**WEST PINE / LACLEDE ASSOCIATION**

**Minutes: 5-12-15**

President Harold Karabell opened the meeting at Northwest Coffee at 7:05.

The normal order of business was amended to allow guests to speak first.

Nabeel Yaseen of 4247 Laclede Ave and owner of the recently renovated building immediately to the west of Northwest Coffee is close to reaching agreement with Alan and Rachel Richman owners of successful Sasha’s wine bars on Shaw and Demun, to establish their third wine bar in the renovated building. Operating under a different name but similar in concept to the existing Sasha’s, the bar would offer full liquor service and “dineresque” food with occasional live entertainment in the rear. Hours of operation would be lunch/brunch Monday-Sunday with 1:30 AM closing Monday-Saturday and midnight Sunday. Expected inside capacity is 50-75 people and 22-30 outside. The goal is to open by late fall 2015 pending approved permits and necessary construction. The owners acknowledged that noise may be a concern, but they will be good neighbors here as they have been on their other locations. Motion made, seconded, and approved with Mr. Yaseen abstaining: The WPLNA is on record as supporting establishment of a wine bar with full liquor license as presented by Alan and Rachel Richman Harold will send the owners a letter of support in keeping with the motion.

MINUTES from the April meeting were approved as presented.

TREASURY REPORT

Terry Werner reported our balances:

 $ 476.98 checking

 $ 8,492.16 savings

Terry noted that many attendees had paid dues before the meeting began and encouraged others to do so as soon as possible.

SECURITY

Marshall Michener reported that the spate of burglaries recently experienced in the neighborhood seem to have abated following arrest of a second suspect. For now, we appear to be back to a low incidence level.

He encouraged members who see loiterers to try to get license plate numbers and call CWE Neighborhood Security Initiative (CWENSI). (447 N. Euclid Ave. 63108; 454-5808; Fax 361-0496).

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Laura Cohen reported that REJIS is refurbishing the planter at W. Pine and Boyle and using only the roses and sage plants from the current planter. All other plants are free for the taking.

Tree planting throughout the neighborhood is behind schedule. Surplus trees are still available; send suggested areas for planting to Brooks Goedeker at Park Central – brooks@parakcentraldevelopment.org.

The May 9 neighborhood clean-up event was a success thanks to volunteers and the assistance of Brightside.

BIENNIAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Harold called for any contesting of the nomination of the current slate of officers to run for re-election (i.e., Harold Karabell – president; Dug Fetch – vice president; Terry Werner – treasurer; Terry Van Schaik – secretary). None was received. Motion made, seconded, and approved unanimously: WPLNA will retain its current slate of officers for two years.

DEVELOPMENT

*Parking on the 4100-4200 block of W. Pine (from Sarah to Boyle)*

Members strongly expressed concern about the very limited parking available on this street after about 9:00 AM when SLU students and workmen arrive and park there. Susan Anderson, project manager for Park Central explained that she is leading an effort to institute resident only parking in this area. Those cars parked without resident tags would be ticketed. The process for setting this law is multi-stepped:

1. Residents must undertake a parking survey in which they identify cars/license plates belonging to non-residents.
2. If the survey shows that 33% of cars on the block belong to non-residents, residents must determine the hours and days during which the permit-only parking district is to be in effect.
3. Based upon the time frame supplied by the residents, legislation and a map are drafted and attached to a petition requesting institution of permit parking district for those residents who are registered voters to sign.
4. The time frame for the restriction is set for the entire restricted area. (Susan Anderson provided the clarification in the preceding sentence after the May 12 meeting.) Once the time/s are established, changing them requires repeating the signature and legislative process.
5. Proof of identity, vehicle ownership and occupancy within the restricted parking district are required with each term.

Other points of discussion included the following:

1. Residents are allowed one permit per vehicle owned and a maximum of two guest permits. The permit cost is $10/permit.
2. SLU students will be leaving the area soon for summer break, which could affect the survey results.
3. Diagonal parking such as is used on 4500 Laclede between Euclid and Taylor may be a way to increase the number of parking spaces on W. Pine.
4. Once permit only parking is established, the city puts up necessary signs and begins regular parking enforcement.
5. No policy is in place that denies permits to residents with off-street parking. However, Susan will investigate this option.
6. Jared Boyd volunteered to talk with businesses on Whittier and Lindell that have unused parking about allowing visitors to park in these spots.

Mary Ann Kroek and Lisa Partell agreed to co-chair a committee that will work with Susan to begin the above process. They will report on progress at the June 2015 meeting.

Brooks Goedecker reported on the following development opportunities and projects:

*Boyle reopening* – Now projected for end of May 2015. Then Duncan and Sarah will be closed.

*3900 W. Pine* – Efforts to reach agreement with potential dog kennel option are not going forward. Other possible tenants are being pursued.

*4101 Laclede* – The property is in foreclosure and priced at $700,900. Possible tenants are being pursued.

*Gerhart Block at Vandeventer and Laclede* – Several restaurants and other retailers are looking at the building. A problem is that the site has no commercial parking space. To remedy this, the developers are investigating having angled parking installed for which they would pay. Consideration is also being given to allowing visitors to park in the police lot west of the intersection.

*Juanita and Bob Strunk concerns re house to east of theirs* – The building is in severe state of disrepair and has been for some time. The Strunks are concerned about the slow progress and apparent lack of stability in the construction. Ron Coleman, neighborhood improvement specialist, reported that the building has been investigated and determined to be structurally sound. Renovation is “in the works.” The owner has not yet submitted architectural drawings to St. Louis city.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Attendees asked the purpose of the yellow stripes added to W. Pine near the planter at the Boyle intersection. Ron will investigate.

Jared Boyd suggested the Association participate in National Night Out, which falls under the CWE SouthEast SBD charter to support public safety initiatives and may have funds to help support the Night. Jared will follow up and report back.

Terry Van Schaik referred attendees to the flyers on tables describing the St. Louis Association of Community Organizations (SLACO) plan for “250 Exchanges of Peace” to be held in July 2015. She asked that interested parties contact her via email (tvanschaik50@gmail.com) or phone (314-535-0486; 314-290-1033.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Van Schaik, secretary

tvanschaik50@gmail.com