

Meeting Minutes

Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission Tuesday, April 28, 2015 – Minneapolis Central Library

Meeting attendees: Matthew Dobratz, Doron Clark, Jeffrey Strand, Ishmael Israel, Tessa Wetjen, Denis Houle, David Zaffrann, Eric Gustafson and Maleta Kimmons.

NCEC members excused: Kirk Roggensack, Debra Behrens, Francisco Segovia and Kenya McKnight.

NCEC members absent: Carol Pass.

Public Comment

Peter Rickmyer shared with the commission his grievance against the Hawthorne Neighborhood Council. He filed a grievance because they didn't have proper accessible parking signage.

1. Introduction

Approve Agenda: Wetjen moves to add 15 minutes to agenda item 3 to discuss the relationship between police and the community.

Motion: Strand moves to add 5-10 minutes to the agenda to discuss the Community Innovation Fund approval process through the City Council. This would be agenda item 4.5, and move current agenda item 4.5 to 4.6. Dobratz Seconds the Motion. 6 Yeas, Zaffrann Nay, Wetjen Abstains. Motion Carried.

Motion: Israel moves to change agenda items 4.4 and 4.6 to Action items. Wetjen Seconds the Motion. Motion Carried.

Comments:

- Zaffrann commented that the Community Innovation Fund discussion should be held with Director Rubedor is at the meeting.

2. NCEC Strategic Plan

Wetjen reviewed the Strategic Plan document that was included in the commissioner's packet. She suggested that the commission affirm the four goals in the document and use the document to guide the commission's work for the next year. The four goals are:

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Para asistencia 612-673-2700 - Rau kev pab 612-673-2800 - Hadio aad Caawimaad u baahantahay 612-673-3500.

- Using the principles of community engagement, NCEC will convene and lead a robust city-wide conversation by stakeholders about the future of neighborhood organizations and will make recommendations to City Council in 2016 regarding changes to CPP guidelines effective 2017.
- NCEC will adopt a formal work plan for its work, including clarifying who the NCEC serves, and institute a process for using it by June 30, 2015.
- Develop a plan for NCEC to use the Blueprint for Equity to support city wide (city departments, neighborhood organizations, community and cultural organizations, and residents) effective, inclusive, and equitable engagement in civic governance by December 31, 2015.
- NCEC will implement a process by which policy recommendations are made to the City Council at least annually by April 30, 2016.

Motion: Wetjen moves to use the four strategic goals to guide the commission's work from now until the first quarter of 2016. Houle Seconds the Motion. Kimmons Abstains. Motion Carried.

Comments:

- Houle commented that most of the strategic plan work was done at the Committee of the Whole meeting, a meeting which is very lightly attended by Commissioners. Then when it gets to the full commission, commissioners just critique it instead of helping create it.

3. Executive Committee Reports

Chair's Report: Candidate applications for the NCEC District seats are due Friday, May 8th. The election will be held on Thursday, June 18th at 6:30p.m.

Secretary's Report:

1. **Minutes:** Strand moves to approve the March 2015 minutes with one correction of removing Commissioner Zaffrann from the motion approving the February minutes because he was absent for the March 2015 meeting. Clark Seconds the motion. Motion Carried.
2. **Attendance Report:** Commissioners Roggensack and Behrens are excused for the March 2015 meeting. There are still two vacancies on the commission that need to be filled.
3. **Community and police relationship:** Commissioner Wetjen shared that there are current problems with the police department and the community and the NCEC should be involved with issues regarding community engagement in our communities. What can the NCEC do with this current issue? Are there any recommendations we could make? Commissioner Wetjen will organize a policy group to further discuss this.

Comments:

- Houle stated that there are issues with the police cameras and the identities of victims and what kind of information can be released to the public.
- Dobratz agrees that there is something that the commission should do; however, it is important that it's done through the proper channels.
- Gustafson said that he's happy the commission is talking about police/community relations and supports further conversations.
- Israel questioned where the NCR and NCEC department fits within this discussion happening in the City.

- Strand echoes the previous comments and has had negative experiences with police from within the LGBTQ community. He also stated that it's important to be respectful of other advisory commissions whose mission this subject falls under.
- Clark stated that there is room in the strategic plan to do this work. There needs to be clear language on why we are supporting this issue.
- Zaffrann suggested that there are lots of other ways the NCEC should be involved in equity inequalities in the City.
- Kimmons suggested that police officers carry their own personal liability insurance.

4. Committee and Task Force Reports

1. **One Minneapolis Fund Committee:** 42 applications were received for the 2015 One Minneapolis Fund cycle; the committee will come to the May NCEC meeting will recommendations.
2. **City Department Engagement Task Force:** The next meeting is Wednesday, April 29th, 5:30p.m. at the Crown Roller Mill Building.
3. **Committee of the Whole:** No report.
4. **Community Innovation Fund Committee:** RFP was sent out on April 14th, there will be an informational meeting on May 5th and RFP's are due on June 5th.The committee will bring forth recommendations at the June NCEC meeting.

5. Neighborhoods 2020 Committee:

Motion: Gustafson moves to adopt the Neighborhoods 2020 charge as presented to the Commission, with Gustafson as the Co-Chair. Wetjen Seconds the Motion. Motion Carried.

Comments:

- Strand wanted to call out the membership bullet number 2, which states that non-NCEC members can serve on this task force.

5. NRP Policy Board

There was no April meeting, there should be a May and June meeting.

6. NCR Report

1. **Community Engagement Plan:** In November 17, 2014, the Health, Education and Community Engagement Committee of the City Council approved the following staff direction:

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.

NCR staff have prepared a [DRAFT Community Engagement and Communication Plan](#). Please note that the plan will remain in draft form to allow us to respond to circumstances as they arise.

We encourage NCEC Commissioners to attend one or both of the community meetings on May 14 and June 16, to listen and observe. We would like to review our findings from the meetings with NCEC as we complete a final draft of the Guidelines, to ensure we are properly reflecting the feedback we heard.

NCR staff also ask that you encourage your neighborhood organizations to contact NCR with questions and comments regarding this proposed policy.

NCR staff request NCEC review of the process and draft document during the June NCEC meeting for final feedback prior to our presenting to City Council for action.

Comments:

- Israel stated that there are only a few neighborhoods vendors that neighborhoods can contract with the conversion of CEE, are there any extensions being granted?
 - Staff responded that it is going to be a long recovery from this upheaval and that neighborhoods should not be penalized because of it.
- Wetjen asked what help do neighborhoods need to get the money out the door?
 - NCR looks at ways we can help neighborhoods be more effective.
- Houle asked how many neighborhoods need to submit a Phase II Plan.
 - Staff said there are 4 neighborhoods. One of the 4 being the University neighborhood that won't submit a Phase II plan.

7. Adjourn

Jeff strand would like to thank Mayor Hodges for attending the Shingle Creek Watershed Cleanup on Saturday, April 18th.

Motion: Clark moves to adjourn at 6:31p.m. Dobratz Seconds the Motion. Motion Carried.