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elections <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Daniel Strong <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Daniel will manage the election. b. Jason Wessel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Jason nominates himself to the First Vice President role. ii. Kevin Parke seconds the nomination. iii. All vote in favor (11-0). Jason Wessel will remain the First Vice President. c. Izumi Okamura <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Izumi announces her intent to run again. d. Jason Wessel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Jason motions to nominate Izumi to the Treasurer role. ii. Chilton Hawk seconds the motion. ii. The motion passes with all in favor (11-0). e. Daniel Strong <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Carlos Palestina mentioned his interest in running for the Secretary role. f. Charlotte Fife-Jepperson <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Charlotte motions to nominate Carlos to the Secretary role. ii. Ted Lewis seconds the motion. iii. The motion passes with all in favor (11-0) to make Carlos the Secretary.
Item 5	Annual Meeting Overview
<p>Assessing the 2025 WSC Annual Meeting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SWOT Analysis

a. Charlotte Fife Jepperson

- i. Conducting the SWOT analysis as the facilitator.

b. Daniel Strong

- i. With regards to strengths, we had strong attendance, good outreach, great music.
- ii. We had more candidates than vacancies.

c. Ted Lewis

- i. I saw great networking take place, the food was great, and the event seemed well planned.

d. Jason Wessel

- i. It was nice to see the election run well.

e. Billy Palmer

- i. With regards to weaknesses, there was a very strong echo with poor sound, and we needed more tables for the sheer quantity of people.
- ii. The tabling during the program is sometimes a little too short. We needed more time for the tablers since people couldn't focus during the transition.

f. Izumi Okamura

- i. We need to communicate to folks when we're tabling at specific times.

g. Martha Wiley

- i. In terms of opportunities, we always have the chance to get more people out there. But we need more flyers and signs to go out to catch people's attention. I'd also love to connect with the schools more.

h. Ted Lewis

- i. There was plenty of food from red iguana. If we can arrange that again, then that's an opportunity for tremendous publicity.

i. Daniel Strong

- i. We need more of a focus on Westside locals, and generally get more leaders out there. We advertised but the website is a bit neglected.

j. Maria Garcias

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. We need folks outside of the neighborhood to bring issues to light. It's important to monitor our zip codes, but let's see who's coming from outside the area. k. Kevin Parke <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. We tried running Facebook ads for the first time at our festival, and we had 500 interactions within a one mile radius. So let's use facebook ads. l. Martha Wiley <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. In terms of threats, the northwest quadrant's redistricting could be a significant threat with regards to losing our community members. m. Jason Wessel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. As we start getting bigger and bigger, we need to have tighter control over who votes. Right now we're too small for someone to try to corrupt the vote, but in the future it could happen. n. Nigel Swaby <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. I'm concerned that there's too much corporate influence with our sponsors, which is why Ted's idea of more consistent funding is a good idea.
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Item 6	Preparing Future Issue Area Meetings
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<p>Discussion on the Issue Area Meeting Priorities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Issue Area Meeting Priorities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Jason Wessel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The big issue that is dominating everything is the location of this new shelter. We're pretty sure it'll be going in at 2200 West. Legislation got passed last session that allows for use of eminent domain. So we've been doing a lot of strategizing around that. ii. Nick Meachem has been working a parallel track on this and asking what our demands will be. b. Daniel Strong <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. I spoke with Victoria Petro on how to message around this. Our best bet is that in order to be successful this needs to be well funded and have access to wraparound resources. They're treating this like an isolated campus at the moment which is a problem. ii. We want to be sure there'll be transportation infrastructure.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. Ted Lewis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. What is the jurisdiction of law enforcement here? d. Jason Wessel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. According to the Chief of Police and the Mayor, there'll be more cameras and lighting (mostly dedicated to monitoring the trail). e. Daniel Strong <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. We talked at the last meeting about the special election for county council, and there's a year left on this term. The democratic committee people will select this person, and I wrote a letter in support of their selection and now ask for your approval. f. Jeff Olson <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Jeff motions to approve Dan's letter. ii. Ted Lewis seconds the motion. iii. The motion passes 9-2 with two abstentions. g. Charlotte Fife-Jepperson <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. We have an opportunity to partner with other organizations at the University of Utah and in higher education. There are also local environmental groups to get funding for grants that were rescinded by the new Trump administration. We're regrouping to try to get other ways to address our air quality. The good thing is people are still coming together with those ideas. ii. I've been talking to our community council chairs and I need to get in touch with Fairpark and see how things are going. I also spoke with Jordan Meadows and Westpointe. It might be some of our role to offer our support for the community councils. We'll need to talk more about how to support them in future meetings.
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Item 7	Adjourning the Board Meeting
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Meeting Adjourned	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meeting Closure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Izumi Okamura <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Izumi motions to conclude the May 27th Board Meeting. ii. Dan Potts seconds the motion.
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	iii. The motion passes 11-0.
	Next Meeting: July 29th, 2025 5:30pm – 7:30pm