



Cultivating the heart of Lakewood

Alameda Connects  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
February 11, 2025  
Virtual Meeting  
8:00 AM

**Call to order: 8:05 AM** President, Jeanine Maxey

**Present:** President Jeanine Maxey, Vice President Teri Romero, Directors Max de La Bruyere, Katie Nicholson, Kate Curtis, Joyce Rocha, AC ED Tom Quinn, AC Office Manager Clare Johnson, AC Director of Outreach Rachel Griffin, City of Lakewood Economic Development liaison Marcus Johnson

**Absent:** Directors Amanda Piland, Jessica Barrand, Doug Wells

**Motion to approve January 14, 2025, AC Board Meeting Minutes as amended**

**Motion to approve Minutes:** Teri Romero

**Seconded:**

**Minutes Approved Unanimously**

**Treasurer's Report/Financials** – ED Tom Quinn

1. Tom explained the \$20k (that Amanda Piland had suggested at the last meeting, be moved into liquid assets to take advantage of the interest rates) has been put in there.

**Executive Director's Update**

1. Police chief did send extra patrols to Belmar Crossing. The PD is launching a real time crime reporting center. Businesses that have cameras compatible with the police system will be able to partner with the PD. The PD Drone program will be coming online (currently in testing phase).
2. Fundraising: Received a preliminary response from the Colorado Non-Profit Development Center to AC's application for charitable fundraising. This would be specifically for the grant's programs.
3. Car wash situation – fire at the abandoned car wash. West Metro Firefighters responded and found people were living in the building. Alameda Connects reported this two or three times in 2024 to Request Lakewood – had been working with Planning (because property owners submitted a permit request). People in the community were calling this in as well. That situation is ongoing. Marcus Johnson responded that the notice to the owner went out last week (they have a remedy period of 48 hours). Owner has been in contact with the city officials – code enforcement. Now owner has 30 days to submit a permit for demolition, or 30 days to start new construction. Marcus is hopeful that they at least start the demolition process.
4. Blarney on Belmar coming up on March 8<sup>th</sup>, from 11 am – 5 pm – all that's needed is good weather.



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5. 40 people at the February Community Meeting. AC wants to continue with the trend of high numbers attending the meetings.
6. Currently in the planning phase of a board retreat meeting with interviewing facilitators and also looking at locations.
7. Project status of BID projects: ongoing landscaping and snow removal (also using LMI for litter pick up). "Flow" sculpture at Sheridan repairs should be completed in the next month – finally after 3 years.
8. A couple of weeks ago Marcus Johnson put together a real estate tour of Alameda – thanks to Marcus for putting this together. Marcus spoke up that from the tour there was some feedback in strategic areas, and some easier ideas to implement. Marcus brought up the idea of ambient lighting (like string lights) being important to make the area feel safe – not sure how to do this with multiple owners. Tom brought up that we do have some gaps in lighting.

#### **Outreach and Engagement - Director of Outreach Rachel Griffin**

1. As ED Tom Quinn mentioned there was a full house for the Crime Prevention Roundtable – Quinn Pratt Cordova spoke on CPTED, and Rachel spoke on the grant programs to offset the costs.
2. The "Fix It Up Grant" is almost wrapped up – one business has yet to file for their reimbursements. Also have the "Securing Alameda Grants". Rachel has added some more requirements when businesses are approved for the grants (they must belong to "Business Watch", etc). Gold Crown is looking to bundle the security grant with Lakewood ED's grant.
3. Membership is down to 45 members. Rachel is following up when they don't resubscribe.
4. Last month Rachel sent marketing materials to the board, and she is looking for feedback – do we want to spend money on a mass mailing or print and hand out printed materials? Part of the challenge is finding things that would be an attractive perk for being a member. After this discussion, Rachel concluded fewer mailers should be printed. Board liked the business card, and so Rachel will print 50 per board member for them to hand out.

#### **Board of Director's Updates:**

Katie Nicholson

- Had a very successful 121 day in January. The next community event is a Ward 3 City Council debate with the 3 candidates on February 25<sup>th</sup>.

Teri Romero

- Things are going well with the build at Kaiser, the challenges with parking do continue.

Joyce Roca

- Excited and getting ready for Blarney on Belmar. Bunny Trails on April 19<sup>th</sup> and working on a concert.
- Lots of new tenants coming into the Center: Club Pilates, Clean Your Dirty Face, Road Runner Sports, K-pot, and there are more.



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- Always open to partner with the community and have events

#### **City of Lakewood Update with Marcus Johnson**

1. Getting closer to getting a new ED manager, still interviewing – hoping to have someone in the Spring.
2. Trying to plan out a strategic list of businesses to bring into the Alameda Corridor.
3. Jean asked Marcus if there are any federal grants that are affected presently by the new administration's changes. Marcus said this is not an area of expertise for him.

#### **General Business**

- All the items on the agenda had been discussed previously, so there was no new general business.

Next AC Community Meeting: Wednesday, March 5, 2025, West Metro Fire

Next AC Board Meeting: Tuesday March 11, 2025, via Zoom