



***NRP Policy Board***  
Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, September 18, 2012  
Minneapolis Central Library

**Call to order**

Jeffrey Strand, Chair called to order the regular meeting of the NRP Policy Board at 5:20 pm on September 18, 2012 at the Minneapolis Central Library, Doty Board Room.

**I. Call to Order**

The following Board Members were present: Carol Pass, Council Member Kevin Reich, Jeffrey Strand, Saciido Shaie, Kenya McKnight and School Board Member Jenny Arneson.

The following Board Members were absent: Representative Bobby Joe Champion, Jeremy Hanson-Willis, Senator Jeff Hayden, Hennepin County Commissioner Gail Dorfman, and Park Board Commissioner Liz Wielinski.

The following staff members were present: David Rubedor, Howard Blin and Cheyenne Erickson.

The following guests were present: No guests were present.

**A. Approval of September Agenda: Approval of June Minutes:**

**II. Introduction of New Members**

Saciido Shaie and Kenya McKnight introduced themselves.

**III. Approval of Agenda**

Council Member Reich moved to accept the agenda, Jenny Arneson seconded the motion, all approved.

**IV. Approval of June Minutes**

Council Member Reich moved to approve the June Minutes, Jenny Arneson seconded the motion, all approved

**V. ADA Compliance Plan for Neighborhoods**

Director Rubedor reviewed the background information regarding the ADA compliance plan for neighborhoods and explained that the department had received a few grievances related to a neighborhood that was not in compliance with the ADA law. The department had a summer intern conduct a review of all neighborhoods to see where they stood in terms of ADA compliance. The intern was able to review about half of the neighborhoods and found that there is work to be done.

Neighborhood organizations are 501c3 or 501c4 organizations and need to be in compliance with the ADA title II laws in order to receive funding from the department. The results also show that there is a strong desire to be compliant, but lack the tools and knowledge to do so. T

The department is developing a strategy to help neighborhoods be compliant in the ADA law. The strategy includes providing trainings, a resource manual and help in ADA inventories of space and programs to neighborhood organizations. This information should be ready by mid-October and the plan is to bring this back to the Policy Board and then send this out to the neighborhood organizations for a 45-day review and comment period and then bring this to the City Council for approval in early 2013.

Questions and Comments from Board Members regarding the ADA Compliance Plan for Neighborhoods:

- What was found to be the biggest problem?
  - The problems were varied such as accessible website and the physical space of the organization.
- Will there be additional resources?
  - ADA is what can be reasonably accommodated, we are working with the City attorneys, and this is not meant to bankrupt neighborhoods.
- Need to understand what ADA is? It would be helpful to have the language to better understand and help elaborate. Language can also be a barrier to participate, how can that be incorporated into this plan for neighborhoods?
  - We can get a better explanation for ADA and we are in agreement with you in terms of the language piece, but for this purpose ADA is limited to disabilities rather than other languages.
- Interested in knowing what type of costs this will create for neighborhoods, but it is also important to reduce claims. If resources become an issue can we coordinate with other sources of funding?
- It would be helpful if this was packaged so NCEC members can take it out to their neighborhoods.
- There should be regional outreach meetings after the Policy Board adopts this Policy.
- The neighborhood representatives on the Policy Board should be charged to coordinate the regional outreach meetings.

Motion: Council Member Reich moved to direct staff to come back with an approach to bring neighborhoods into ADA compliance by November. Kenya McKnight 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, all approved

## **VI. Discussion of Role of Neighborhood Representatives**

It was suggested that the neighborhood representatives on the board meet and hold a discussion on this and bring it back to the full Policy Board on a later date.

Council Member Reich moved to table this item with a friendly amendment that the neighborhood representatives will meet and bring this item back for discussion at the October Policy Board meeting, Jenny Arneson seconded the motion, all approved.

## **VII. Discussion of Need for Alternates to Policy Board**

Staff explained that this topic is being reviewed from the Boards and Commissions diversity survey conducted this year and the department and city are looking to open more opportunities for participation. The question came up if it would be a good idea for some boards and commissions to allow for alternates.

It was mentioned that alternates would be a good idea for this board to help with quorum issues.

Questions and Comments from Board Members regarding the Discussion of Need for Alternates to Policy Board:

- Interested in knowing who is not participating.
- There should be more discussion on why we aren't getting more diversity on our boards and commissions.
- There is a subcommittee of the NCEC that was created to continue the work from the report. It is important to keep in mind that we are not just talking about ethnic diversity.
- It will be important for the alternates to have a role and purpose on the board.

Motion: Carol Pass moved to direct staff to bring back models of what and how this idea of alternates would work for this body. Jenny Arneson 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, all approved.

## **VIII. Review of NRP Policies**

Staff reviewed the background information on the policies for the newly seated members of the board. The next policy that needs to be adopted is the grievance policy, it currently relates to an independent agency that no longer exists. There is a question if it makes sense for both boards (NCEC and Policy Board) to consider grievances and if not, which is the appropriate board.

Questions and Comments from Board Members regarding the Review of NRP Policies:

- For accountability purposes it may have some importance to have an elected official or someone with an election certificate on the body that hears grievances.

- It would be helpful for new members to be able to review the policies. It would also be helpful for staff to make a recommendation regarding this topic to the Policy Board.

**IX. Next Meeting**

The next NRP Policy Board will be held on Tuesday, October 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm at the Minneapolis Central Library, Doty Board Room.

**X. Other Business**

**XI. Adjourn**

Board Chair Jeffrey Strand adjourned the meeting at 6:20pm

Minutes submitted by: Cheyenne Erickson

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ATTEST: Commissioner Gail Dorfman,  
NRP Policy Board Secretary