

Meeting Minutes

Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission Tuesday, June 28, 2016 – Minneapolis Central Library

Meeting attendees: Debra Behrens, David Boyd, Braulio Carrasco, Nick Cichowicz, Doron Clark, Raya Esmaeili, Denis Houle, Ishmael Israel, Eric Gustafson, Nasser Mussa and David Zaffrann.

NCEC members excused: Jeanne Montrese, Tessa Wetjen, Francisco Segovia and Antoine Martinneau.

NCEC members absent: Queen Kimmons.

Staff Present: Howard Blin, Cheyenne Brodeen, David Rubedor and Robert Thompson.

1. Public Comment

No one appeared to address the Commission.

2. Introductions

Call to order: Israel called the March meeting of the Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission to order at 5:11 p.m. Commissioners introduced themselves.

Behrens noted that the Stevens Square neighborhood is hosting the annual Red Hot Arts Fest the last weekend in July (July 30 and 31).

2b Agenda Approval:

Motion: There was a proposal to switch agenda items 3 and 4, to accommodate Council Member Frey's schedule and to add a short update from the Neighborhoods 2020 Committee as agenda item 5a. Then move the current agenda item 5a (Community Participation Program Guidelines Approval) to 5b. Lastly to add agenda item 7a. Neighborhood Report Update. Gustafson moved to approve agenda as amended, Carrasco Seconded. Motion carried.

3. Recognition of Outgoing Members

Council Member Frey presented certificates of appreciation to outgoing NCEC commission members Doron Clark, Ishmael Israel, Eric Gustafson and Debra Behrens. Commissioners Segovia and Wetjen were absent from the meeting.

4. Executive Committee Reports

4a. Chairs' Report

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

Chair Israel shared the election results from the June 16th NCEC elections. Denis Houle was reelected in District 2, Marcus Mills was newly elected in District 4, Kenya Weathers was newly elected in District 6 and Marcea Mariani was newly elected in District 8.

Motion: The Chair motioned to extend NRP Policy Board member terms through July 31st, Esmaeili seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

3b. Secretary's Report - February minutes

Motion by Boyd, seconded by Esmaeili to approve the [minutes as amended](#). Motion carried unanimously.

11 members are present at the meeting for a quorum.

5. Neighborhoods

5a. Neighborhoods 2020 update

Gustafson updated the group on the work of the committee. They are aware of the NCR department's initiative surrounding the Art of Hosting and they support it. He also noted that the committee is aware of the effort started by Whitter to establish a congress of neighborhoods. There has been waning participation in the committee over the last few months so he will be recommending suspension of the committee so the new NCEC commission and its members can deliberate how it would like to continue this work. All work of the committee will be submitted to NCR staff to update the committee webpage.

A question was raised asking if Martinneau was elected Chair at the last committee meeting. Gustafson responded that he was, but his work responsibilities might be pulling him in too many directions.

Houle thanked Gustafson for his work. He would like to hope that the work continues, but he noted that we have three entities, Neighborhoods 2020, the Art of Hosting work and the congress of neighborhoods. In order to lobby for neighborhoods, there needs to be one voice moving forward.

Zaffrann stated that it has been an honor and privilege to work with Gustafson. The work of the Neighborhoods 2020 committee is a good example of what can be achieved at a committee level.

5b. Community Participation Program Guidelines Approval

Robert Thompson, NCR staff presented the [draft Community Participation Program Guidelines](#) to the Commission for their final approval and recommendation to the NRP Policy Board and City Council.

A question was raised regarding neighborhood action plans and some problems that neighborhoods may face if they are having trouble getting their funds spent within the 7 year

deadline. It is making neighborhoods nervous that if they don't use it they will lose it. Thompson responded that there is a waiver provision.

Boyd asked if the general fund money could be used for food. Thompson clarified that they are talking about two separate general funds, one for neighborhood organizations, and one for the City. He also encourages neighborhoods to do more fundraising for the use of food.

Israel asked for a point of clarification – any funds raised at events paid for with CPP funds still applies to CPP guidelines and cannot be used for food in the future. Thompson stated that was correct.

The commission held a lengthy discussion regarding the funding formula. There are no proposed changes to the funding formula in the 2017-19 guideline revisions. Staff is recommending a boarder discussion on the funding formula be held for the year 2020 and beyond. Commissioners expressed disappointment that they did not get a chance to discuss the formula. Some felt that now would have been a great time to review the formula to ensure it is equitable.

Director Rubedor noted that there had been a lengthy discussion during the original drafting of these guidelines in 2010. It was also noted that adding additional variables or subtracting other variables didn't change the allocations by more than a few dollars here or there.

Motion: Clark moves to recommend the draft 2017-19 Community Participation Program Guidelines to the NRP Policy Board and City Council as presented. Behrens seconds. Nay, Gustafson. Motion carried.

6. Community Engagement

6a. 2016 One Minneapolis Fund Recommendations

Chair Israel reviewed the [recommendations for funding](#) for the 2016 One Minneapolis Fund.

A motion was made to approve the recommendations to the City Council, however it was noticed that the amount requested and the amount recommended was off. This item was tabled for staff to review the accuracy of the staff report presented.

Zaffrann thanked all of the commission members who sat on the One Minneapolis Fund Committee for their work. He also noted that of all the organizations recommended for funding, there was only one organization who works with new Americans. The committee should take that into consideration for next year's funding cycle.

Israel stated that the We Win group was left off the list of recommendations. Their proposal is being recommended for \$25,000 in funding.

Motion: Esmaeili moves to approve the 2016 One Minneapolis Fund recommendations for final approval by the City Council. Gustafson seconds. Motion carried unanimously.

6b. City Department Engagement Task Force

Howard reviewed the past work of the committee and mentioned that the group is looking for new members. The next meeting is Tuesday, July 19th at the Crown Roller Mill.

Mussa encourages members to attend. Can staff send a message to the new commissioners and encourage them to attend? Staff responded that they will.

7. NCR Report

Director Rubedor shared that the department is in the final stages of developing the ADA plan for the City. The plan will be presented to City Council at the end of the month.

NCR hired a new neighborhood specialist, Aria Fine and the new Deputy Director, Don Joseph.

The Neighborhood Evaluation is complete. Bill Smith will be present at next month's NCEC meeting to present the findings.

The NCR department is also undergoing a department reorganization, the main purpose of the reorganization is to better align the work of the neighborhood and access and outreach teams.

Blin noted that the new commissioner orientation will be held on Monday, July 18th.

Adjourn: Boyd moved to adjourn the June meeting of the NCEC at 7:16p.m., Carrasco seconded the motion. Motion carried.