

Uptown on the Hill
December Board Meeting
Blueprint Bar

In attendance: Frank, Kate, Jo, Ryan, Judy, Rachel, Cate, Sue Nelson

1. Call to order @ 6:30
2. Tap Fourteen: Established in LoDo, feel Uptown will better fit their dining concept as opposed to the quick turnaround and more bar-focus downtown. Working through the lease details with One City Block with the space on 19th & Logan. Slightly smaller than D Bar with outdoor seating. Hoping to open in Summer or Fall. Asked for our support when it comes to obtaining the liquor license. Suggested we could help organize a neighborhood meeting when the time comes and either send someone as a representative or write a letter of support if that is what is decided. Frank commented that we should stay connected with them as we prepare for the Sampler. Would be a great way for them to get their name out, even if they aren't quite open yet.
3. Meeting Minutes: Jo moves to approve, Rachel seconds, approved unanimously.
4. Committee Reports:
 - a. Land Use & Zoning: Ryan sent an email to the board last week about some recent developments. Neighborhood plan initiative now won't kick off until late 2017. In January Ryan will reach out to those interested in joining the Land Use committee, Ryan got emails from the Newsletter. Ryan is hearing from different kinds of people that workforce housing is a key issue.
 - b. Parks & Beautification: Judy will add the board to the monthly meeting minutes. Continue to figure out ways to get lights along 17th restored. Looking into costs for poles, whether a BID should be set up. Someone suggested replacing innards of lights with solar, however they have not yet been able to find a product. The committee has been trying since July to get the bus stop at 17th & Pearl (in front of 7/11) cleaned regularly. If by tomorrow Judy hasn't heard back from the RTD, she will go to their board to escalate the issue. Gave a certificate of appreciation to Frozen Matter for their nice patio and recyclable containers. As for the BID, everyone they've talked to is interested except when it comes to the money aspect. 17th is different because of the residential aspect. Puma Progressive Urban Management will be working with us to host a meeting in February to talk to businesses and get feedback on the idea of starting a BID. Frank suggested that as a minimum it would be good to understand "what good looks like" for those who are interested as it might help point us in a direction if a BID is not the right solution.
 - c. Events: November happy hour, December holiday party
5. Treasurer's Report: Jo created a snapshot report as discussed last year. Cover page provides an overview. We now have a PayPal account separate from our bank account. It's not possible to connect them, so in the future the treasurer will likely have to connect their personal account to PayPal in order to make payments, etc. Jo asked that any outstanding reimbursements are submitted as soon as possible so that they can be paid before year end. Overall we are a healthy organization despite the lack of fundraising. Jo took a stab at a budget for 2017 based on historical information. Suggests that rather than spending from our account directly, we fundraise in advance to cover expenses and events. Suggestion that the activities we should focus on are Sampler and Outreach. Making an investment in outreach to build the organization further (renting spaces for our meetings, providing snacks, advertising, mailers, door hangers, etc.). Budget won't be finalized until all 2016 expenses are in. Asked for any feedback and would like to sign off at the January meeting.
 - a. Discussion on the Sampler for next year. It will be fully up to us to promote and get businesses involved. Frank feels that with a little more sweat equity our overall cost won't increase that much. Focusing on marketing the event, getting businesses to help promote by email and signage. Frank will work up a budget for the 2017 Sampler and discuss at the January meeting. Jo asked it be done about a week in advance so people have time to review, then focus on discussion at the meeting.
 - b. Happy Hours are incurring expenses but are we getting the return? Again needs to have a purpose and focus. Discussion in the January meeting as to whether these should continue. If yes, set rules and spending limits.
 - c. Overall need to set a strategy on fundraising and asking for donations. Maybe creating a marketing brochure, etc.

6. **Holiday Donation:** Judy recalled we had talked a while ago about making a donation to a non-profit. She had read an article that giving essentials to some of the non-profits is helpful rather than giving money. Judy suggested Senior Support Services as they are looking for things like socks and underwear. Possibly Safehouse and Senior Support Services, splitting the ~\$500 between the two organization. Discussion about whether to give cash or goods. Cash would probably be the easier route. Jo moves to donate half of the profits from the Shindig, split evenly between Safehouse and Senior Support Services, Frank seconded, board approves unanimously. Jo will verify the number and send the checks along with a card to each of the organizations.
7. **New Board Member Election:** Sue Nelson moved to Denver 18 years ago. First lived in the Highlands, then Cap Hill. Has a background in social work, volunteers at The Gathering Place. Excited to get involved. Got into the cannabis industry three years ago. Regional Manager of The Health Center on 17th & Downing, one of the first 13 when the law passed. Would love to offer resources, employees who might want to get involved. Discussed the impact of 300 and that UOTH was the only neighborhood organization to support it. The board will likely be talking to businesses who are interested in getting permits. Jo asked if Sue, as a business owner, would be unbiased in evaluating other businesses who are looking to come to the meeting like Tap Fourteen. Board votes unanimously to add Sue to the board.
8. **Board Officer Elections:**
 - a. **President:** Jo is interested in running for president. She did forewarn that she may move out of the neighborhood in 2017. Board realizes that there are a lot of uncertainties and is not concerned. Jo is excited about the opportunities and strategy in 2017, especially with the neighborhood plan. Wants to continue finding those unique voices in our neighborhood to get them involved. The neighborhood is so crucial to our future, we are at a crossroads, couldn't be a more exciting time. Would see her role as a collaborator and facilitator to bring the vision to life. Frank asked what Jo's style would be as president. Jo knows she doesn't have the network and connections of past presidents, but is building that. Sees herself more as a collaborator and helping the board achieve the strategies set forward. Board votes in favor unanimously, Jo abstains.
 - b. **Vice President:** Cate is interested in running as Vice President to support the presidents' vision, where extra hands are needed. Knows there is a lot of potential to get more people involved. With her background in community development, affordable housing and public health has a lot to offer. Frank asked if one of the roles of the VP might be to ensure the committees stay aligned with the vision. Cate agreed and added that the role might also be the backup designated representative. Board votes unanimously, Cate abstains.
 - c. **Treasurer:** No one is currently interested in taking over. Jo will complete what she's working on for now and can discuss again in January.
 - d. **Secretary:** Sue is interested in running for secretary. Loves taking notes. Board approves unanimously, Sue abstains.
 - e. **Communications Committee:** Kate M would be happy to take over the newsletter. Ryan would like to help with the website
9. **Uptown Tavern:** Judy suggested UOTH make signs to put over the outdated permit signs on the Tavern building. Would want to talk to Frank Schultz and see if he would agree to have the signs put up. Maybe if we are going in to put up new signs, we can take down the outdated permit signs. Judy will reach out to him to discuss and get quotes on signs for two full windows. This would be a gesture to him, in a way as a "thank you" for saving the building. Frank suggested that the sign might also become our community bulletin board so that we could change out announcements throughout the year for various events (walking tours, etc.).
10. Meeting adjourned at 8:18pm.