

## WeCan General Membership Meeting 4/12/16

Call to order: 6:07 p.m.

### Announcements

- Tree planting day 04/16/2016 1410 Stuart St at 9:00 a.m. 2 homes this time 4 trees.
  - Coffee and donuts send off
  - Have enough volunteers at this point
- Neighborhood event April 19<sup>th</sup> at the brewery West Colfax Business district.
- WeCAN needs help delivering the paper copy of the newsletter about every other month or five times per calendar year. The electronic version still goes out monthly by way of email.
- Extreme Community Makeover (ECM) is Saturday May 21<sup>st</sup> as is the Great Denver Cleanup. Volunteers are needed for both programs. Cleanup projects of the various alleys. If you have ideas for TLC a signup sheet is located in the back of tonight's meeting.
  - Also cleanup and touchups of the community.
  - Full on constructions are questionable and the projects are more like yard work. Ask Dianna if they can help the family that needs the handicap ramp.
  - Alleys that have graffiti.
  - Hopefully this time there won't be as much to do in the alleys, and it will hopefully be more of picking up stuff versus hauling stuff away
- Box Tops for Education are collected at every general meeting, Colfax Elem is trying to raise \$20,000 to support Reading Partners.
- A second call for volunteers: Again WeCAN is looking for volunteers who are willing to deliver their newsletter door to door five times each year.
- Girls Inc is having a garage sale May 20th and May 21st if you have anything to donate to them call 303-893-4363. There will be no WeCAN garage sale this year, so donate your unwanted items to Girls Inc.
- Revitalizing West Colfax. No funding yet for this project, but there is a city study going on. The full 40+ slides PowerPoint presentation can be found at . Some of the slides bring to light:
  - Observation that the real estate market is strong.
  - Councilman Lopez's slant; Micro Loans each person puts in a little money, this happens in Rochester NY successfully.
  - Mobility and connectivity challenges.
  - Figures at the Mayor's office very expensive. Hundreds of millions of dollars.

- Cloverleaf seems to pose a problem because it is crossing over the railroad tracks and with cost and design it is just not feasible to change at this point.
- Lots of planning, limited action.
- A lot of the thoughts are around what can be done around the Auraria campus. Perhaps change will occur if the RNO consolidate on this issue.
- Design elements can happen when storefronts are pushed back 100 feet.
- Manage on-street parking. Belmar as an example of a business district that gets all of the proceeds from parking, and if this were to happen all of the proceeds could go into the Colfax improvements.
- Change and development observations; lack of communication
- Opportunity to knit together existing emerging health and promoting ideas, explore supermarket potential.
- Modes to promote affordable housing. Inclusivity. Safeguard and preserve the existing residential community.
- Reinforce historic and Latino presence.
- In revisiting the Clover Leaf the community might be better off asking for more lighting.
- Recommendation, develop ultra urban green infrastructure financing program. City is developing long term storm water plan.
- Develop local matching programs for Denver GO bond issue.
- Develop Pilot project on Perry St to simultaneously address north south connectivity.
- Collaborate with someone like Xcel, regulations would need to be changed
- Design development- Having a say in public art say, parking strategies, deteriorated signage.
- Micro loans are a good idea to promote affordable housing within new construction.
- Support local entrepreneurs.
- Leverage major investments already made.
- Actionable implementation items.
- Engage community to determine priorities; what the neighborhood as a whole needs.
- Promise Zone grant gives leverage for future grants. Clusters money, helps revitalize or transform a community. Sun Valley referenced, CNI granted a 30M justice grant. Ended up doing better now in the third and final round but will help all eight neighborhoods.
- New community resource officer Bob Anderson.
  - Increase in crime.
  - We were doing better than a 7% increase in other parts of the city though.

- More people than more opportunities for crime.
- Increase in auto theft and burglary.
- 28 day crime strategy meeting coming up, sit down neighborhood by neighborhood what is going down.
- 90 incidents in the last 28 days in the entire neighborhood, some include
  - Going up and down the street and breaking in the cars.
  - Opportunity. Posted interview what they were looking for; visit the crime blog on nextdoor.com for updates.
  - There were specific in the types of houses corner lots under constructions. And then the noise occurs they would not realize that it was not construction.
- Get the tactics look out for each other talk to neighbors get them involved get them engaged.
- Use of Database.
- Theft of the license plate from the vehicles.
- Grants for tamperproof screws for license plates and make available for people who need them. When they do become available they will let the co presidents know.
- Propane tanks being stolen, across the street from each other.
- Online crime reports are not as good as actually communicating to the officers, so that it gets blasted out to the other officers.

Adjourn 7:12 p.m.