BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, August 19, 2026
4PM

Studio One Eleven Conference Room
245 E 3rd St
Long Beach, CA 90802

Voting Present: Mike Gold, Silissa Uriarte Smith, Bo Martinez, Christy Caldwell, Claudia Ayala, Clay Wood, Isidro Panuco, James Turner, Jess Evans, John Edmond, John Tully, Michael Vitug, Ryan La Rosa, Sam Pierzina, Solimar Salas, Thomas Pays, Whitney Neal
Voting Absent: Amy Chambers, Graham Gill, Sarah Brainard
Non-Voting Present: Alex Escobar, Michell Magaldi, Samantha Mehlinger, Stuart Takehara
Non-Voting Absent: Council District 1, Council District 2
DTLB Alliance Staff: Austin Metoyer, Jeremy Ancalade, Kelsey Ruiz, James Ahumada, Rodrigo Rodarte, Asia Morris, Juan Torres
Guests: Jim Liaw, Long Beach Grand Prix

1. CALL TO ORDER and INTRODUCTIONS – Mike Gold, Chair
   Meeting presentation. Called to order at 4:04PM.
   A. Chairperson's Remarks

CONSENT CALENDAR (Items 2 and 3)

2. SECRETARY REPORT: Minutes from June 17, 2026, Meeting
3. FINANCIAL REPORT: Year-To-Date Financials through June 2026
   ACTION: Approve Consent Calendar Items
   MOTION: 1st: Pierzina; 2nd: Panuco.
   VOTE: None opposed. No abstentions. Mays and Edmond not present for vote. Motion passes.

4. TIME CERTAIN
   Grand Prix, Jim Liaw | President
   - Liaw presented on the benefits the Grand Prix when it's in Long Beach. He engaged with the Board, asking for feedback on how this event could be improved upon.
   - Board members gave ideas on how the partnership could be enhanced.

5. UPDATE FROM ELECTED OFFICES
   - Elected offices not present.

6. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT - Gold
   A. Executive Committee Report
      i. Executive Committee Minutes*
   B. Governance Committee Report – Uriarte-Smith, Chair
      i. Election Slate Results
         - Uriarte Smith and Ruiz reviewed to process for Board elections, which ends with the ratification of ratepayer votes by the Board.
         - Ratepayers approved the slate of candidates for both DTLB districts, the Downtown Parking & Business Improvement Area (DPBIA) and Property-Based Improvement District (PBID).

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ACTION: Ratify slate results for DPBIA & PBID representatives for 2026-2027 Board of Directors
MOTION: 1st: Mays; 2nd: Vitug.
VOTE: None opposed. No abstentions. Motion passes.

ii. Board Appointments
- Uriarte Smith shared the process for considering and recommending individuals to fill appointed Board seats.
- After several days of interviews, the Governance Committee has made a recommendation to the Board.

ACTION: In accordance with DTLB Alliance Bylaws, approve candidates to serve on the Board of Directors effective October 1, 2026.
MOTION: 1st: Edmond; 2nd: Ayala.
VOTE: None opposed. No abstentions. Motion passes.

iii. Committee Structure & Community Engagement
- Metoyer explained why the organization is adjusting the way it engages with the community.
- Rather than structured programming committees, staff and the Governance Committee are recommending the utilization of community forums, ad hoc committees, and working groups. This new system will modernize engagement with community members, allowing for more opportunities to get involved.
- Feedback from the staff and Board during the Strategic Plan refresh led to this shift.

ACTION: Review and approve Bylaw amendments.
MOTION: 1st: Tully; 2nd: Uriarte Smith.
VOTE: None opposed. No abstentions. Motion passes.

7. PRESIDENT & CEO REPORT – Austin Metoyer
   A. Presentation on FY26-27 Draft Budget
      - Metoyer and Ancalade briefly reviewed the draft budget. This document was reviewed by the Finance Committee and Executive Committee twice, and was provided to the full Board for an opportunity for feedback.
      - This budget was developed with the three strategic focus priority areas identified in the Strategic Plan refresh in mind.

   ACTION: Approve the FY 2026-2027 draft budget as presented and recommended by the Executive Committee.
   MOTION: 1st: Uriarte Smith; 2nd: Tully.
   VOTE: None opposed. No abstentions. Motion passes.

   B. Update on Galaxy Soccer Celebration Event
      - Metoyer reviewed the statistics of this event, noting the overwhelming positive impact it had on all aspects of the community.

   C. Misc. Updates

8. OLD BUSINESS
9. NEW BUSINESS
10. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE BOARD
11. PUBLIC COMMENTS (three minutes on all non-agenda items)
    A. Individuals in person
    B. Individuals online

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12. BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION
    A. Personnel: President & CEO Evaluation – Mike Gold

13. OPEN SESSION
14. ADJOURNMENT
    Adjourned at 5:49PM.

NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING:
October 21 – Time TBD
Location: TBD
Mission: Cultivate, preserve and promote a healthy, safe and prosperous Downtown for all.

All meetings held by the Downtown Long Beach Alliance shall be conducted in compliance with the Brown Act, California Government Code Section 54950 et seq., and its requirement that public commissions, boards, councils, and public agencies conduct business openly. E-Mail correspondence regarding agenda items can be directed to info@dtlb.org. Agenda items may also be reviewed as posted in public view at the DLBA offices or at City Hall. If special accommodation is desired pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, please make your request by phone to (562) 436-4259, by noon the day prior to the meeting.

DTLB Alliance Meeting Protocol

Respectful Dialogue Disagree with ideas, not individuals. Focus criticism on proposals and data rather than making personal attacks or questioning motives. Frame disagreements as "I see it differently because..." rather than "You're wrong about..."

Active Listening Allow speakers to finish their points before responding. Ask clarifying questions when you don't understand rather than making assumptions about what someone means.

Meeting Protocol Wait to be recognized by the chair before speaking. Avoid talking over others or jumping in mid-sentence, even during informal discussions. Raise your hand or use agreed-upon signals to indicate you'd like to contribute.

Constructive Engagement Come prepared with specific alternatives when raising concerns. Instead of simply opposing an idea, suggest improvements or different approaches that address your concerns.

Professional Communication Maintain composure even during heated discussions. Avoid interrupting, side conversations, or dismissive body language. Keep voices at conversational levels.

Focused Discussion Stay on agenda topics and respect time limits. Save tangential conversations for breaks or separate meetings. Help redirect discussion when it veers off course.

Confidentiality Respect the confidential nature of board discussions. What's said in the boardroom stays in the boardroom unless explicitly approved for external sharing.

Decision Support Once decisions are made, support them publicly even if you voted against them. Present a unified front while preserving your right to dissent in board minutes.

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Preparation and Participation Review materials in advance and come ready to contribute meaningfully. Balance speaking up with creating space for others to participate.

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