

## WeCan General Membership Meeting 3/8/16

Call to order: 6:07 p.m.

- There was no update from Denver Police District One. The community resource officer roll is in transition.
- City Council District 3 Town Hall meeting will be held on Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup> from 10-11:30 a.m. at the Corky Gonzales Library. Council Lopez's office handed out the district winter newsletter. You can also sign up to get the newsletter emailed to you at [denvergov.org](http://denvergov.org).
- Council District 1 announced a Historic Preservation Forum that will be held on Saturday March 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. at Edison Elementary School. The presentation will give information on resources to help maintain and support historic homes and places in Northwest Denver. Councilman Rafael Espinosa and Nostalgic Homes are sponsoring the event. Rita Contreras is no longer working with City Council District 1.
- Bring more streetlights to the district. Your block can petition to get a middle of the block street light with 75% of the homeowner's signatures for that strip. Your block might have to ask the public works about neighborhood design to know exactly what to expect. For instance lighting on both sides of the alley are okay, or Public Works wants streetlight placement that is not disturbing to residents' homes. The Public Works newsletter distributed at the meeting lists Xcel's number.
- Boxtops for Education are each worth 10 cents, and collected at WeCan meetings. This provides funding that helps support a one on one reading program at Colfax Elementary.
- WeCan is looking for volunteers who are willing to deliver their newsletter door to door five times each year.
- Denver Digs Trees will be held on Saturday April 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. WeCan helps plant the trees. Coffee and donuts are served before everyone goes out to dig tree holes. Contact Josh Patrick if you are interested in helping, [jpatrick0611@gmail.com](mailto:jpatrick0611@gmail.com) call 303-578-6263.
- Girls Inc is having a garage sale May 20th and May 21st if you have anything to donate to them call 303-893-4363.
- Dianna Divorst is the Extreme Community Makeover (ECM) outreach coordinator for WeCan and Confluence ministries. Angela Bomgaars is founder and Executive Director of ECM. When Angela asked how many WeCan members have participated there were many shows of hands. The way it works is ECM adopts a block at a time to do clean up, yard work and painting. Volunteers get out in the neighborhood a couple weeks ahead of time to do door knocking. For whoever is interested, ECM comes out and helps them clean up on May 21<sup>st</sup>. ECM requests help in spreading the word, and to handout

brochures. Another workday will be in the fall on Saturday October 8th. The goal of the workdays are to help people know each other better when they work together. Each of the workdays try and identify a partner. If you know of a business, see if they will sponsor renting a dumpster. The neighborhood teams identify one person that help with recruitment and spreading the word. Social media can be helpful in letting neighbors know what is going on. Volunteers are not obliged to something that they are not willing to do, but keep in mind teams need to gather enough people to get a project done. Different people who work on those days find it a lot of fun. Teams gather for lunch, and generally try and be finished at 4:00 p.m. at the latest if a project runs long. Try and use your time wisely and get the project finished. The more people who volunteer on May 21<sup>st</sup> the more sustainability points WeCan earns. All ages are welcome as long as they are supervised at what they are doing.

- Representative Dan Pabon for HD4 spoke at the meeting. Sign up for Representative Pabon's newsletter to keep current. Representative Pabon talked about three bills he is currently sponsoring at the State House. One bill addresses the problem where scammers are targeting undocumented citizens by selling specialized appointments that otherwise take three to six months to schedule for hundreds of dollars. Representative Pabon's bill will make this practice illegal. A second bill is to limit the funding that goes into the school board elections; presently there are no limits on the contributions that school board candidates can collect. This bill aims at bringing transparency and accountability to the amount of funds that can be contributed for these types of elections. A third bill that Representative Pabon presented is a bipartisan issue. This bill would replace the caucus system in Colorado with the primary system. This issue will be discussed further at the capital on March 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Re-imagine Colfax program is still underway. Dan Shaw the coordinator of this effort could not show up, but you can always visit the Re-imagine website for an update.

Adjourn 6:50 p.m.