



Request for City Council Committee Action from the Office of the Neighborhood and Community Relations (NCR) Department

Date: 4/7/2014
To: Council Member John Quincy, Chair, Ways and Means
Referral to: City Council
Subject: Community Connections Conference

Recommendation:

- 1.) Authorize the Neighborhood and Community Relations (NCR) Department to accept \$3,600.00 in exhibit hall revenue related to the Community Connections Conference.
- 2.) Approve the acceptance of \$1,250.00 in financial contributions from the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe related to the Community Connections Conference.

Previous Directives: none

Department Information

Prepared by: Cheyenne Brodeen, Community Relations Specialist

Approved by: David Rubedor, Director, Neighborhood and Community Relations _____

Paul Aasen, City Coordinator _____

Presenters in Committee: Howard Blin, Community Engagement Manager
Cheyenne Brodeen, Community Relations Specialist

Financial Impact

Funds received from for-profit organizations, government agencies and large non-profit organizations are to cover the cost of renting exhibit tables at the Community Connections Conference.

The financial contribution from the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe will cover the costs of the entertainment at the conference.

Community Impact:

The conference was specifically designed for neighborhood organizations, cultural communities, nonprofit organizations, City departments and residents to share best practices of neighborhood engagement.

Supporting Information:

Over 500 community leaders, residents, elected officials and city staff attended the 2nd Annual Community Connections Conference - "Common Ground: A City That Works for All" on Saturday, March 22nd.

The conference featured a Keynote Address by Dr. Verna C. Price, 50 exhibitors, 40 workshops, and entertainment from Southwest High School Jazz Combo, Cosmic Troubadours and Ginger Commodore, a buffet style lunch featuring foods from diverse communities and a post-conference reception hosted by the Minneapolis City Council.

Representatives from Minneapolis neighborhood organizations, City staff, and the Neighborhoods and Community Engagement Commission (NCEC) planned and organized the 2014 conference.

There is value in gathering neighborhoods on an annual basis to discuss broader neighborhood and city goals, objectives and opportunities. We hope this annual conference will provide a forum to support broader discussions and alignment between neighborhoods, the City and our communities. The conference is an important step in exploring how the City's key partners – neighborhoods and community organizations – can help us create a city that works for all.

Exhibit Hall Revenue:

There were a total of 36 exhibitors from for-profit, government agencies and non-profits with operating budgets over \$250,000 a year that paid \$100.00 for a table at the conference. The total of these funds equal \$3,600.00.

Financial Contributions:

The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe served as a conference sponsor for the entertainment at the conference and provided \$1,250.00 to cover the costs of entertainment for the day.

Centerpoint Energy also served as a conference sponsor and provided \$2,500.00 towards the cost of the lunch. Their contribution was paid directly to Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association who served as a fiscal agent as per the agreement with the Convention Center.

Post-Conference Report:

The NCR Department is in the process of gathering information for a post-conference report. The report will include feedback from conference evaluations and registration data and will be used for planning of the 2015 Community Connections Conference. The post-conference report is anticipated to be presented to the Health, Energy and Community Engagement Committee in May.