



NRP Policy Board

Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 21, 2013
Minneapolis Central Library

Call to Order

Chair Jeffrey Strand called to order the regular meeting of the NRP Policy Board at 5:16 pm on May 21, 2013 at the Minneapolis Central Library, Room N-270.

1. Introductions

The following Board Members were present: Park Board Commissioner Liz Wielinski, Jeffrey Strand, School Board Member Josh Reimnitz, Jeremy Hanson Willis, Kenya McKnight, Carol Pass, and Saciido Shaie , Jeffrey Strand,

The following Board Members were absent: Senator Jeff Hayden, Hennepin County Commissioner Gail Dorfman,

The following staff members were present: Robert Thompson, Howard Blin

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Wielinski, seconded by Reimnitz, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of February Minutes

Motion by Reimnitz, seconded by McKnight, to accept the February minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Review of Policy for Preparation and Processing of Neighborhood Priority Plans and Policy for Revisions to Changing Approved Neighborhood Action Plans.

Motion by Wielinski, seconded by Reimnitz to approve the policies.

Thompson described the changes proposed to the two policies and described the process followed to receive comments from neighborhoods.

Discussion on Preparation and Processing of Neighborhood Priority Plans Policy

Motion by Wielinski, seconded by Reimnitz to amend the motion with a change to reflect the comments of the Park Board which is to increase the review period for reviewing Priority Plans from 15 to 30 days.

McKnight asked about the changes to the process of obtaining feedback on plans that is described on page 3 of the process. How do we ensure that the feedback provided is not

overly technical? Thompson responded that the feedback would come through NCR staff, who could work with City departments to provide appropriate feedback useful for neighborhood organizations.

Pass asked what would be the process for neighborhoods to contact City Departments and who would they contact? Thompson responded that it would vary depending upon the issue. A goal is to build relationship between the neighborhoods and City Departments.

Motion by McKnight, seconded by Wielinski to call the question on the amended motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Vote on the amendment was approved unanimously.

Motion by Reimnitz, seconded by McKnight, to for a second amendment the motion and change the Priority Plans policy to eliminate on page 4, paragraph three the language added regarding the NCR Director. The revision would read as follows:

In all cases, revisions or comments to be attached must be submitted to the NCR Director one week prior to the date of the Policy Board meeting at which the Neighborhood Plan will be considered so that the NCR Director can prepare a transmittal letter to the Policy Board and coordinate the presentation of the Neighborhood Plan for review and approval.

Strand commented that streamlining the approval process can sometimes take the Policy Board out of the process and thereby reduce the involvement of neighborhood representatives.

Thompson stated that any proposed streamlining was in response to comments from neighborhood organizations which are looking to reduce process.

McKnight said she favors the amendment an including the NCEC District Representatives in the process.

Motion on the second amendment carried unanimously.

Motion McKnight, seconded by Reimnitz, for a third amendment to the motion to add to the Policy Plan process described on page 2 of the “ When the Neighborhood has Identified its Priorities” and page 4 “After the Final Neighborhood Plan is Written” the involvement of the relevant NCEC Commissioners. Motion on the third amendment carried unanimously.

Discussion on Changing Approved Neighborhood Plans Policy

Thompson described when plans need to be updated.

Pass stated concerns for reducing the survey response rate, shown on page 3 (C) from 20 percent to 10 percent. This lower number may not adequately reflect the diversity of a neighborhood.

Thompson responded that the change was due to the difficulty larger neighborhoods may have surveying 20 percent of their residents.

Motion by Pass, seconded by Reimnitz, for a fourth amendment to the motion to keep the response rate for surveys at 20 percent. The motion carried unanimously.

The main motion, as amended, to approve the policies with the approved revisions carried unanimously.

At the request of the Chair, and consistent with the principles of community engagement, staff agreed to follow up with neighborhood organizations to inform them of how their input was considered in the policy development.

5.NCR Report

Blin noted that the NUSA conference would begin on the following day and run through Saturday.

Stand noted the comments from neighborhood representatives who attended the meeting on the Policy Plan Process held at Van Cleve Park on April 5th. There were concerns raised about the level of future Community Participation Plan funding. It was suggested that the future allocation of Community Participation Plan funding should be reported to neighborhoods soon as possible.

I. Next Meeting

The next NRP Policy Board will be determined.

II. Other Business

III. Adjourn

Board Chair Jeffrey Strand adjourned the meeting at 7:08pm

Minutes submitted by: Howard Blin

ATTEST: Commissioner Gail Dorfman,
NRP Policy Board Secretary