

WeCAN General Membership Meeting - 8/9/2016

Tuesday, August 9, 2016

5:59 PM

- I. Call to order 6:02 PM
- II. Announcements
 - o Art and Music Festival this weekend
 - o School starting on August 22nd
 - o Clean-up day - Saturday, October 8th
 - o WeCAN also collecting school supplies
- III. Report from DPD District 1 Community Resource Officer, Bob Anderson
 - o Crime map available for all meeting attendees
 - o Encouraged attendees to be aware of ongoing threat of theft from motor vehicles
 - o On community rounds, officers planning to post reminder letters when see valuable items
 - o Tamper-free license plates available at every police station to prevent threat of theft - free for Denver residents
 - o It is fireworks season. They have an enforcement unit out patrolling the neighborhood and have given out many citations confiscated large volumes of fireworks.
 - o August 20th City Park fundraiser event - come donate school supplies
 - o Homeless population being pushed out to our neighborhood from downtown, resulting in increased loitering and camping in the Lakewood Gulch, especially on corner of Colfax and Perry, over last 30 days. Bob recommended that we address our issues to our council members
- IV. Karen Adams, design student at the Rocky Mountain College of Art + Design (RMCAD)
 - o Karen highlighted the elements for the new design and discussed the process. She led development of the new branding, in coordination with the Branding and Marketing Committee. Step one included review of existing RNO marketing pieces. Step two included stakeholder interviews. The designs went through several iterations and were approved by the WeCAN Board.
 - o Colors in the brand represent diversity of the neighborhood, as well as the design of the Rodolfo "Corky" Gonzalez Branch Library. The tree represents sustainability, which is very important to our community. The logo maintains the WeCAN name.
- V. Business development along W. Colfax update - Dan Shah, Director of the West Colfax BID and Cameron Bertron of EnviroFinance Group
 - o Dan Shah
 - Discussed new art crosswalks that were installed over the weekend on the corners of Colfax/Raleigh and Colfax/Perry. In addition to highlighting local artists (Studio Completiva - provided pro bono), these crosswalks will contribute to placemaking and provide a speed barrier for safety. This project was a collaboration with communities along East Colfax.
 - The BID is planning more hardscape changes, looking for funding in 2017 CIP for the City of Denver. They are working collaboratively with East Colfax to get

more city attention. They need community help and support on a potential bond issue to fund these projects.

- The Colorado Health Foundation is launching projects focused on east side of neighborhood, building ties in Sun Valley to activate and improve wayfinding in the Lakewood Gulch. They are holding a community meeting to kickoff this project on August 16th.
- The Food Coop will soon complete a market feasibility study and plans to hold a Harvest festival in September/October. More information forthcoming.

o Cameron Bertron

- There is new business activity in the St. Anthony's development. Now that most parcels have been sold, the development will be rebranded (new website expected in October), and we will see more of the other property owners.
- Updates: The Lakehouse, condos and townhomes, will break ground in the winter. Litigation is still a consideration, but development is moving forward. The Alexan is 70 percent leased. Tab and Burger is planning to open in September. He is not sure of the Starbucks opening date, but it is anticipated within the next two months. The Alamo has broken ground and should be open in Summer 2017. The first tenant has moved into the office building at the corner of Conejos and Raleigh. We should expect an announcement of the new restaurant on the northeast corner of the property soon. The underground water reservoir is being completed on the parcel between Perry and Quitman, and construction on townhomes will begin soon. Design of the Sloans Community Garden is starting soon. Colfax Elementary School buried a time capsule.
- Alamo is hosting a free outdoor film at Sloan's Lake, School of Rock, on August 26th. The film will start at dusk, but pre-events will begin at 5:00 pm.
- Abatement will be completed on the old auto building on the corner of Colfax and Quitman in October. Demolition will begin thereafter. The future of this property will be Denver Housing Authority public and affordable housing in a 5/7 story building, as well as a community health clinic. DHA is applying for tax credits, New Market Tax Credits, and DURA support and should know whether they received this support in November/December. They will hold community meetings in September. If all goes well, they will start construction in mid-2017.
- The Kuhlman building will stay. Koelbel is probably developing workforce rental apartment housing. They plan to consolidate funding in November/December and begin construction next year.

- Adjourned at 7:05