



WA Business Association Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 10th, 2019

Wedge Table (2412 Nicollet Ave) 3:30pm - 5:00pm

Attendees:

Mary Kaminski- Hennepin History Museum

Angela Ritchie- The Wedge Table

Nate Broadbridge- SK Coffee

Kim Fishman- Cheers Audiology

Marianna Adriaaza- Learning In Style

Martha Nemesi- Learning In Style

Jeff Cowmeadow- Calvary Church

Ukasha Dakane- Frayeo

Guests: Jessica Kawas, Jesse Lopez, 5th Precinct

WA Staff: Kaley Brown, Marcus VanderSanden

Introductions/Call to Order

Call to order at 3:35pm by Angela Ritchie, BA Chair, Wedge Table.

Agenda is reviewed. Approved.

Introductions.

Current News and Events

-Learning In Style is doing great in ELL class attendance.

-SK Coffee - Salty Tart has left 29th and Harriet Ave; SK Coffee will still use the space but Salty Tart has left a large vacancy if anybody knows people who are looking for commissary kitchen space.

-Whittier Alliance

- Annual Meeting coming up on March 26th
- Earth Day Clean-Up, Saturday, April 20th @ Whittier Park
- Eat Street Festival date is set. Keeping it on September 15th which is a Sunday this year.
- Strategic Plan to be voted on at the Annual Meeting

-Angela Ritchie is leaving her position at the Wedge for a new job in Northeast Mpls. She will need to resign her BA Chair position as well.

Strategic Plan Conversation- Kaley Brown

Last night NRP Policy modification was approved. Which allows the Whittier Alliance to follow the updated Strategic Plan. She draws attention to strategies in Business Section of the strategic plan that will be the primary focus and guide of the business association moving forward.

This year's work:

Continuing to distribute Dining Guide bi-annually (every other year)

Eat Street Food, Music, & Arts Festival (second year)

Facade Improvement Grant- Matching grant fund through through city

Business Association Representative Election

Role of Business Association Representatives:

Throughout the year the BA reps will convey what value we provide and what opportunities we can provide our non-profit and business leaders. Emphasis this year will be more networking and skill building (marketing, legal compliance) opportunities including facilitation of workshops. April meeting next year will be larger event hosted in the morning as a part of a networking event where elections will be held. BA seats are one-year terms.

Ukasha- Is there funding opportunities? Cites PPNA Shark Tank

A: All funding goes through full board. But there is a small operating budget for the BA and the BIG Ideas grant is open to businesses. LHENA has a request for funds process that allows people to pitch the board directly which Whittier is potentially looking to model after.

Nominations

Chair:

Kim Fishman of Cheers Audiology nominates herself for BA Chair.

No other nominations. **Motion to elect Kim Fishman as BA Chair for 2019 by acclamation. Seconded. Approved.**

For-profit and Non-profit Representatives:

Martha Nemesi nominates Marianna Arriaza of Learning In Style School for nonprofit seat.

Ukasha Dakane of Frayeo nominates himself for a non-profit seat.

Motion to elect Mariana Arriazza and Ukasha Dakane. Seconded. Approved.

No for-profit nominations at this time.

Meeting adjourns at 4:03pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Marcus VanderSanden.