

WeCAN Board Meeting

June 23, 2016 - 6:00pm

2531 Quitman St. Denver, CO 80212

Board Members Present: Alan Burch, Diana Dietvorst, Jim Dietvorst, Cindy Gallard, Dave Justice (recording), Nadia Patrick, Josh Patrick, Leah Rounds, Megan Yonke

General Members Present: Maria Todd

Guests

- Ron Abbot, Seedstock Brewery
- Michael McKee

6:00 - Call to Order

Seedstock Brewery Patio Application

Leah opened the meeting to discuss zoning regarding 3610 W Colfax. Ron Abbot, co-owner of Seedstock Brewery presented an overview of the requested change. The owners of the building as well as Seedstock Brewery have submitted an application for a zoning change to support a patio application. The plan is for patio to face north. It will be in the corner of the "L" shaped building. This will be presented at a zoning hearing. A variance is needed because the brewery is less than 50 feet away from a residential structure. Ron has a letter of support from the neighbor that is less than 50 feet away.

Nadia inquired if they had inquired also with the renters of the home if they were supportive. Ron mentioned that they've had an informal conversation and that the neighbor is supportive although they don't necessarily patronize the brewery.

Ron spoke about the brewery. Opened it with his brother as well as another friend. They're happy to be in West Colfax. Has been opened for 2.5 months. Business in West Colfax is doing well and Seedstock is exceeding projections.

Typically this would be something that we would present to the general membership but we don't have a general meeting in July. Ron requested a letter expressly from the board in support of the zoning request.

Leah motioned that we wrote a letter from the board. Nadia seconded. Motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

Budget

Cindy distributed a number of budget reports for 2015 and 2016. We are at a burn rate of about \$6000/year. We need to perform fundraising to support that level of expenditures. Discussion around the criteria that we could use in order to accept donations from businesses. Jim suggested that we could have businesses sign a good neighbor agreement. There were some concerns regarding that appearing as a quid pro quo. There was discussion on requesting contributions from local businesses strictly as a contribution to the work WeCAN is doing in the neighborhood. This may be something that the marketing committee can look into after the branding work is complete.

Cindy requested input on whether we accept the budget as proposed and how we communicate the budget. It was suggested that we distribute reporting quarterly via email to the board.

Alan suggested that we have both a balance sheet and cashflow statement and that our cash flow could be done on an accrual basis. We will show quarterly cash disbursements as well as projected fundraising.

Cindy discussed the donation to Confluence Ministries. Reviewed prior donations to Confluence Ministries. Cindy proposed that we make the \$500 donation to Confluence.

Nadia motioned that we revisit the budget in 3 months. Megan seconded. Motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

Windchime Project in Lakewood Gulch

Michael McKee discussed his application for the PS You Are Here grant. This is a grant that requires partnership with a place based organization to beautify or have a project in a community. Prior, the grant was given to individual organizations. There were issues with that approach and now the application is submitted through place based organizations. Michael was partnering with Villa Park which fell through. Michael is proposing that WeCAN applies on behalf of Michael's project.

The project is a series of standing windchimes that are placed in groups through pedestrian corridors. Michael presented the concept along with a prototype windchime. The number of chimes to be installed would depend on the funding that was granted. They will not be high decibel. Michael was concerned there would be noise issues with wildlife.

At the end of the project, the chimes would be removed. If they are wood, they will have a finite duration. If they are metal, they will have a longer life. Project length is open ended. Michael proposed in the initial application that the duration would be 6 months (to be installed after the snow melt).

PS You Are Here would promote this through the City of Denver. Michael would also promote the installation through Helicopter Copter.

Cindy inquired whether we would be responsible for the installation and removal. WeCAN would not be required to but would be welcome to participate.

Alan asked if the grant money would be distributed to WeCAN who would then distribute the money to Michael or other labor required in order to complete the installation. Michael indicated that this would be the case.

Jim asked if there was any permitting in order to complete that installation. Michael mentioned that he had contacted Denver Parks and Rec. They would have to permit the installation but are willing to discuss after the funding is received.

There were some questions regarding the stability of the installations and the potential liability if someone would injure themselves. Nadia did not think that this would be a concern so long as they are permitted.

Discussed how we might be able to involve the community in an event to paint or install the chimes. There were some discussion points regarding graffiti or vandalism. Perhaps if there is already art on the chimes, they will be less likely to be vandalized.

Applications open in August 2016 and installation would begin in the spring of 2017.

There was discussion in regard to keeping the installation, geographically, in the West Colfax neighborhood. There was some concern that we may not want WeCAN to be sponsoring an initiative that is located in other RNOs' areas.

Nadia motioned that we be the place based organization that would sponsor the grant. Leah seconded. Motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

Marketing/Outreach Committee Branding Update

Megan gave an overview of the work that is being done on the marketing committee and the outreach to stakeholders to gather feedback about the perception and attitudes toward WeCAN. The purpose of this work is to get more neighbors involved in volunteering, community events, fundraising, etc.

Megan presented anonymous feedback from the stakeholders grouped into themes.

Megan presented the initial concepts of the new WeCAN logo. There was discussion about the logo and feedback about the overall design. This feedback will be taken back by the marketing committee for inclusion in the logo design. The next steps are a few more weeks of iteration with Karen and then a soft launch at the neighborhood festival. We'll gauge the feedback and then have a hard launch at the general meeting on August 9th. We will also have a write-up in the August newsletter about the effort and the reasons behind it.

Neighborhood Festival Planning

The West Colfax Neighborhood Festival is Saturday August 6. WeCAN will be participating and will have a booth and will be doing water and lemonade again. We need to bring our own tent, tables, and chairs. Need to check on if we have a tent and we may need to buy/borrow one. Need to let Jeanette know if we have any raffle or large item giveaway so that they can announce it.

General Meeting Planning

We will be launching the new WeCAN logo and branding at this meeting. Karen Adams will be presenting an overview of the logo and the development process.

Nadia will ask EFG and Alamo if they will present an update at the meeting.

Nadia has reached out to all of the District Attorney candidates in order to gauge interest in a DA forum at a future meeting. We need to wait until the primary to know who the candidate will be. The Barnum and Villa Park RNOs want to participate in the forum with us. September or October would be good potential meetings for this activity since it will be closer to elections.

Josh wants to do a Sustainability workshop at one of the future general meetings. This may work well for the September general meeting.

Responsible Use Denver wants to educate WeCAN on the cannabis social use measures. May consider this for a future meeting.

Other Business

There is a townhouse development at 12th and Perry right at the light rail station. The developer wants our support on the rezoning. This may not be something that we take a position on. Nadia told the developer to talk to the neighbors and get back to us.

Discussed the ZAG. We don't think that there is a need to have something formal for this and will handle this on an adhoc basis.

No update from the ByLaws Committee.

8:20 - Adjourn