



**Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission
Tuesday, November 25, 2014 Meeting Minutes**

Minneapolis Central Library, Doty Board Room
300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN

NCEC member attendees: Debra Behrens, Matthew Dobratz, Doron Clark, Denis Houle, Ishmael Israel, Maleta Kimmons, Brittany Lewis, Kenya McKnight, Kirk Roggensack, Jeffrey Strand, Carol Pass, David Zaffrann and Tessa Wetjen.

NCEC members excused: Eric Gustafson and Francisco Segovia.

NCEC members absent: None (Note 1 seat vacant)

Commission staff: David Rubedor, Howard Blin and Cheyenne Brodeen

Guests: Jana Metge, Brad Pass, Michelle Howard, Naomi Mohammed and Peter Rickmyer.

- 1. Public Comment:** Peter Rickmyer gave public comment and stated that he suggests that neighborhood organizations have persons with disabilities committees. He also stated that he hasn't had any response from the Neighborhood and Community Relations department regarding a grievance he's submitted for the NCEC and NRP Policy Board.

Phillips Clean Sweep: The Phillips Clean Sweep is a collaborative event that is organized by the four Phillips neighborhoods in Minneapolis, (Phillips West, Midtown Phillips, East Phillips and Ventura Village). The event allows residents to get rid of extra household trash, it also creates partnerships with neighborhood organizations, residents, volunteers and the city. The event in 2014 collected 24,340 pounds of trashed and had 500 volunteers helping clean up the neighborhood. You can watch the YouTube video to see the event:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-CIPJNmEHRM>.

Organizers, Jana Metge from Midtown Phillips Neighborhood Association, Michelle Howard from Minneapolis' Solid Waste and Recycling, Brad Pass from East Phillips Neighborhood Association and Naomi Mohammed of Banyan Communities attend the meeting to present on the Clean Sweep.

- 2. Introduction (Action):**

The meeting was called to order at 5:22 p.m. with Israel in the Chair.

Agenda: Wetjen moves to approve the agenda, Roggensack Seconds the motion. Strand requested that the NCEC Annual Evaluation be added under Secretary's Report, item 3, B, (c) to review a proposed process outline. Agenda Approved.

- 3. Executive Committee Reports (Informational and Action):**

Chair's Report: Chair Israel welcomed back Commissioner Lewis and wished Commissioner Strand a happy belated birthday. A letter from Nokomis East

Neighborhood Association to Director Rubedor dated 11/24/14 was mentioned (assistance with town hall meeting).

Secretary's Report:

A. Minutes:

Motion: Strand moves to approve the minutes of 10/28/14, Clark Seconds the motion. Behrens abstains. Motion carried.

Special meeting minutes:

Motion: Strand moves to approve the minutes of 11/12/14, Roggensack Seconds the motion. Wetjen abstains. Motion carried.

B. Attendance Report: Commissioner Strand reported on attendance. He noted that no commissioners are at risk of having 3 or more unexcused absences. The attendance report maintained by NCR staff was distributed. Commissioners Segovia and Gustafson are excused. Quorum was present.

Commissioner Strand also noted that in his capacity as the secretary it is necessary to conduct an annual evaluation of the NCEC, the Executive Committee, and the Chair, as required by the Bylaws. Strand noted that he wants to ensure coordination with the NCEC strategic planning and the proposed larger programmatic evaluation in 2015 if funded in the City budget.

Motion: Wetjen moves approval of the proposed process for the 2014 NCEC evaluation. Strand seconds the motion. Pass abstains. Motion carried.

4. NCR Budget(Discussion)

Summary: NCR Director David Rubedor shared that at the November 17th meeting of the City Council's Health, Environment, and Community Engagement Committee (HECE), two items were on the agenda relating to funding for neighborhood programs. The first, on the consent agenda, was a report on uncontracted neighborhood funds. This was an update and additional detail to the information presented at the NCEC Special Meeting on November 12th. Director Rubedor stated that the process to develop the statement for the November 17th HECE meeting was great and that the statement was very thoughtful, deliberate and poignant.

The second item involved a staff presentation on the history of neighborhood programs in Minneapolis which was followed by public comment. Approximately 20 representatives from neighborhood organizations, including members of the NCEC, spoke during the comment period. In addition, Chair Israel presented the statement from the NCEC to the Committee.

At the meeting the Committee approved the two staff directives listed below. Both call for the involvement of the NCEC:

- 1) Staff directed to engage neighborhood associations and the NCEC in developing policy and procedural recommendations for the Council which would establish guidelines for allowable balances of unspent NRP fund allocations and require any neighborhood association not meeting those guidelines to develop a plan with specific timelines on how they will use those funds, as well as developing reporting and monitoring procedures for the deployment of these resources. Staff are to present a draft policy recommendation to Council no later than May 31, 2015.
- 2) Neighborhood & Community Relations staff directed to work with the Neighborhood & Community Engagement Commission developing recommendations for future expenditures of the consolidated TIF fund for neighborhood revitalization purposes.

Discussion:

- Lewis stated that these are huge directives and the NCEC cannot make directives by itself, there will need to be community engagement done and this adds a lot to already full plates.
- Wetjen stated that the NCEC needs to get something developed by April 2015.
- Strand asked what role the NRP Policy Board would play. Strand noted that the NCEC enabling resolution excludes NRP Phase I and Phase II funding and places that under the NRP Policy Board's purview.
- Rubedor said that the recommendations developed by the NCEC would be brought to the Policy Board before final approval from the Council.
- Behrens suggested that it would be helpful to have the definition of Neighborhood Revitalization Purposes.
- Pass stated that her neighborhood asked her to suggest that the money be used for pay back in loss of funds for neighborhoods that resulted from the December 2010 decision.
- Houle supports the motion, but is frustrated that the NCEC is being asked to be collaborative in a non-collaborative process.

Motion: Behrens moves for the Neighborhood and Community Relations department to seek out a legal opinion from the Secretary of State, city or outside legal advice on the intended use of consolidated TIF funds for neighborhood revitalization purposes. Clark seconds the motion. Strand moved to amend to “appropriate State officials.” This was accepted as a friendly amendment. Motion carried.

Motion: Wejten moves to form a task force to coordinate work through the Committee of the Whole meetings to respond to the directives from the Health, Environment and Community Engagement Committee (HECE) from December 7th, consisting of no more

than four people with a time line from December 2014 to May 2015. McKnight seconds the motion.

Amendment: Strand amends the motion to replace the task force with 1 -4 facilitators to report to the Committee of the Whole. There was discussion and consensus was reached on how to proceed thus enabling the withdrawal of the proposed Amendment. Behrens voted against. Motion carried.

Comments:

- Dobratz is in favor of the motion and is interested in serving on the task force.
- Strand thinks that the work should be left in the Committee of the Whole.
- Lewis stated that the Committee of the Whole needs to be invigorated for the amendment to make sense.
- Behrens thinks this work belongs to everyone.
- Strand stated that there should be no limit on who can participate in the task force, if the number of people are removed then he will withdraw his amendment.
- Dobratz and Strand expressed interest in convening the work group.
- Commissioners on the HECE Directives task force are: Strand, Israel, and Dobratz. Behrens was initial listed but withdrew her name. Dobratz is the convener.

5. NRP Policy Board Report: (informational)

Summary: Commissioner Strand reported that an informational meeting was held in November to discuss the NCR's 2015 proposed budget.

6. Committee Task Force Reports: (Action)

A. One Minneapolis Fund Committee: Wetjen reviewed the Year One Program Report.

Motion: Wetjen moves to approve the One Minneapolis Fund Report. Roggensack Seconds the motion. Motion Carried.

B. Other Committee Reports Deferred; Comments:

Commissioner Zaffrann requested that the Community Innovation Fund update get moved up in the agenda at next month's meeting. The CIF Committee has worked on draft guidelines for the next NCEC meeting.

Commissioner Roggensack requested that the Community Connections Conference committee report be moved up on the next meeting agenda.

Adjourn: Motion Wetjen, Second Roggensack to adjourn. Motion carried. The November 25, 2014 meeting was adjourned by Chair Israel at 7:17 p.m.