

Community Participation Program 2011 Annual Report for Bottineau Neighborhood

1. Accomplishments work? What were your organization's major accomplishments in 2011? How were individuals in your community directly impacted by your community directly impacted by your work?

BNA former staff person worked on and completed the Small Area Plan. This focus was for the Lowery Avenue corridor, leading up to the new bridge. The neighbors and city council people came with us on a walking tour to discuss our plans to see small business; home owners and pedestrians have access to our neighborhood and make it a place to stop before crossing the new bridge.

BNA partnership with the MPRB and sponsors a clean up for the Minneapolis Earth Day Watershed Clean Up. We have coordinated groups (Wells Fargo bank, Excel and neighbor volunteers) along both sides of the river from Boom Island to the Excel Riverside Power Plant.

2. 2011 CPP Submission

Reviewing your submission for CPP funds for 2011, what outreach and engagement activities did you carry out? What worked well, and what did not work so well? Why?

Engagement is an ongoing process for BNA. Neighborhood meetings, emails and postcards, public notices in NE paper, and door-knocking. BNA holds monthly open Board meetings and quarterly neighborhood meetings. We publish the **Bottineau Gazette** 4 times a year and supplements with post cards. We are working on electronic outreach efforts at this time.

We find that postcards and postings in the NE paper reach our large rental and Somali community to attend the quarterly neighborhood meetings. Our published **Bottineau Gazette** is distributed throughout the neighborhood, we are not sure if it is being utilized by all. So we have an electronic web site for BNA in which we would like maintain and up date for information to all. This would save on paper and printing. We are having a hard time gathering local emails to make electronic emails to the residents.

We are still working on outreach with our large Somali community; we will need to have written information in Somali and meetings with the aid of an interpreter to help with building communication.

3. Stakeholder Involvement

Reviewing your submission for CPP funds for 2011, how did you reach out to and involve under-represented communities? Did you find any strategies to be particularly successful?

BNA found that using postcards and the postings in the NE paper reached out to the rental and Somali community. Seen by the quarterly meetings for attendance was up and included a few renters and Somali community members. I think that with written information in Somali and having small meetings with an interpreter we may be able to bridge the gap and have more input from this large group in our neighborhood.

Please also provide the following:

A. How many people currently serve on your board? Are there vacancies?

We currently have six active members on the BNA Board at this time. We have two vacancies we would like to have filled by the Somali community.

B. Approximately how many individuals have participated in committee meetings in the last year?

We have had 7 to 9 people attend meetings at various times throughout the last year.

C. How many people attended your annual meeting?

The annual meeting attendance has been from 13 to 20 people.

D. How many households regularly receive your publications (such as newsletters or newspapers)?

We have sent out postcards to residents and business about 300.

E. Approximately how many people participate in other activities of the organization?

During the Lowry Avenue corridor walk we had 20 people participate with input. At the Minneapolis Earth Day Watershed Clean Up attendance was 30 people.

1. *Financial Reports*

Please provide an income and expense report for your organization for the year. (Please include all funding sources).

See attached fill

In addition to your annual report, please take time to describe your interactions with City departments and other jurisdictions.

1. *Impact*

What interactions occupied a major part of your time? What worked well, what could be improved?

The most of our time has been paper work for applications, taxes and old business of clean up after old office staff left.

2. *City Communications – effectiveness*

Is the information that you receive from the City understandable and useful?

The information needs to be clear and stream line. We are neighborhood volunteers with little experience with city paper work. We all come from different fields of work and need easy to understand instructions.

3. *City Communications – timeliness*

Do you receive adequate notice of City activities in your neighborhood? If not, did your organization inform somebody at the City of this? Did the City respond in a positive manner? Please explain.

When we have received information from the city and did not know how to respond. We would contact our NCR neighborhood specialist (Stacy Sorenson) She would call me right back or email the information we needed right away. She is our compass in maintaining BNA operations.

4. *City Departments*

How can City departments improve the way in which they function in your neighborhood?

Give the neighborhood lead contacts for people that will help that neighborhood with issues and questions that arise.

5. *City Assistance* How can the Neighborhood and Community Relations Department improve the assistance it provides to your organization as a citizen participation group?

I will say that the NCR specialist has been the greatest resource and most accessible to the neighborhood in its needs to function.

6. *Other comments?*

