

August 27, 2009

Monthly Board Meeting

Meeting Called at 6:13pm by Paul

Flag Salute

Open Meeting – No Guests in Attendance

Lt. Webster – Scheduled Speaker in Attendance

Board Members Present:

Monica
Anna
Sharon
Rebecca
Carol
Jason
Paul
Martin
Art
Eileen
Rodney

Martin -

Minutes with one correction – change “all Bank of Americas”

Lt. Webster – worked car show, security standpoint, no issues, no concerns from their standpoint.

Wednesday Night – bike cops still working, no crime issues, more conduct issues

No big crimes, citizens send complaints about feeling uncomfortable with some of the crowd that it attracts

Rodney – can you confirm if more calls are going in – Lt Webster – nodded no

Anna – when we have meetings, there have been talk about stabbings & shootings, have these items actually happened- would it be on record. Lt Webster only if reported will it be on record

Paul – Martin and Paul met with Captain Piper and Chief Singer, to discuss new security group and bike patrols.

Paul – FYI for board, captain did confirm parking enforcement personnel will be starting soon. There will be a total of two dedicated officers/parking enforcement personnel.

Anna – what about notification?

Paul – send out web blast and flyer – increased parking enforcement will be starting.

Lt. Webster – Year and half ago there was similar parking enforcement in the area

Sharon – during special event, parking structure needs to be opened early

Paul - spoke to helvey about it, maybe structure can stay open later, but need to work out problems with vandalism and homelessness

Lt. Webster – how late does Platinum Security work

Paul – depends, schedule is being worked on

Lt. Webster – maybe a telephone number can be posted

Carol – parking structure is opened early for antique street fair.

Sharon – was platinum approved for guns

Paul – No

Carol – Maybe Eileen can post Platinum's Telephone Number

Closed Session – This should not be included in Public Minutes

Paul Called a Closed Session at 6:28pm

Rodney Motioned and Jason Second for Treasures Report

Eileen – Office Report –

Lease Paid Thru October 20th – Just use postage thru that time
A box to return the postage machine is being sent

Office will be using Stamps.com

Anna – Car Show Closing Report –

All sponsors are paid in full
Eileen and Bernice rock – they did awesome

Next year is 10 year anniversary
Pleased with Sponsors
Car Registration is up by 200 cars

Anna will handle car show next year – wants to nurture some of the sponsors but then would like to see the car show to go to someone else to run since the car show belongs to the uptown area

5 non profit groups were able to raise money at the car show:

Whittier Redskins Cheer (not Whittier High)
National school for the Deaf
Masons
Good Sheppard
Palamino

No merchants can go onto the street without getting a one day health permit

Director of Health Department – Eric – slapped hands but said that next time this happens we will be written up and if again, we will not be allowed to sell food at all.

Sneeze guard is required

\$800 spent in washing stations

Jason – Small Business Workshop

Only three members showed up

4 emails and printed flyers were walked and handed out

What do we want to do?

Carol – Antique Street Fair – Scheduled for October 24th

Second month of advertising

Will be starting to make calls to see how many vendors will be coming
Permit is being worked on – wants them 60 days in advance

Rodney – Christmas Parade –

Next Wednesday at 7:00pm – September 2nd
13213 Hadley

Paul – Family Fair

Issue regarding artists in grassy area
Martin and Art agreed to walk with her to identify which merchants were
in direct competition

For past two weeks, vendors and friends of vendors have been sending
emails complaining about the removal of the vendors

Clarification – how are we going to handle meeting

Meeting will be ending at 8:30pm

Jason – dolphin events and other events are coming to give bids

Assessments – Datillos think they are going up –

End of Closed Session

7:00pm Doors Opened for General Membership Meeting

7:12pm General Membership Meeting

Mayor Bob Henderson – will let Tomas handle details – but is available to
answer any questions you may have

Tomas – Redevelopment Manager for Uptown Whittier and North of
Whittier Blvd – to help existing businesses do well, bring in new
businesses

Two new programs –

Program #1 - Businesses located in specific areas will be available for
window replacement and anti-etching film

Program #2 – Plans to improve your stores, or to expand, or to put in that unisex bathroom,

Banners and advertising – fees decreased

Please call the city for complete details –

Please visit insidewhittier.com for details

To be eligible for programs, you need to be current on your assessments and have a current business license

Paul – Discussing Budget

Jason – Discussing Web Site and Workshop

New website - whittieruptown.org
120,000 hits to the website from August until today
All items are posted on the website

Small Business Workshops – first session was less than desirable outcome
Program will be condensed and dates will be determined

Please visit website

Christmas Parade will start its planning meetings at 13213 Hadley on
September 2nd, 2009 at 7:00pm

Question – Yolanda – are minutes suppose to be made public

Paul had to re-announce that this is the General Membership Meeting and that there is a pre determined agenda that must be gone thru first

Members of the audience left upset that they were not allotted time to speak about the Wednesday night farmers market

Anna - Discussing Car Show – car show – event went very well and the following year will be its 10th year

Paul – Discussed Antique Show

Question – can merchants put a booth outside their store?

Answer – Planning meetings are starting, this will be discussed and information will be made available?

Martin – Discussing Sonata

Carriages, santa, pictures

Rodney – Christmas Parade planning meeting will be September 2nd

Paul – Family Fair Contract will be ending this year

Solutions are in the works,

Reiterating, contract ends in September and no new contract has been signed.

Lets please work on this issue together.

Friday Farmers Market –

At new location and numbers are up.

Had some complaints and we worked on solving the issues.

Chase Bank specifically was upset with patrons visiting the market were parking in their lot. First Day provides some volunteers and the parking situation has improved.

Starting soon will be parking enforcement.

Platinum Security is now patrolling the area. Trying to mix up times/schedules so that we can keep distractions/kids not sure when security will be around. Plus we have the bike patrol.

Security is suppose to be walking into each business passing out their cards with contact information. If you have a concern, please call security.

Merchant – Can we change Security to read Ambassador or something else?

Paul – We are working with Chief Singer and Captain Piper so security personnel will have different uniforms and wording possibly “Uptown Public Safety”.

Jason – please join the board and make the commitment to try to make this district better.

Platinum Security Representative – has a letter with contact information – also expressed gratitude for the warm reception that they have received from Merchants. Representative also shared

Paul – we have one more scheduled cleaning that will take place in November before the holiday season.

Thank you for allowing us to share our agenda with you

Martin – If you need to take care of something right away, please call 911. Private security is not intended to replace 911.

Paul – Business watch program is being discussed, but can only grow if we participate. Lt. Webster said he would help us coordinate and implement the program.

Question Session –

Sandra Hahn – great job on Car Show. Maybe do two car shows. Many of us need to invest more time with these events. I would like to propose that there be some form of facilitator can funnel the body of work and the events continue at the same level and to keep people in check.

Mike Brinegar – How much was collected in assessments?

Martin - \$96,000

Mike – We were budgeted for \$130,000

Mike/Martin:

Mike was past treasure of WUA, he did a fantastic job

Due to closures of businesses, what we collect has been impacted.

Paul – Wednesday evening can be formed to what we want it to be. Input from merchants is important.

Jason – we are not tied to Family Festival Productions, we are looking for competing bids and considering other options.

Marilyn Brinegar – since we lost July festival, Wednesday Night seems to have replaced the July festival. 15 years ago we had other events that are no longer taking place. Some of those events went away since certain board members left. It would be nice if we could get some of those events back. Certain events bring people into the business versus going into the street.

Paul – We are open to many events, please come to our board meetings and maybe chair or co chair an event. We are trying to do things to solve problems. Maybe any future contracts could be short termed to keep them attentive.

Rodney – we are 100% in favor of whittier

Sandra – what happened to the group charettes?

Marilyn – lets make the show a “Whittier” Show

Anna – would like to thank everyone for coming, please leave here knowing we are committed.

Tim/Manager of Havana House - when are we going to have meetings to discuss the Wednesday night event?

Paul – we had meetings, they grew into something else, a meeting date will be posted and emailed out

Veronica – have seen improvements, please look at flyer and what was written

Street cleaning, can it be rotated?

Paul – we are expanding the cleaning area. As for the flyer, we are trying to obtain structure for our meetings. As you can tell we are having question and answers.

Veronica – it was communicated that we could not talk

Unknown Merchant – Urine odor? Very embarrassing

Paul – with current festival, we are working on it

Unknown Merchant – added security is great, but why can't we have a community center or the old burger king be changed into something for the kids/undesirables.

Paul – it is not just an uptown issue, we are trying to build better relations, we are focused on communication

Meeting closed at 8:30pm.

