



**Uptown Whittier Improvement Association**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Whittier Community Center**  
**7630 Washington Avenue, Whittier, CA 90602**  
**TELECONFERENCE MEETING**  
**Thursday, May 13, 2021, 8:30 a.m.**

**Current Lists of UWIA Board Members:** Frank Rinaldi (President), Katie Galvin-Surbatovic (Vice President)/Ben Pongetti/Brian Saeki, Jim Dunkelman (Treasurer), Stephen Ortiz (Secretary)/Irene McCallister, Ginny Ball, Milt Pate, Melinda Pina, Steven Rodriguez, and Mark St. Julien

**Present:** Ginny Ball, Katie Galvin-Surbatovic, Stephen Ortiz, Milt Pate, Melinda Pina, Frank Rinaldi, and Steven Rodriguez

**Absent:** Jim Dunkelman and Mark St. Julien

**Guests:** David Gonzalez and Brian Saeki

**Consultant/Staff:** Brent Haskell and Stephanie Shamp – GM Properties Inc., and Carlos Lopez – Aleco

**MINUTES:**

| <i>Item</i>              | <i>Discussion</i>   | <i>Action Taken?</i>      |
|--------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| <b>1. Call to Order</b>  | Frank Rinaldi called the meeting to order at 8:39 a.m.  | <b>1. No Action Taken</b> |
| <b>2. Roll Call</b>      | Brent Haskell took roll call.   | <b>2. No Action Taken</b> |
| <b>3. Public Comment</b> | Brent Haskell stated no emails received outside of the organization. Brent read the email received from Carlos Lopez on increased issues with Flashbackz Lounge & | <b>3. No Action Taken</b> |

UPTOWN WHITTIER IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION



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|   | Grill regarding noise and Flashbackz' own security altercations and posted comments. Note: The Ambassadors were not working that day.   |  |
| <b>4. Approval of the UWIA Board Meeting Minutes from April 8, 2021</b>   | Corrections need to be made as follows:   | <b>4. Ginny Bally Motioned to Approve the April 8, 2021 UWIA Board Meeting Minutes. Katie Galvin-Surbatovic 2<sup>nd</sup>. Brent Haskell Took Roll Call. All in Favor. Motion Passes.</b>   |
| <b>5. Board to Consider Changing the Times of the November 11, 2021 and the December 9, 2021 Board Meetings from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on a trial basis.</b> |   | <b>5. Stephen Ortiz Motioned to Change the November and December 2021 Meeting times from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Katie Galvin-Surbatovic 2<sup>nd</sup>. Brent Haskell Took roll call. One descending vote with motion passing.</b> |
| <b>6. Committee Tasks</b>   |   |  |
| <b>a.1. Executive Committee report – Frank Rinaldi</b>  | a.1. The Virtual State of the City is hosted by the Chamber. Ginny Ball attending thru her business. Melinda Pina wants to attend. Brent Haskell and Carol Crosby corresponding to invoice UWIA all at once. The taskforce of Melinda Pina, Jim Dunkelman, Frank Rinaldi and the Chamber are working together to come up with ideas to benefit the uptown. All are aware the Chamber represents the whole | <b>a.1. No Action Taken</b>  |



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| <p><b>a.2. Finance report – Jim Dunkelman</b></p>                            | <p>City and not just the District. Ginny goes to the chamber functions.</p> <p>a.2. Frank Rinaldi stated Jim could not be on the call today and no items of action.</p>   | <p><b>a.2. No Action Taken</b></p>  |
| <p><b>b. Contractor Update</b></p>   | <p>Frank Rinaldi went through the following items and opened the floor for discussion:</p>  |   |
| <p><b>1. Aleco Report – Carlos Lopez</b></p>                                 | <p>See Attached Written Report.</p>   | <p><b>1. No Action Taken</b></p>  |
| <p><b>2. Edna Becerra – Social Media Overview</b></p>                        | <p>See Attached Written Report.</p>   | <p><b>2. No Action Taken</b></p>  |
| <p><b>3. Coastal Landscape Services – Tyson Smith</b></p>                    | <p>See Attached Written Report.</p>   | <p><b>3. No Action Taken</b></p>  |
| <p><b>c.1.-4. District Identity Committee Update: Ricardo Diaz</b></p>       |   | <p><b>c.1.-3. Tabled</b></p>  |
| <p><b>d.1.-6. Sidewalk Operations Committee Update: Steven Rodriguez</b></p> | <p>Steven Rodriguez stated continuing discussion with the City on individuals accountable. There is a weekly report sent from Aleco. Ambassador responsibility and role discussed. Things shifting on the Promenade. The City is actively engaged in incorporating police department on bikes / foot patrol but unknow at this time when it will take place. The Aleco reports need to be shared with the City Council. Concerns the Promenade is not getting any better. Ambassador roll discussed – not security, visibility. Not setup to take the place of the police department. Brian Saeki will look at the security provisions not in compliance and discuss with the</p> | <p><b>d.1.-6. Steven Rodriguez Motioned for the Board to have an Ambassador Program, Not Security, and Rutan &amp; Tucker, LLP to Prepare the RFP and Agreement in Alignment with the Appropriate Industry Standards. Melinda Pina 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in Favor. Motion Passes.</b></p> |



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|  | <p>businesses. Steven Ortiz agrees ambassadors are to observe and report. Currently discrepancies exist between what the Board wants the Ambassadors to be and what they are currently doing per the agreement. Corrections and training needed and moving forward amend the RFP language. Dave Gonzalez stated during the Task Force review the RFP the RFP’s description of responsibilities suggests this is a security position but the UWIA clearly wants ambassadors. Ginny Ball stated one of the problems with noise is time and liquor. The Task Force needs to meet with the City and police department. The Ambassador documenting needs to continue. Police patrol needed like what Ambassadors are doing. Frank Rinaldi stated concerned the Ambassador calls are not answered or addressed. Brian stated emergencies take priority. Also given the time load and the type of calls on arrival. The bike patrols are to be Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings. Cannot give 24/7 patrols. Uptown Whittier Businesses discussed.</p> |                                       |
| <p><b>e. 1.-2. Land Use and Project Review Committee Update: Frank Rinaldi</b></p> | <p>Frank Rinaldi stated the City’s RFP is out for the Alpha Beta site. The development package is for approximately 300 units and a traffic study necessary for the extra traffic created was discussed. With the new parking structure open there are concerns of skate boarders using the top floor and kids sitting on the ledge. Currently manned with City employees, police department patrolling, and security scheduled June 1<sup>st</sup>. Katie will share with Kyle and Brian the concerns.</p>  | <p><b>e.1.-2. No Action Taken</b></p> |



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| <b>7. Other Board Items</b> | Ginny Ball stated the museum was offered original Richard Nixon memorabilia donated from an attorney in Pennsylvania. Another attorney is putting a tour together in Whittier with drop off at the museum. Ginny requested zoom meetings for the Board instead of teleconferences. | <b>7. No Action Taken</b> |
| <b>8. Next Meeting date</b> | Next regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting will be on Thursday, June 10, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. at the Whittier Community Center at 7630 Washington Avenue or possibly telephonically.   | <b>8. No Action Taken</b> |
| <b>9. Adjournment</b>       | The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.  | <b>9. No Action Taken</b> |

Minutes taken by Brent Haskell and Stephanie Shamp, GM Properties