

WSCO Board of Directors Meeting Notes
Monday, September 11th
6:30-8:30 pm 209 Page St. W

Agenda

- Welcome and Public Comments
- Consent Agenda
- Recap West Side Action to Equity
- Bylaw Revision
- Position on Menthol Cigarette Sales Moratorium in St. Paul
- Annual Meeting Brainstorm and Recruitment
- Closed Session of the Board

Meeting Notes

- Krysten calls to action 6:33pm
- No public guests present
- Consent Agenda
 - Will be writing a letter about train spill that Ramsey County was not made aware of because the front of the train was in Dakota
 - Still waiting on some Met Council Funds
 - Some issues with online banking -- exploring other banks
 - Bush grant submitted
 - Looking at doing some corporate fundraising (like Comcast here) and/or through board members employers
 - Nick Johnson moves to approve, Jen Crea seconds -- approved unanimously
- Recap West Side Action to Equity
 - Turnout was great
 - Good mix in the room, of course always looking to get more communities of color, this format gives us something solid to work on -- How to Kill a City book club
 - Thank you email blast will have the materials from the conference and other resources
 - Language wasn't easy to understand, be more careful with the audience
 - Alicia arrived
 - When we do the scorecard next session there is a glossary provided that breaks this down terms
 - Was fantastic - hope that we can keep moving forward
 - Should also promote the normal WSCO Board Meetings -- would be more welcoming and be good for recruitment
- ED Updates

- This Thursday at 11:30 -- alamo bar experiencing shots fired again, violent fights -- Monica looking for people to go with to City Hall to raise this issue with Rebecca Noecker, head of DSI, new Commander and possibly owner of Alamo
- Hunt Wiedner is coming to next RDLU and we will reach out to them with what to expect in terms of questions and what people want to see
- West Side Rising -- look for event last week of October
- Cinco de Mayo meeting for community input tomorrow afternoon
- Youth RDLU project - have some videographers for 3D video project
- Other District Councils are looking at package service provider for healthcare, financials, etc. -- we may be part of a pilot, hoping to make decision in December -- City would have some funds available but it would be a shared expense
- October 10th mayoral forum at Neighborhood House -- 11 candidates running -- historically we've had one of the lowest turnouts in St. Paul and trying to move the numbers up -- candidates will move around and answer questions -- any questions we want to ask, send to Monica/Bahieh
- Bylaw Revision Approval
 - Language added to be in line with MN statute
 - Derek Johnson arrived
 - At our annual meeting this proposal will be brought to the floor to approval by the community -- then we will have the election of new board members so the outcome of the bylaws can impact the election
 - Kareem Smith motions to approve, Alicia Lucio seconds -- unanimously approved
- Position on Menthol Cigarette Sales Moratorium in St. Paul
 - Public hearing is 9/20 -- looking to amend the tobacco law to change menthol sales to stop sales except at tobacco stores
 - Monica raises issue of proposing a moratorium on tobacco stores for 2 years while we study the effects on health
 - Will have a draft moratorium for all tobacco shops in West Side ready for October meeting
 - Nick Johnson moves that we support the Menthol changes, Miguel Brito seconds
 - Further comments -- some discomfort on restricting business -- this feels different because it targets kids, LGBTQ, and communities of color and then fits into our strategic sieve
 - Can we help our community owned businesses to figure out how to make up for losses this would cause?
 - Vote is approved with Louis Garcia against, all others for
- Annual Meeting Brainstorm and Recruitment
 - Members whose terms are up and planning on running again are requested to inform the board chair in the next few weeks
 - Encourage recruiting youth
 - Looking at venues and dates now -- looking at early November, before Thanksgiving and after election
 - Looking for a theme

- Analita will send out another email and set up a time for meetings -- once a week
- This year will be a bit more serious because of the bylaw vote -- keep people engaged.
- Enjoyed the passport from last year because it really engaged the people
- Last year was hard to hear -- need to make sure mics are used properly
- Quick video of people who are running -- maybe not audio but a slide with their face and a bit about what they value
- Zero waste event was good -- want to do that again
- Theme Ideas
 - Sun flower planting
 - future of del sol
 - People design the future
- Handle business and then have a party?
- If we use El Rio space again, have one room for food and kiddo space, other gym is set up with several screens showing 3-5 short videos and live audience polling in between
- Need to show more what we are doing as an organization
- Build in time that attention isn't focused in on the center -- make time for mingling
- Having space for kids and opportunity for youth to help out is important
- If we use Neighborhood House / El Rio, would need to be the 14th
- Pros and cons to El Rio but overall probably best location so far
- Closed Session of the Board
- Call to close -- motion to adjourn by Krysten, Roxanny seconds -- unanimous approval by 8:25pm

Attendees

- Craig Willford
- Krysten Ryba-Tures
- Monica Bryand
- Analita Silva
- Tianna Reyes
- Nick Johnson
- Roxanny Armendariz
- Louis Garcia
- Miguel Brito
- Monica Bravo
- Kerry Matthews
- Chue Change
- Kareem Smith
- Jen Crea
- Joanna Lowry
- Alicia Lucio

- Derek Johnson