



**DOWNTOWN  
LONG BEACH  
ALLIANCE**

## GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, July 22, 2020

10 AM

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Meeting ID: 859 9858 7759

Password: 560047

**Voting Present:** Alan Pullman, Sheva Hosseinzadeh, Allison Kripp, Griselda Suarez, Jeremy Harris

**DLBA Staff:** Kraig Kojian, Cherisse Evans, Broc Coward, Monica Morrill, Sam Mehlinger

**Guests:** Vilma Battad

CALL TO ORDER and INTRODUCTIONS – Alan Pullman, Chair

**MEETING PRESENTATION.** Meeting called to order at 10:05 AM.

I. APPROVE MINUTES

**ACTION:** Approve Minutes from [June 24, 2020 Meeting](#)

**MOTION:** 1<sup>st</sup>: Kripp. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Hosseinzadeh.

**VOTE:** None opposed, no abstentions. Motion carries.

2. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – Pullman

A. Review Board Vacancies

I. Review recommendations for Board vacancy: DPIA East Village

- Maggie Stoll: She needs to be removed from consideration.
- Julie Darrell has shown interest but have not confirmed her availability to serve. Suarez will reach out to Darrell again.
- Hosseinzadeh and Kripp met with both Crystal Early and Shawna Epps and think they both have experience that would make them good candidates.
- Kojian would like to keep the search open for another month or more. He asked Harris if he would check in his database at the Chamber for possible candidates. He also suggested the committee reach out to the East Village Association directly for a list of individuals that might be interest in serving.
- Kojian also mentioned our recent conversations about inclusion and diversity and wants to take this opportunity to make sure we are reaching all members of our community. He also identified a need to do more assertive posting on social media.
- Suarez mentioned the owner of A Beautiful Florist and also suggested asking blacked-owned business associations for recommendations.
- Pullman asked what the timeline is for filling this vacancy and how urgent it is. Kojian says there is no timeline but does want to focus on filling this vacancy.
- Pullman asked if there are other sources for finding potential candidates. Kojian answered that we could consider reaching out to the neighborhood associations, making a stronger connection with those organizations, and giving them an opportunity to get recognize someone in their association that would like to become more involved. Kojian would like to see what results we get with this approach over the next 30 days.
- We will follow up with the two candidates that the committee has met with and let them know the next steps in this process.

B. Monthly Board Candidate introductions:

i. [Vilma Battad](#)

The committee met with Vilma Battad and learned more about her interest in the Downtown community and the organization. Will follow up with Battad after the meeting to keep her informed of opportunities.

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Kraig Kojian

A. Organizational Inclusion and Diversity

[LB Arts Board Skills Inventory](#)

- Suarez introduced the inventory form the Long Beach Arts Council Board has been using since 2016 (with some recent changes) to regularly review where their Board may have gaps in skills as well as diversity.
- Kojian asked how the Arts Council includes this inventory in their strategic plan. Suarez says they use it to determine if they are not adequately representing certain communities and strive to improve diversity.
- Pullman asked if there were any Arts Council members opposed to filling out the form. Suarez said most people expect it and are thankful to have the opportunity to self-identify. Kojian asked if there are any legal concerns and if the City Attorney's office has been consulted. Suarez answered they have not. The information is only made public by numbers (not names) and is reported to the County. They are required to ask individuals if their information can be shared as public information.
- Kripp, Hosseinzadeh and Pullman expressed interest in trying this sort of inventory with our current Board. Kojian added that it is important to have a consensus amongst this committee before presenting this idea to the Executive Committee.
- Pullman wants to better understand the public nature of this type of survey. **Kojian says he will check with the legal aspects with the City Attorney's office. He will also reach out to counterparts at other Downtown BIDS to see what type of questions they are asking and what processes they have in place to ensure diversity in their organizations. Pullman will also reach out to the Urban Land Institute (ULI) to learn more about how they are addressing this issue. Hosseinzadeh will look to find possible contacts at the ICSC.**

4. OLD BUSINESS

5. NEW BUSINESS

6. PUBLIC COMMENT (three minutes on all non-agenda items)

7. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 11:25 AM.

**NEXT GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING:**

**Wednesday, August 26, 2020**

**10 AM**

**Location: TBD**

***Mission: Cultivate, preserve, and promote a healthy, safe, and prosperous Downtown***

All meetings held by the Downtown Long Beach Alliance shall be conducted in compliance with the Brown Act, California Government Code Section 54950 et s, and its requirement that public commissions, boards, councils, and public agencies conduct business openly.

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