

**Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission
Committee of the Whole
Wednesday, October 12, 2011
North Commons Park**

Meeting Notes

CPP Application from Lowry Hill Association

Commissioners Present: Christopher Hoffer, Matt Perry, Crystal Johnson, Tessa Trepp-Wetjen, Jeff Strand, Ed Newman, Kenneth Brown, Doron Clark, Carol Pass, Latrell Beamon, Marcea Mariani

Commissioners Not Present: Ali Warsame, John Finlayson, Tony Anastasia, Mark Hinds, Maria Sarabia

Staff Present: David Rubedor, Ahmed Muhumud, Robert Thompson, Howard Blin

Meeting Facilitator: Christopher Hoffer

Agenda

1. Introductions and Announcements

Changes were proposed to the agenda to discuss the revisions to the CPP Guidelines. It was discussed that while that topic merits discussion, focusing on the transition of NRP had more urgency at this time. Agenda approved as proposed.

Two changes were proposed to the September 14, 2011 meeting notes, one that Perry was the facilitator, and that Hoffer was not present.

2..CPP Application from Lowry Hill Association

The Commission had the following questions and comments on the application:

- On Question 3 a statement is necessary on how they will go about asking NCR.....
- Given the late date, they may not have time to spend funds by year end. Staff responded that the contracts will be rolled over for the first six months of 2012.
- Application was extremely brief.
- More than renters unengaged, like that new draft has more opportunities for reaching new communities.
- Because of past action of city, there are concerns that if you don't spend money, will lose it.
- Need to communicate to communities that they have to do something different than in guidelines.

- There were questions about the guarantee about CPP and NRP when it crosses over.
- What will they use money for?

3. Community Engagement Plan for CPP Guideline Revisions

The Committee discussed how commissioners would be involved. It was noted that during the drafting of the original guidelines in 2010, there was heavy involvement of commissioners. This revision may be more important than the original guidelines, particularly since they will cover the period through 2015. All commissioners should be notified of all meetings

What is the plan for outreach to under-engaged neighborhood organizations? Important to try to avoid giving preferential treatment to neighborhoods that have time to participate. The committee also discussed the need to notify the broader community, beyond just neighborhoods.

It was suggested that informational meetings could be held in each of the NCEC Districts. It was agreed that staff would organize meetings for those Commissioners representing districts who wish to hold informational meetings.

4. NRP Transition

Staff described that the existing joint powers agreement for the NRP Policy Board expires at the end of 2011. It is expected that the City Council will act on a new ordinance to reestablish the Policy Board and that a new joint powers agreement will be enacted. With funding for the CPP program coming from NRP funds in 2012 and 2013, the Policy Board is required by statute to allocate funding. In addition, NRP plans will also be reviewed by the Policy Board. The question presented to the committee was, with CPP moving from the NCEC to the Policy Board, what should be the new focus of the Commission? Staff made a presentation which described the history of neighborhood programs and suggested some possible areas for the NCEC to work on, including promoting broader engagement by neighborhoods and outreach by the City to cultural communities. It was also suggested that the NCEC could hear appeals of NRB Policy Board Funding decisions.

The Commission had the following questions and comments:

- More information needed on the statutory and legal mandates on the programs.
- It was noted that the statutory requirement for Policy Board approval of CPP funding ends in 2014. At that point, what part of

- The question of whether the Policy Board could delegate CPP oversight to the NCEC must be addressed.
- It was stated by several commissioners that without authority over funding, the NCEC would be powerless.
- The City Council should take more time for a thorough analysis of the issues involving the responsibilities of NCEC and the Policy Board.
- The neighborhood perspective should be the primary consideration. The direction the program is going is not customer service focused.
- Questions were raised about how the NCEC could hear appeals if it does not have authority to approve funding. This appears contradictory.
- The NRP Policy Board tends to follow a top down decision making model and lacks the neighborhood focus of the NCEC.
- The NRP should receive the minimum authority for the minimum time, with CPP authority reverting to the NCEC after two years.
- Similar to the appeals issue, how can the NCEC hear grievances if it does not have the authority to make decisions on CPP funding?

The meeting adjourned at 7:06 PM

Submitted by Howard Blin