

North Loop Neighborhood Association Planning & Zoning Meeting Notes August 21, 2019 6:00 P.M. Colonial Warehouse Conference Lounge, 212 3rd Ave N

- 1. August Planning & Zoning Meeting was called to order at 6:02 P.M.
- 11 of 14 committee members were in attendance: Irina Brown, David Miller, Jo Vos, Alice Eichholz, Bob Hinrichs, Missy Rotterdam, Carrie Reardon, Neil Reardon, Frederick Dawe, Joe McErlane, and Matt Sharkey-Smith.
- 3. Motion is made by Alice, seconded by David, and unanimously approved by the Board to approve the July meeting minutes with no changes.
- StilHeart Micro-distillery located on 3rd Ave N between Lululemon and Fairgrounds -Kirsten
 - a. Kirsten is hoping to open the distillery by November 25. She has previous experience at Lawless Distillery. Asking for a letter of support from the Board for a micro-distillery license.
 - b. StilHeart will be a craft distillery focused on the cocktail experience, with a secondary focus on the spirit. Spirits will include any and all liquors/liqueurs that they can distill in-house. Partnering with Bittercube, a local bitters company.
 - c. They will serve snacks like pretzels and popcorn, but no food.
 - d. 2,600 square feet with an upstairs and a downstairs bar.
 - e. Kirsten has met with Lieutenant Billy Peterson about their security plans. They will close at midnight Sunday-Thursday, and at 1am on Fridays and Saturdays. The upstairs and downstairs bar will stagger close so there aren't crowds of people pushed out into the street at one time.
 - f. Typical entertainment will include background music, with the occasional DJ. However, music will be played at a volume where patrons can easily and comfortably maintain conversations.

- g. Motion is made by David, seconded by Carrie, and unanimously approved by the Board to write a letter of support for StilHeart's micro-distillery license.
- 5. Elite Entertainment, 400 3rd Ave N Rachel Boyd (Owner) and Elite Entertainment General Manager
 - a. Elite does not need a letter of support. They are visiting to provide information to North Loop neighbors and solicit feedback.
 - b. Elite is a nightclub operating on a 3-year lease. Part of lease agreement is to keep the premises tidy and clean, including back parking lot and sidewalk.
 - c. Hoping to open no later than October 1. Rachel is in the final stages of applying for a liquor license.
 - d. That space has been several bars/nightclubs in the past. Previous nightclub tenants include Tropics, Azul, and Soundbar.
 - 1. Strong opposition to the nightclub was voiced by neighboring businessowners based on the history of nightclubs on that strip trash, drugs, shootings, and other safety issues.
 - 2. Rachel is working with Lt Peterson on security. Current security plans involve a minimum of 10 security guards, which includes 4 off-duty police officers.
 - 3. It is suggested by Elite General Manager that the historical crime and violence was due to the type of music played in those previous nightclubs, which attracted an undesirable clientele. Elite Entertainment will NOT be a hip-hop only club, but will play a variety of genres including rock, R&B, Latino music, etc. that should appeal to a diverse and desirable clientele.
 - e. Hours: Fridays and Saturdays from 10p 2a, but will quiet music and stop serving alcohol at 1:30a to stagger close and push everyone out by 1:45a. Might consider occasional day events from 3p 7p to take advantage of Twins crowds.
 - f. Fire capacity is 145 people.
 - g. Nightclub may expand to become an events venue for things like Wine & Paint nights, weddings, etc.
 - h. Committee would like Elite to provide the nightclub's plans and address the concerns of the Committee, neighboring businesses, and neighbors. Requested plans include but are not limited to: security, clean-up, layout, décor, and programming. Additionally, the Committee will compile questions and concerns to present to Elite via email for commentary.
- 6. Committee Business
 - a. Annual Meeting January 29, 2020. NLNA Board would like P+Z Committee members to attend and be introduced at the Annual Meeting.
 - b. It is suggested that the Board adopt a formal welcoming procedure to welcome new buildings to the neighborhood. Alice will work with Scott Woller to create the procedure.

- c. It is suggested that the Board nominate a representative to attend the New Loop meetings for NLNA representation.
- 7. Neighbor Comments
 - a. No other comments from neighbors.
- 8. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 18, 2019.

Adjourned at 7:10 P.M.