

Minutes
Wicker Park Committee
Membership meeting
December 6, 2006
Location: Dulcenea, 1451 N. Milwaukee

Meeting was called to order at 7:10pm.

I. MEMBERSHIP MEETING

- A. Minutes of the November 1, 2006 meeting were approved.
- B. E. Coorens, President WPC introduced the current WPC board members.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Topic: Newsletter

Discussion: E. Coorens announced that the WPC Newsletter for December 2006 was sent out via e-mail to those members that turned in e-mail addresses and it will also go out in the mail. Any contributions to the newsletter are welcome-articles, information, willingness to work on newsletter, etc.

Action: If you did not receive a newsletter or want to contribute to the newsletter, contact Gerri Baginski or any other WPC board member.

B. Topic: Second Meeting of a combination of Historic Landmark Districts, November 16, 2006

Discussion: E. Coorens reported that she attended both this meeting and the first meeting. The focus of the second meeting was that signage was important to all landmark districts for defining districts and building pride in the districts. Participants continue to discuss issues, ideas and resolutions.

Action: E. Coorens will report on followup meeting.

III. PROGRAM: "THE BUSINESS OF ARTISTS AND ARTS-WHY ARTISTS AND CREATIVE SPACE ARE VALUABLE ASSETS TO THE COMMUNITY"

Discussion: E. Coorens introduced the program, by highlighting the long history of artists in Wicker Park. She introduced Art Director Heidi Dietrich of Dulcenea, host to the night's meeting. Ms. Dietrich discussed her goal of Dulcenea was to provide gallery and performing space in addition to Marketing WP arts and artists.

Other program speakers included:

- Laura Weathered, NNWAC Exec. Dir-she reviewed the history of affordable housing for artists in WP, along with the discussion of ACME Art Works (rentable work space).
- Paul Wargaski, violin maker-he discussed his space in the ACME Art Works and how creating art locally in the community benefits the community.
- Allison Stites, Around the Coyote Exec Dir.-discussed Around the Coyote's focus on improving the professional practice of artists, ie with monthly exhibitions in Flat Iron Building, after school programs. Her website resource for artists is WPBGA.com.

Audience discussion spoke to:

- how do artists get affordable housing back into Wicker Park
- artists recommend more local art showings and group showings, including all venues ie music groups
- use of marketing between businesses and artists to pool resources, put up artwork in businesses to showcase art work
- hard for artists to find organizations as resources-suggestion was the resource website:
AroundtheCoyote.org
- Wicker Park Committee could act as a central pool to connect artists, businesses and the community

Action: After program, members continued the dialogue, along with viewing artwork in Dulcenea,

and enjoying a social of a buffet dinner and drinks.

IV. MEMBERSHIP CALENDAR

Next WPC membership meeting is January 10, 2006. Location to be announced.

Pat Linnerud
Secretary