

WSCO Board of Directors Meeting  
September 14, 2015

Present: Salina Amey, Amelia Holcomb, Kathy Larson, Christine Shyne, Carol Swenson, Ruth Lott, Alicia Lucio, Joe Gould, Krysten Ryba-Tures, Matthew Bergeron, Pam Welisevich, Nicholas Bundt, Nancy Negrette. Guests: Monica Bryand, Gerry Burquist, Diggitt McLaughlin.

Absent: Lewis Dixon, Alice Martin, Dan Martinez, Benjamin Mike, Armando Luna, Melissa Johnson (alt.).

6:35pm – Called to order.

Consent Agenda

- September agenda, August minutes, August finance report, August Fundraising Report, August Cashflow. Board reviewed documents. Motion to approve agenda by Matthew Bergeron, second by Salina Amey.
  - Unanimously approved.

RDLU Recommendations and Vote

- Carol Swenson spoke about Sherman Assoc. CUP (Matthew B. steps out d/t legal firm representing aforementioned corp.) timeline henceforth provided to board with main issue being building heights and green space, as well as timeline of upcoming approval schedule. Jerry also spoke to the issue about keeping in mind the fact that this has been a 13-year plan and shorter buildings will more likely accent the neighborhood. The restaurant that will occupy the space as encouraged by the mayor also says adequate parking is needed. Current WSMFP (plan B) discussed: has larger footprint in front building with a little less green space, but heights are lower toward the river and higher toward Fillmore Ave. RDLU committee did not specifically make any more recommendations, but seemed to feel that plan B was preferable.
  - Salina spoke to preferring green space to lower building heights d/t the angle of sight from riverboats.
  - Carol stated that Lucy's staff report is due the 24th and in-person voting is preferred to electronic.
  - Joe Gould spoke in favor of plan A, while Krysten Ryba-Tures spoke in favor of plan B.
  - Motion by Joe Gould that the board passes the formal vote to RDLU that the WSCO board takes an electronic vote only if RDLU votes against original supported plan. Then recommend forwarding decision to Lucy between plans A and B, Alicia Lucio to second.

Task Force Updates/Committee Updates

- Crime and Safety
  - About 15 attended the committee meeting. The neighborhood has been pretty quiet generally with regard to crime. The group then discussed how the community can focus more on safety rather than crime. Discussed resources to address crime and safety in the future. Ideas for a November event regarding safety, WSCO awareness, and possible volunteer work. Next meeting is potluck on first Thursday of October and will be at abandoned lot at Stryker and King by the community garden.
- RDLU
  - Most of time was spent talking about WSMFP project. No more to report.
- Sustainable Living

- Discussed that PORT group will report to SL committee in the future. Also discussed that the committee might change its name again.
- Bylaws
  - Although there will not be many substantive changes, the group is working on updating terminology that reflects the evolution of the organization. Substantive changes include possible procedural modifications and filling in some holes. Will likely bring changes to board for a vote in the next month or two. Would also be beneficial to continue work toward clear policies and procedures in the next year.
- Annual Meeting
  - Will address during timeline item.

#### Parque de Castillo Improvements

- CIB funding secured. Moving into next phase of development: redesign that includes more discussion and community engagement. Rick Hernandez is quite involved, is grandson of Castillo. Group will hear about more information in the future.

#### Timeline to End of Year (inc. Annual Meeting)

- September: candidate forums, preparations for board retreat, planning teams for Oct events and annual meeting.
- October: board retreat Oct 17, Oct community building event, annual meeting planning, tailgate Oct 1, equity PED dialogue.
- November: elections Nov 3, community building event Nov 7th.
- December: annual meeting on Dec 6, new board members meet and greet on Dec 14.

#### Board Member 30-Second Promotions/News Updates

- Big River Pizza new in Lowertown neighborhood. Saints season is over so plenty of parking.
- West Side Haircare has openings.
- West Side Wednesdays starting September 30th, shuttle available.
- New Gang Prevention Program at Neighborhood House on Wednesdays, Tuesday outreach for kids on probation.
- Program at Wentworth Library on Wednesday about bees.
- Birds in the Hood show in Mpls at Peace Coffee. Upcoming climate change presentations in planning with Audubon Society.
- Transit meetings that focus on walking/biking upcoming. Talk to Carol Swenson if interested.
- Don't forget about Thursday (9/17) candidate forum! Keep the candidates aware of West Side.
- MNDOT open house about bridge and road repairs to take place at Capital View Café from 5-7pm tomorrow (9/15).

#### Evaluation

- All in attendance felt that the board meeting was a more productive, focused, positive experience.

7:50 pm – Motion to adjourn by Amelia Holcomb, second by Nancy Negrette. Meeting adjourned.