



**Near North Unity Program (NNUP)
Membership Meeting NOTES
6:00 pm - 7:30 pm
Monday, February 24, 2020**

**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.

AGENDA

- MME 1001 W North Ave. Cannabis Dispensary Community meeting
 - Sara Barnes - Attorney, Samuel V.P. Banks Law - Zoning Attorney, under lease for property, strip mall North Sheffield and Kingsbury. Across from FFC. City and State new laws for regulating Adult Use of Cannabis. Apply for a state license. 7 city districts. Dispensary is in the North district and is located in the 27th ward. Community driven process. 3 available license. MedMen has 2 medical cannabis locations in Evanston and Oak Park. Both have been converted to Adult Cannabis.
 - Morgan Sokol – Executive Vice President of Regulatory Affairs (*MedMen* – Applicant) Engage with communities, thought leaders, Founded 2010. 6 states, 32 operational retail sites in the US. In the 2 local Illinois retail units 100 people are employed. Nationally, 58% of people employed are people of color. Participate in local job fairs. Recruitment and retention. Best in class retail experience to our customer. Have won numerous awards for retail experience. Bring 5 star hospitality. Security and Customer check.ID scan and loyalty program. Product kept in a secure place not on the sales floor. Certificate of Analysis for quality. Safe doses. Deliveries are prearranged. Fully banked accept debit cards.Bank accounts in every state we operate. In house legal and regulatory affairs. Audit facilities regularly. Community Engagement program - Chicago resource fair, 24/7 Community Liaison. Posted on the building and on the website. “We Care” volunteer program bringing here to Chicago. Food Bank. Canvass area to introduce residents and community to ask questions before hard open. Proximity to other high end retail. No schools within 500 foot of the facility. Show proposed site plan. 25 shared parking spaces on site in the parking lot. Alternative parking for employees. 4600 square feet. Show building facade. Lots of windows. 40 customers an hour - high peak areas of the country. Offer on-line orders. 8 POS stations. Economic Benefits. Local Hiring and hiring of impacted persons. Opportunities to climb from retail to corporate. Sponsor 2 job fairs quarterly. 50 jobs in the Chicago area. Red Jacket hiring. Started in LA, full day of history and how you can work there, resume workshop, then hiring. Work with GSG securities. .5% gross revenues to local nonprofits. \$100,000 to local organizations. Ancillary operations - security, maintenance, paper office supplies,feature art. Partnership with other businesses use buzzers so can give people notice when it’s their time in the store. Work with Police in Oak Park, went door to door with other businesses, and waited between 5-10 minutes in Oak Park. Didn’t interfere with other business. Hours of operation - 8am - 9 pm, State allows 6 am-10 pm. ZBA - coming up. 1500 feet requirement between Dispensaries. Cannabis is not being diverted to minors. No advertising to minors. Community wants a designated person 24/7 contacts.

Collaborated in the past with substantive abuse but have no on-going relationship with any in Chicago. Concern raised about the close by OTB. Security is not armed.

- Omar Delgado – General Retail & Operations Manager (*MedMen* – Applicant) Oak Park manager. Hospitality Associates. 10 day training program. Compliance, Science of Cannabis, Way for associates to educate consumers. Associates take classes and quizzes.
- Christopher Rodriguez – Vice President of Global Security (*MedMen* – Applicant) 25 years in security. ID scan when entered store for age, shopping cart, and POS check out, tracking. Security guard does a premier walk and the camera blankets the store.. Training specific for Cannabis sales. Panic buttons reach the Police.

- District 9 - State Representative Candidates Forum
 - Maurice Edwards - Lifetime in Cabrini Green, Jesse White 1976 Godfather, watched him as a State rep and giving back to the community. Secretary White mentor family - His Mom was a single Mom of twins. Prior member LAC of Cabrini Green. Currently co-founder of anti-violence group. Steer youth away from Violence. Help around the holidays. Senior Citizens and Veterans and Justice reform. Laws need to be changed about guns. Hold Parents accountable. Priority - Juvenile Justice reform, why haven't we convened a conversation about juvenile justice, Education needs to be funded fairly even if Charter.
 - Mental Health concerns - sees mental health and homelessness being dropped off at county jail. Lobby for more funding and oversight. Assist families.
 - Property Tax - Work on Tax Cap in Springfield.
 - Crime plan yes - Change laws.
 - Lakesia Collins
 - Tyjuan Cratic - born and raised in Englewood by Grandparents, What we are is we go out in to our community and do better for us, tired of corruption and things not being tackled in Springfield, endorsed by the Chicago Tribune, way to move state and North Lawndale back to bring people and industry back. Top Priority - ethics reform term limits house senate, economic development better housing and jobs, IL low income tax credit. Areas that are over developed and areas under developed like North Lawndale, how can we get more houses and employment, create rehab tax credit, and construction tax credit
 - Mental Health - Previous Governor went 700 days without budget. Restore funds that are already there to provide and how to intervene with people in the criminal justice system. Vote on a budget, vote on laws, bring back resources to the community.
 - Prop Tax - lower taxes by increasing business development.
 - Crime Plan yes - Internet (look for plan there).
 - Nicole Harvey - Cathy Hayes representative speaks, Thanks candidates for coming out. She is Hardworking and a preacher's daughter from the West Side of Chicago. Father minister - Mom teacher - and 25 year career. Works for Danny Davis as one of the Deputies. Dedicated to the community, action person, interested in working as a partnership. Priority - Graduated Income tax, how are people going to have accessible living beyond just affordable housing, survival issues, prescription and medical costs - one issue away from being destitute, accessibility to health and education, children are our future, schools need to be subsidized in fairness.
 - Mental Health - those who are mentally ill are more likely to become victims of crime, shortage of resources and beds, Advocate to find footing, Medications are expensive, so this is a real crisis. Educate communities - to help support medical, housing, treatment.
 - Property Tax - Bring more business into the community. And education to constituents.
 - Crime Plan yes - Partnership.
 - Trina Mangrum - 50 years old, North Lawndale, 15 year old daughter, working for the community Chief of staff in the 28th ward - worked and lived in the 9th district 20 years. Was Chief of Staff in 24 before. Relationship with community. Not new to the work - do it everyday. Priority - pass legislation graduated tax, Federal guidelines in 2019 gun dealerships license, increase funding for school children.

- Mental Health - more money mental health outreach, ID resources in the 9th district, North Lawndale got Federal funds to help community Kennedy forum, HSI, and BOby Wright went outside of box - got mobility unit.
 - Property Taxes - use existing programs to help residents know exemptions they have.
 - Crime Plan Yes - Funding.
- Sandra Schneller - I'm not a stranger to this room. On the NNUP Safety committee. Live in Homan Square with my son. Single father, Mom died at age 12. Thank Father. Sandi wants to stay here and wants to finish her live out here. Business - full time job - help others - know what economic development is. Just to bring in one employee. Utilize business relationship skills. Two degrees in politics. Cover 68 nursing facilities in Illinois. Sometimes I get too caught up. Help Seniors. Help everybody. Priority - Address gun violence, band together to be able to wipe out gun violence, zero tolerance. Crime is a crime, shoplifting and bum rushing store, need laws - repeat offenders, create policy drug users on street must go into treatments and be preventative in treatment to reduce crimes, business development - equitable resource to close 16 year disparity - crime asking people to.
 - Mental Health funding - problem focus of crime, allocate more funding to help people - spread out across all 77 communities in Chicago Sister has mental health issues she relates.
 - Property Tax - need more business so people can come back.
 - Crime Plan yes - Involvement .
- Aaron Turner (not available)

Upcoming Events and Announcements

- Suggestion Box at the check-in table or email mdreczynski@nnup.org with comments
- Feb 27 - NNUP Youth and Family Committee meeting, Capital One Cafe, 1538 N. Clybourn, 11 am
- Feb 27 - Justice Lecture Series, Park Community Church, 1001 N. Crosby, 7 pm
- March 12 - Seward Park Advisory Council, Seward Park, 375 W. Elm, 6 pm
- March 18 - NNUP Coffee with the Commander, Location TBD, 9:30 am
- March 30 - NNUP Monthly meeting, Leslie Hall at the Cornerstone Center, 1111 N. Wells, 6 pm