

Draft
Business Assoc Minutes
October 10, 2007 7:45-9:00am
Gale Mansion/AAUW

Attendees: Erica Christ, Paula Horan, Andrew Church, Marcy Tollefson, Jennine Duda, Tamar Nelson,

Staff: Marian Biehn, **Presenter:** Kim Bartmann

Call to order at 8:10am by Chair Erica Christ and introductions

A **Motion** to approve the Agenda as written **Passed**

The minutes from Sept. Bus. Assn meeting were presented and deferred to Oct for approval due the absence of attendees from the Sept meeting

Spotlight on Business: Tamar Nelson from AAUW & Jennine Duda from the Gale Mansion welcomed everyone and gave comments on the facility and services. AAUW has been in the building since 1947. Offers catering, meeting space, event & wedding space. The catering service is owned by AAUW and has an in-house chef. The auditorium holds 250 people and is used for AAUW meetings, dances and holiday parties. 420 members meet on Mondays. Most other events are held in the house. Parking at 1st Christian. Oct 29 AAUW is having a focus day—It's a Beautiful Day in the N'hood. Whittier will be featured. Speakers fro the school, park, Lilligren, restaurants for meal idea.. Erica suggested the Eat Street guide . The Gale Mansion is on Historic register. They are trying to get an elevator. Hard to know where to put it based on structure and design of the building.

5th Precinct Report: Insp Arneson was not in attendance

109 E. 26th St-Joe's Chicken Shack: Kim Bartmann presented the concept for Joe's Chicken Shack space. The 1st floor space is currently gutted and has been for 2 years. She attempted to purchase the building over a year ago after the previous person who was doing the gutting dropped out. The restaurant has lost its grandfather rights to the liquor License and parking due to lack of use. She needs a parking variance due to the building filling it's the full footprint of the lot and not having any parking available on site. Has contacted the businesses surrounding Joe's but no one will give up their parking. No plans now to develop the 2nd and 3rd floor. But would like to do a studio space in the future—the 3rd floor used to be a ballroom. Kim has talked with the Lee's owner to do a joint venture but is focusing on opening the restaurant on the 1st floor. The restaurant will seat about 50 people. There were comments on the n'hood supporting the restaurant and question about the Dispatch site (to the East of Joe's),next steps for the Distpatch Site and conversation about the Ace/Ice House development and construction time line and retail mix.

The Site Plan was reviewed and only includes the 1st floor and basement. No exterior review. There is 10 feet behind the building for the staircase and the dumpster. A fence around the dumpster will be required. Kim will go to LEED certification on the building. Might put something on building as greenery and put ivy on the east side of building to

avoid tagging. Will try to do windows that open and maybe some outdoor tables. Liquor license –will be a public hearing about liquor license if additional comments are needed. Due to size, will not be a nightclub. She will be closing on the purchase of the building in late Nov or early Dec. Wants to clear city approvals before closing or starting work on the building. She plans on having one of her momentous people living there to secure the building. Will try to submit the 1st round of paper work t the city by the end of Oct. City has changed the license application process so it has become more expensive

BA 1 Motion: The Whittier BA recommends support for the parking variance from 16 to 0 for the proposed restaurant at 109 E. 26th St aka Joes Chicken Shack **Motion Passed 3-0-2**

BA 2 Motion: The Whittier BA recommends support for the Class C Liquor License for the proposed restaurant at 109 E. 26th St aka Joe’s Chicken Shack. **Motion Passed 3-0-2**

Façade Grant Guidelines Erica gave a background of the virtual façade facelift from last year. Suggestions ranged from simple improvements to more expensive—painting, signage, awnings etc. Some suggestions were taken and implemented. The guidelines for the façade were reviewed.. Tanek architects have agreed to participate as the architectural review team. Lots of need for the facelift funds. Template for more of this type of improvement—suggestions for changes. Comments are that it looks user friendly and helpful.

Old & New Business:

Brief review of NRP Phase 2 funding status.

Information on Butler Drug sale. Background on sale and rehab.

Wedge bought Gardens of Egan. New businesses in Whittier: Head to Toe at 25th & Nicollet is a Salon and cute clothing store. And at 26th and Stevens in the Tanek building in the former Greenway space there is a home cleaning and services business.

There was also a brief update on SW Transit.—routes and studies, timelines,

Adjourn at 9:15

Next Meeting: Wednesday, Nov. Nico Plating 7:35-9am