



Cultivating the heart of Lakewood

Alameda Connects
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
February 13, 2024
Virtual Meeting
8:00 AM

Call to order: 8:04 AM President, Jeanine Maxey

Present: President Jeanine Maxey, Vice President Teri Romero, Secretary Andrea Schubert, AC Executive Director Tom Quinn, Directors Max de La Bruyère, Sue King, Doug Wells, Kate Curtis, Jessica Barrand, Amanda Piland, AC Office Manager Clare Johnson, AC Director of Outreach Rachel Griffin, and City of Lakewood Economic Development Robert Smith.

Absent: Febra Johnson

Motion to approve January 8, 2024, AC Board Meeting Minutes with change.

Motion to approve Minutes: Teri Romero

Minutes Approved Unanimously

Treasurer's Report/Financials – No questions

Executive Directors Report with ED Tom Quinn

1. Continue to work on crime prevention (next round table scheduled for April). Looking at options for extra patrols. Calls to Lakewood PD for service for 2023 were down 5 percent, proactive efforts are up 5-7 %. This has allowed PD to spend more time on crime prevention. The BID is going to be rebooting its security grants program this year (next couple of months).
2. Planning for Blarney on Belmar is ongoing and in full swing. Need good weather. Other events in planning for summer.
3. Community Meeting, we were at 48 attendees for February. Thank you, Amanda, for inviting us to be at the First Bank room. In March we should be back at West Metro – speaker will be Alliance to Transform Transportation. In April we will be hearing about the Enneagram.
4. Grants programs continue to work on those. Made a donation to Lakewood Severe weather shelter (\$270) in January. A call for assistance went out and we answered that.
5. ACBID has quite a lot going on with landscaping. Storm water art installations are paused until June. Recently met with Kaiser, going to be providing assistance with a mural on the new building. Go take a look at wood carvings at Pierce Street. Reinvestment grants in full swing.
6. Sue King asked about new faces at the last community meeting. Rachel commented that Solera Bank and Bayaud were new members and present.
7. Doug Wells asked about what Bayaud is. Tom responded that they provide support and training for disabled people finding work -- Bayaud has also been working with West Colfax. We will be talking to them about partnering to do work along Alameda.



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8. Jeanine asking about Belmar Crossing tenants (noticed a lot of dark space). Tobacco leaf wanted a stand-alone building (ventilation is easier). ED Quinn said it was really a changeover of tenants.
9. Jeanine wondered if we had enough volunteers for Blarney on Belmar. Andrea explained that we could probably get away with 2 volunteers (she and Janet will be there, and Heidi will be there for a portion). Really manning the 2 exits to make sure alcohol isn't taken out is the main need.

Outreach and Engagement - Director of Outreach Rachel Griffin

1. Discussion of Alameda Connects membership goals and priorities. Rachel recommends that a membership committee be formed to discuss ideas. A poll was taken to see what direction the board would like to take. Rachel will look over data and see what direction to take.
2. Tom said that it's always good to take a look at what we've done in the past.

Board of Director's Updates:

Teri Romero

1. Should be breaking ground this year at the Kaiser building (probably in the Fall).
2. There's a lot of activity and polarization of what's going on in the city. Topic of Sanctuary City and homelessness. This is going to be very interesting and how these things are going to impact businesses.
3. ED Quinn there said is no proposal of making Lakewood a Sanctuary City. No directive for Lakewood to become a sanctuary. The council discussion warped into Lakewood wants to become a Sanctuary City. We should be talking about how we can help our unhoused population. The city is in a tough spot.
4. Kate Curtis asked ED Quinn to talk about the Navigation Center (8000 W Colfax). A typical navigation program is to help homeless navigate to services. It's not supposed to be housing. Robert Smith (Lakewood Development) jumped in and brought up RecoveryWorks. Ultimately there is a DOLA grant to make navigation center on Colfax Ave.

Doug Wells

1. Asking Andrea Schubert about a police substation that used to be in Belmar. She responded that the compromise is a touch down spot (former US Bank space on Teller Street). She said it's used regularly.

Andrea Schubert

1. Fine Jewelry store in Belmar – will open pretty quickly. Vito Pinni will be leaving, there is a tenant for that space. Seafood Empire decided to take a step back – filled with Mason's Dumpling shop. Signed a pet store. Signed Google to bring in fiber offices. Also going to split up old Charming Charlie's space – into four spaces. Signed two deals for that space (Club Pilates and Laser Away).
2. Events coming up are Blarney on Belmar, and at the end of March Belmar will have Bunny Trails Easter Egg Hunt.



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3. Doug had questions. Where is Google Fiber going? – Upham Street, 13,000 square feet. October is the occupancy date. Integer left, so spaces aren't completely occupied. How is Fidelity doing? – Andrea said they've been doing great.

Sue King

1. Suggested a different location than Sunrise/Sunset is needed for the Crime Roundtable
2. Robert Smith has done an amazing job for the city. Robert thanked Sue for the shout out.

Max de La Bruyere

1. Not much to report. About to sign a lease with the 3rd cell phone store
2. Getting ready to paint.
3. Ballmer Peak is just waiting on City permits and then they will go in.

Jessica Barrand

1. Thinking about collaboration with Telluride Truffle, maybe chocolate/wine pairings.

Amanda Pilland

1. Gearing up for classes for members – financial education for young adults.

City of Lakewood Update with Robert Smith

1. Had an advance conference this past Friday. Both Rachel Griffin and ED Quinn were able to partake. The document produced from that helps with ideas for 2024.
2. More development products coming through than where they have been in the past couple of years.
3. ED Quinn commented that the advance was very helpful, very well designed, and a great way to give our ideas. RecoveryWorks will be the spotlight speaker at the March meeting.

General Business with ED Tom Quinn

1. Discussion of: Evaluation of Outcomes – delegate this to Joint Finance Committee to study and report back in March (meeting next week).

Motion to adjourn: Teri Romero

Jessica Barrand, seconded.

Next AC Community Meeting: Wednesday, March 6, 2024, TBD

Next AC Board Meeting: Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at 8:00 a.m.