

**Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission
Committee of the Whole
Wednesday, February 8, 2012
Bottineau Park Recreation Center**

Meeting Notes

Commissioners Present: Kenneth Brown, Christopher Hoffer, Matt Perry, Ed Newman, Marcia Mariani, Maria Sarabia, Mark Hinds

Staff Present: Robert Thompson, Howard Blin

Meeting Facilitators: Jeff Strand and Christopher Hoffer

Agenda

1. Introductions and Announcements

There was agreement on the proposed agenda. There was discussion on whether it was appropriate to discuss the Bylaws Task Force on this agenda. The minutes of the January CoW meeting were accepted.

2. Review Revisions to CPP Guidelines

Staff reviewed a revised version of the CPP Guidelines.

A Commissioner presented alternative language to the description of Neighborhood Priority Plans.

Concerns were voiced that the guidelines would shift the energy of neighborhood organizations from strategic planning to working with the City, which could create extra work.

The necessary engagement process for the plans was questioned. It was noted that the guidelines allow recent NRP Phase II process to serve as the engagement process. Use of the phrase "recent neighborhood plans... may inform..." may lead to confusion without more definition of "recent". It was agreed to remove the term "recent".

It was noted that more definition of the proper level of engagement may allow eliminating much of the language.

It was suggested that provisional language to cover the 2012-13 period be added to clarify items eligible for funding.

In the area of allowing food as an eligible expense, if the existing limit for food expenditures of five percent of total funding were kept, this could total over \$225,000 for all neighborhoods. It was asked if that amount of funding were available.

The definition of what constitutes a donation was discussed.

It was suggested that funding of neighborhood newsletters in which ads are carried be allowed as an eligible expense. Staff responded that to remain consistent with engagement principles and existing policies, a public review period would be necessary before the policy is changed.

It was suggested that before unused funding was reallocated by NCR, a more extensive notice to the affected neighborhood is needed.

Regarding the allocation formula, it was noted that the variable for low income residents had been changed from a ratio to a per unit measure.

It was asked if the variable for foreclosures could include both residential and commercial properties.

It was suggested that the process for early review used by the NRP Policy Board could be continued to spot issues early in the process.

The wording in Sections 1A and 1B were discussed.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM
Prepared by Howard Blin