



**Near North Unity Program (NNUP)
Membership Meeting NOTES
6:00 pm - 7:30 pm
Monday, July 29th, 2019**

**Cornerstone Center, Leslie Hall
1111 N. Wells St.**

Welcome & Introductions

- **Review Question and Answer Guidelines**
 - One question per person, one follow up question and then the meeting facilitator will move on to the next community member's question.
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- Near North Health Service Corp. gave a Powerpoint presentation
 - Kathleen Jackson, Director External Affairs.

 - There is a September 14th, NNHSC Back to School Fair where children can get immunizations. Several individuals at the meeting spoke of their positive experience at the Near North Health facilities. Aug 1-10 is National Health Care Awareness week.

- Black Girls Breaking Bread, gave a Powerpoint presentation
 - Jessica Davenport-Williams, Co-founder
 - Khadija Warfield, Co-founder

 - The program is a meal based intergenerational gathering to connect girls and women. BGBB is a CPS approved vendor and is/and or/has worked throughout the city at high need schools, alternative schools, as well as SEL schools in the CPS system. Services can be from middle school to middle age. BGBB services are trauma informed and research based.

- Aldi Inc, proposed 24,00 sq ft new store in ONNI development on Division and Wells (Old Town), Powerpoint presentation given.
 - Chris Stair, Director of Real Estate for the Aldi Batavia Division
 - Cheston Arthur, Director of Operations for the Aldi Batavia Division

 - Corporate presentation about Aldi's community engagement practices (Feeding America, Sustainability), employee benefits (Insurance and commitment to employee growth within the company), product selection (Aldi Finds, no label brands, Organic, new product introduction) , product testing and commitment to quality and customer (2018 Retailer of the Year, 400 product awards).

 - Jobs
 - Aldi's currently employs 31,000 people. In the new Old Town store there may be between 20-30 store associates hired, store manager, and an assistant store manager. There also may be an opportunity for casual- part-time workers at this location. There was a discussion about hiring from the Near North nearby community. Aldi's has a central on-line application process for employee

selection. Employees from other stores may transfer to Old Town store but then they would back fill employment slots with people who applied to this store but then would work at another store.

- Also, there will be construction jobs for the build out of the store. CEC and Aldis will work together to fill construction positions.
- Liquor sales and moratorium. Current Liquor Moratorium at Division and Wells SW corner.
 - ALdi's communicated they will only sell unrefrigerated beer and wine at this store and that all employees who sell liquor go to Alcohol training. People under 21 can not sell liquor at Aldi's stores. Discussion about proximity to schools for liquor sales.
 - There was a community vote taken as to whether to remove the liquor and the vote was 26 is favor of lifting the liquor moratorium and 1 vote in favor of leaving the liquor moratorium in place.

Upcoming Events and Announcements

- Suggestion Box at the check-in table - please feel free to drop off suggestions for NNUP

- Aug 6 - National Night Out Celebration, in coordination with 18th district Police
- Aug 8 - Seward Park Advisory Council Meeting, 375 W. Elm, 6:00 pm
- Aug 9 - NNUP Jazz Series Concert, Seward Park, 375 W. Elm, 6:30 pm
- Aug 10 - St. Matthews Block Party, 1000 N. Orleans, 12 pm
- Aug 23 - NNUP Jazz Series Concert, Seward Park, 375 W. Elm, 6:30 pm
- August 24 - 27th Ward Back to School BBQ, 1501 W. Randolph (Union Park), 10 am - 5 pm
- CANCELLED for Summer 'Coffee with the Commander' will resume in September