



FALL QUARTERLY MEETING – MINUTES

September 17, 2019 @ Brann's W. Leonard @ 4PM

PRESENT: Dan Grinwis (OHC); Kent Gagnon (Choice One Bank); Dan Hickey (Fence Consultants); Tony Leonard (GRPD); Aaron Smith (Agri-Med); Tony Goff (Nature's Releaf); Pete Brand (Mindscape/SBA); Steven Goff (Nature's Releaf); Johnny Brann (Brann's); Annette Vandenberg (WGNO); Doug & Vicki Nienhuis (Able Mfg.)

PROCEEDINGS:

- Call to order and Welcome – JohnnyB
- Treasurer's Report - DanG
 - Financial – handout (attached)
 - Membership – handout (attached)
 - Discussion
 - Respectable turnout this year for supporting members; 34 to date; probably more coming
 - **If you have not yet sent in your dues, please do so ASAP**
 - Good financial position to contribute to important matters in the District
- Public Safety Update
 - GRPD
 - Rash of shootings and fire-bombings; making progress in the investigations
 - Prostitution crackdown is showing successes; restraining orders against those picked up so they can't come onto W. Leonard; most of this activity these days is internet based
 - Nothing else really major happening
 - Wishing speedy healing to Officer Leonard for his MBB injury
- Neighborhood Business Alliance (NBA) Update – AnnetteV
 - NBA is our 'umbrella' organization
 - Annette attended the July quarterly meeting on behalf of WLBA
 - NBA sponsored a great Business Expo this year
 - As well as the Grandwich competition
 - **30th Annual Neighborhood Business Awards – November 7**
 - Great affair; good complimentary food and beverage
 - Great awards program hosted by our Mayor and well-attended by prominent GR people
 - Several West Side nominations this year for awards
- Project One/Art Prize – AnnetteV
 - West Side Street fair was held this past weekend on Bridge St. as part of this
 - W. Leonard District was well-represented
 - WGNO ran the beer tent and actually made money this year
- West Grand Neighborhood Organization – AnnetteV
 - Will relocate offices to 754 W. Leonard later in the year
 - Temporarily at 666 W. Leonard in 'donated' quarters
 - **Block Party; September 28; held at 455 W. Leonard**

- lots of wonderful sponsors, including WLBA; Nature's Releaf is the headliner sponsor
- Silent Observer and others will be present
- Just received approval for a \$62,000 grant from the Auto Theft Prevention program
- City will be bringing CPTED training to GR; WGNO will get 2 or 3 staff trained and qualified
- WestSide Corridor Improvement Authority (CIA) Update – JohnnyB
 - Good funding accumulated in the 'bank' right now, enabling the CIA to do bigger things
 - Façade Improvement Grant is one of those
 - Information on the CIA's page on the GRCity website
 - If you need more information on this, you can contact Dan Grinwis
 - Available to businesses in our District
 - Meet the first Friday of each month (generally), currently at Brann's, at 9am; public is welcome
 - Have a trash can project going for businesses; if you have question on that you can contact Pete Brand from Stockbridge
 - Will be working on wayfinding signage, and gateway signage with consistent branding, along with banners on poles
 - This information was well-received by those present
- Old Business
 - Treasurer Position at WLBA is vacant and needs to be filled
 - **Johnny will touch base with a couple of our District banks**
 - Anyone interested is invited to step up
- New/Other Business
 - Concerns being investigated about marijuana gifting occurring in head shops in the City in preparation for recreational
 - West Side Mural Maintenance
 - New mural on the side of the Shade Shop; paint peeling along the top
 - Annette is in conversation with George, the artist, who was supposed to seal the finished work but apparently did not
 - Did we purchase a maintenance program with that for 5 years?
 - **Annette will report back**
 - Tree Plantings on Seward impacting the pedestrian sidewalks; hazard
 - Reported by Dan Hickey of Fence Consultants on Seward BW
 - Annette saw this earlier as part of one of their neighborhood 'looksees' and is in conversation with the City via 311 and in conversations with our 1st Ward Commissioners Reppart and O'Connor
 - BTW: 311, which is the 'clearinghouse' for all things GRCity is a great resource for concerns and complaints; you are encouraged to make it your first call
 - These are apparently from an earlier planting before they discovered types of trees that are less sidewalk unfriendly
 - This will be addressed by the City but it could be Spring before it's done
 - It is the City's responsibility
 - **Annette will circle back and let us know if she has further information**
 - Nature's Releaf – Steve Goff
 - Will go before the Planning Commission on October 10 for approval to provide medical marijuana in the current location of Shakedown St. at 670 Leonard NW
 - Shakedown St. will move into an adjacent building
 - Michigan company from the eastside of the state with a facility in Burton, MI
 - Fully licensed by the State
 - 3 local partners; not involved in operations
 - Will be leasing
 - Will begin buildout once approval is given

- Strong focus on employee safety and safety of assets and cash; very high level of security
 - Excited to be locating on GR's West Side
 - Contribute to the community
 - WGNO has already benefitted
 - Have a banking relationship; federal illegal
 - Open first part of next year hopefully
 - Shortage of product in the market is impacting everyone
 - Next Meeting: Tentatively December 17 at 4PM at Brann's/Leonard

 - **Action Items Summary**
 - **If you have not yet sent in your annual WLBA dues, please do so ASAP**
 - **Johnny will touch base with a couple of our District banks in regard to our open Treasurer position**
 - **Annette will report back on the mural maintenance issue**
 - **Annette will circle back and let us know if she has further information about the sidewalk hazards**

 - Adjournment @ 4:50pm
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OUTSTANDING ACTION ITEMS

- WestSide Trolley
- DASH Service
- WLBA Committees
- Christmas lighting along the main business corridor
- WLBA Newsletters
- More consistent maintenance of the WLBA website and FB page
- Review Meeting times and venues; speakers; food
- Public Safety Providers appreciation day

West Leonard Business Association
Treasurer's Report
2019.09.17

Small Business Checking Account – Mercantile Bank

Balance on Hand as of 2019.06.13 \$5,474.79

Credits/Income

Membership/19 – 24 Memberships via USPS x \$100.00 \$2,400.00

Membership/19 – 3 Memberships via Stripe x \$94.80 (\$100 minus fee) \$284.40

Subtotal Credits/Income \$2,684.40

Debits/Expenses

LARA/Ste of MI - corp. filing \$20.00

Office Max – mailing supplies \$99.94

USPS – postage \$11.00

NBA – Annual Contribution \$250.00

Gilda's Club GR – Annual walk sponsorship \$100.00

Grand Rapids Chamber of Commerce \$500.00

Subtotal Debits/Expenses -\$980.94

Outstanding (promised but not received; committed but not spent) \$0.00

Balance on Hand in Mercantile Small Business Checking 2019.09.17 \$7,178.25

Operational Cash on Hand 2019.09.17 \$7,178.25

List of supporting members as of September 17, 2019:

FY 2018/2019 (43 total)

Able Manufacturing
Agri-Med
Allied Productions
Arnie's Bakery
B&E Sealcoat
Belden Brick
Brann's Sizzling Steakhouse & Grille (W. Leonard)
Bibles for Mission Thrift Store
Bradco Service, Inc. (Lentz Muffler West Leonard)
Bridge Street Market
Buchanan Development
Chemical Bank
Choice One Bank
Credit Union One
DeVries Jewelers
District Club
Dr. James Smith
Fence Consultants
Fettig
Fox Transport Services
German Auto Service
Hoogerhyde Safe & Lock
Jack's Service Center
Jedco
John Ball Zoo
Kent Quality Foods, Inc.
Long Road Distillery (LRD)
Mieras Family Shoes
Mitten Brewing
Mr. Car Wash
Neighborhood Provision
North Lakeshore LLC (McDonalds)
Oasis of Hope Center (OHC)
Rainbow Music
Ralph's Grocery
Rockford Construction
Shade Shop
Steepletown Neighborhood Services
The Grassy Knoll
Turnstiles
Two Scotts
West Grand Neighborhood Organization (WGNO)
Williams Distributing

FY 2018/2019 (34 to date)

Able Manufacturing
Agri-Med
Arnie's
B&E Sealcoat
Belden Brick
Bibles for Missions Thrift Store
Bradco/Lentz
Brann's Steakhouse & Grille (West Leonard)
Bridge St. Market
Choice One Bank
Credit Union One
DeVries Jewelers
Dr. James Smith
Fence Consultants
Fox Transport Services
German Auto Service
Jack's Service Center
John Ball Zoo
Kent Quality Foods
Leyen & Son Meats
Long Road Distilleries
Mercantile
Mieras Family Shoes
Mitten Brewing
Nature's Releaf
Neighborhood Provisions
North Lakeshore Partners LLC
Oak Flint
Oasis of Hope Center
Rockford Construction
Shakedown Street
Two Scotts BBQ
West Grand Neighborhood Organization
Williams Distributing