

Green Zones Workgroup
Tuesday May 10th, 2016 5:00-7:00pm
Neighborhoods Organizing for Change (NOC) 1101 W Broadway Minneapolis MN

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

Working group members present: Amber Haukedahl, Emily Stern, Gayle Bonneville, Guinevere Baptise-Johns, Jennifer Swanson, Jim Terrell, Kent Peterson, Max Holdhusen, Michael Guest, Rosa Tock, Roxxanne O'Brien, Shalini Gupta, Yolonda Adams-Lee

Working group members unable to attend: Ginger Cannon, Kellie Jones, Louis Alemayehu, Michelle Chavez, Patrick Hanlon

Staff: Julianne Leerssen, Kelly Muellman, Gayle Prest, Siri Simons

Guests: Taejaun Taylor, Boise Jones, Laura Babcock (RETAP), Anna Bierbrauer, Neb Brooks, Jim Dorsey, Janiece Watts (NOC), Tracy Roloff (City of Minneapolis Innovation Team), Felicia Perry

5:08pm Welcome & Introductions

5:17pm Agenda & Minutes Review

Kelly Muellman reviewed the May 10 agenda with the group and asked for any edits to the April 27 minutes. Roxxanne O'Brien requested changing the group norms to reflect that Workgroup members should be held accountable to attending meetings, but not expected to attend every meeting. Gayle Prest also noted that Nancy Pryzmus' name was misspelled.

5:23pm Group Norms

Kelly reviewed the list of Group Norms brainstormed at the April 27 meeting and asked for any additions. The group discussed and added two norms: 1) Be clear about who you are speaking on behalf of, be transparent and 2) Don't meet to just have meeting, but have an outcome. Roxxanne O'Brien also expressed interested group members facilitating meetings. Kelly clarified that the Green Zones Resolution passed by the Minneapolis City Council directed the Coordinator's Office to lead the Green Zones Workgroup process, but members are encouraged to have a role in the agenda and should reach out to Kelly with ideas.

Kelly facilitated an activity for Workgroup members to narrow down the list of norms by giving each member several stickers to place next to the norms they felt were most important for this group. The results are as follows:

- Don't meet to just to have a meeting, have an outcome, move something forward (10 stickers)
- Keep intention of improving community health at center (7)
- Listen to understand (5)
- Be direct/say what you mean (5)
- Commit to broader community engagement (5 stickers)
- Don't be afraid to ask questions (4)
- Begin and end meetings on time (3)
- Don't be afraid of directness (3)
- Be clear who you are speaking on behalf of (3)

- Hold people accountable to the rules established by the group (2)
- Listen without interrupting (1)
- Share group roster (1)
- Commit to being present (1)
- Don't attack people personally (1)
- Don't limit solutions(1)
- Be aware if status (1)
- Transparency (1)
- Voice your multiple voices (1)

5:54pm Roles/Ground Rules

Kelly reiterated the charge of the workgroup. She explained that Minneapolis City Council established the Green Zones Workgroup and directed it to identify: 1) goals, expectations, metrics, 2) criteria and data needed to determine the geographic area for a Green Zone and c) strategies for implementation. The Workgroup will provide recommendations to City Council by December 2016.

The group discussed the role of guests in meetings. All meetings are open to the public and guests are welcome to attend, but specific time will be allocated to their comments and participation, primarily to ensure that the Workgroup stays on task. Some Workgroup members expressed concerns about a lack of community engagement in the process so far, while others see the Workgroup itself as a community engagement process. The group brainstormed various strategies to increase community engagement in the Workgroup including: using word of mouth to increase community participation in meetings, newspaper and radio ads, surveys, flyers, listservs and focus groups. The Workgroup created a sub-committee to develop a community engagement plan to bring back to the Workgroup for review and approval. The purpose of the engagement plan is to increase the number of voices and perspectives from community in the Green Zone Workgroup process without making the Workgroup meetings unwieldy. Yolonda Adams-Lee, Gayle Bonneville, Roxanne O'Brien, and Max Holdhusen volunteered to participate in the committee.

The Workgroup discussed whether or not members will have alternates. The alternate would attend in place of community or agency staff members of the Workgroup unable to attend a meeting. The alternate would sit at the table, but not vote. Kelly is willing to follow up when Workgroup members are unable to attend to collect input regarding decision making. There were no official decisions made on the Roles and Ground Rules. The Workgroup will continue this discussion at its third meeting in June, which will be a racial bias workshop facilitated by CommonSense Consulting.

Further, some group members expressed concerns about the project timeline. Staff commented that it may be possible to extend the project timeline, but the group should wait to ask City Council for more time until it has made more process on the Green Zones objectives provided to them by Council.

6:46pm Health Impact Assessment

Rosa Tock provided an overview of the Health Impact Assessment (HIA). In 2013, the Environmental Justice Working Group to the Minneapolis Climate Action Plan recommended developing a Green Zone Policy. In 2015, a Minnesota Department of Health partnership with community groups in the Phillips neighborhood resulted in a year long process for the development of a Health Impact Assessment on Green Zones in Minneapolis. The Green Zones HIA Steering Committee, which includes Isuroon, Hope Community, Waite House, Land Stewardship Project, CEED, and Nexus Community Partners, developed and implemented strategies to understand what a "healthy environment" meant for Phillips neighborhood residents. The activities of the HIA Steering Committee included convening focus groups and collecting air quality data. Data is still being collected and analyzed. Moving forward, the Steering committee plans to use the data to produce a report by November, develop sustainability indicators, and host Green Zones trainings for the Green Zones Workgroup and broader community.

6:59pm Meeting Scheduling

Workgroup members filled out June and July calendars to determine the next meeting time.

The meeting adjourned at 7:04pm.

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