



WA Business Association Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 10th, 2018

Marissa's Bakery and Supermarket (2750 Nicollet Ave S) 3:00pm - 4:30pm

Attendees:

Araceli Perez- Marissa's Bakery (Board Chair)
Nate Broadbridge- SK Coffee
Erica Christ- Black Forest
Martha Nemesi- Learning In Style
Mary Kaminski- Hennepin History Museum

Guests:

Stephanie Weir, Mikey Weitekamp- Environmental Initiative
Andre Xiong- Hennepin County
Jessica Rienhardt- Southwest Business Association

WA Staff: Kaley Brown, Marcus VanderSanden

Speaker-

Introductions/Call to Order

Call to order at 4:10pm by Araceli Perez, Business Association Chair.
Agenda is reviewed. Approved.
Introductions.

Current News and Events

Black Forest Oktober Fest was successful despite weather

Whittier Alliance-

Halloween Hauntings - event held at Whittier Historic home- storyteller comes in to tell scary stories with beer, wine and food. Proceeds benefit Whittier Alliance.

Araceli reports that Bambu was broken into recently which comes on the heels of some other criminal activity with regarding businesses in the neighborhood. It would be smart to engage 5th precinct on this issue.

Host Highlights- Marissa's Bakery

24 years- Bakery, Fast Service restaurant, Super market

Currently expanding supermarket to almost the double the area it occupies now. With additional floors there will an expansion on the production area for tortillas as well as some office space. Top floor will have a restaurant which Marissa's originally planned to operate but will now seek someone to lease the space. Hopeful for construction wrapping up by the spring.

Vote Yes on 1 Mpls- Jessica Reinhardt

Yes on 1

City charter- states a restaurant has to be in 7 acres in contiguous commercial zone to have full liquor license. City Charter commission is looking to amend Exemptions were happening anyway on state level. Must go to vote of the public to amend charter. Most city council members have endorsed with a few objections

Need 55% of people to say yes which equals roughly 90,000 people
There are other regulatory actions that dictate permitting so the changing of the charter does not signify a “free for all” on liquor licenses.

Business Waste Diversion Project

A brief introduction to the outreach partnership between Whittier Alliance and Hennepin County to promote Hennepin County’s Business Recycling Grant program. Whittier staff will engage neighborhood businesses to increase awareness of the grant program as well work directly with businesses to identify areas of improvement, barriers to implementation and guide them through the grant process.

Stephanie Weir and Mikey Weitekamp of Environmental Initiative give a presentation on the benefits and metrics of diverting waste from trash streams to Recycling and Organics streams. The group also takes a tour of Marissa’s back of house and production area as an example of an abbreviated site walkthrough to illustrate ways in which business can divert waste.

Next month’s meeting: Wednesday, Nov. 14th, 3:00pm-4:30pm, Vertical Endeavors

Old & New Business.

Meeting adjourns at 4:30pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Marcus VanderSanden