

WSCO Board of Directors Meeting  
May 11, 2015

Present: Salina Amey, Lewis Dixon, Amelia Holcomb, Kathy Larson, Carol Swenson, Ruth Lott, Alice Martin, Alicia Lucio. Guests: Karen Reid from NeDA, Troy Parkinson from MN Film and Television. Staff: Christine Shyne, Mason Wells

Absent: Dan Martinez, Benjamin Mike, Joe Gould, Krysten Ryba-Tures, Matthew Bergeron, Pam Welisevich, Nicholas Bundt, Armando Luna, Melissa Johnson (alt.), Nancy Negrette.

6:35pm – Called to order.

Consent Agenda

- March agenda, April minutes, April finance report, April Fundraising Report, April Cashflow. Board reviewed documents. Motion to approve agenda by Kathy, second by Salina.
  - Unanimously approved.

72 Cesar Chavez Proposal

- 72 Cesar Chavez Project description
  - First floor: public plazas, commercial space, parking garage
  - Residential: forty units
  - Concerns going forward: only a portion of the land is buildable and it's a triangle; development will require a water management system that can address water coming down bluff; bedrock is only a couple of feet down.
- Office/commercial development at 430 South Robert St with Lunning Wende Associates, Inc. NeDA will be on second floor with WSCO. There is also a meeting room on this level.
  - First floor: public plaza, community commercial space
  - Second floor: WSCO and NeDA offices
  - Roof: conference room deck, solar panels, green roof
- Kathy moves to support plan as presented today, second by Carol.
  - Unanimously approved.

MN Film and TV Introduction (Filming on West Side?)

- Feature film may be coming to town, as they are still in the process of location scouting. Troy from MN Film TV is a production agent that lives in the area and is looking forward to keeping WSCO updated with any films that may come to the area.
  - This production begins in June and will finish in August.

Community Engagement Steering Committee Sign On

- Community Engagement Steering Committee is a coalition group that is organizing around standards for community engagement with larger organizations regarding various issues such as transportation, etc. This is also an opportunity for WSCO publicity and community and board involvement.
- Motion to sign on to this committee by Carol, second by Salina.
  - Unanimously approved.

Task Force Updates/Committee Updates

- Crime and Safety Committee met on Thursday. Issues brought up include:
  - Frequency of meetings – committee will meet more frequently and will have meetings for both residents and businesses. First Thurs. for residents; third Thurs. for businesses.
  - Meeting awareness – do some targeted outreach
  - Meeting content – SPPD updates, diversity and calls to action
  - Tracking impact – track attendee numbers at meetings and social events
  - Planning for future meetings – looking to better engage community
- RDLU Committee met. Issues brought up include:
  - Residential design standards in zoning code that determine many minutia such as windows and sizes set forth by Highland/Mac-Groveland neighborhoods. Pushed through city. RDLU motioned on behalf of WSCO to slow down process to facilitate more neighborhood engagement throughout the city. Other district councils did the same.
  - WSMFP: supported by the committee following WSCO email approval. Carol spoke regarding WSCO's support of the plan. Dave Thune will also be presenting some amendments at the next meeting. The negotiated heights will remain untouched. The only thing that has changed is regarding zoning category. Attend next city council meeting if concerned at all.
    - Motion for the board to continue supporting the WSMFP as it currently stands and RDLU committee's support Lewis, second by Alicia.
      - Unanimously approved.
- Placemaking workshop took place last Saturday.
  - There will be grants for artists that will do some community artwork. This work will be highlighted at the Art on the Avenue event on July 25.
  - Those interested in placemaking mini grant creating art should partner with a community organization to get involved. Deadline is June 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Re: Hawkins, Inc. decision appeal
  - Appeal to the city made re: zoning decision for Hawkins, Inc leasing extra land for industrial use. This appeal will be addressed at the city council meeting on May 20 (to be confirmed). Although several WSCO members have been involved with this issue, it's difficult to spread information and organize opposition without WSCO's support. There are many legal and environmental arguments against the expansion.
    - Motion for the WSCO board to oppose the expansion of Hawkins, Inc. footprint by Salina, second by Lewis.
      - Friendly amendment to the motion that WSCO board oppose the conditional use permit that Hawkins, Inc. applied for, support the appeal made by community members, and establish a task force to address environmental issues in the Southport area.
        - Unanimously approved.

Board 30-Second News Updates

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8:50 pm – Motion to adjourn by Lewis, second by Alicia. Meeting adjourned.