

**Community Participation Program
2013 Annual Report**

Neighborhood Organization: Folwell Neighborhood Association

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Folwell Neighborhood Association
Meetings and Event Information
January 2013 – December 2013

**Folwell Neighborhood Association
Meetings/Events/Office Volunteer/Office Services Information**

DATE	EVENT	Volunteers	Volunteer Hours
Folwell Neighborhood Events			
4/20/13	Earth Day	Cancelled	
6/20/13	Ice Cream Social	33	90
8/6/13	National Night Out	19 Events	NA
Board of Directors Meetings			
Monthly -1 st Thursday	11 meetings (none in July)	67 Members attending	Not counted as volunteer hours
Monthly -1 st Thursday	11 meetings (none in July)	29 Guests	Not counted as volunteer hours
Partnership Events with Webber-Camden Neighborhood Organization			
4/23/13	Senior Resource Fair	6	21
9/02/13	Victory Race	14	43
9/21/13	Harvest Fest/ Open Streets	6	14
11/2/13	Senior Leaf Rake	NA	NA
In Office Volunteer Hours			
Weekly	Staff Support	1	104.5
Total Volunteer Hours			272.50

213 residents used the free FNA/WCNO Copy, Fax, Notary Services: January 1/31 – 4/1 - Office closed due to water damage from burst pipes. From April 1 – December 31, with approximately 75% of office service visits were for faxing, followed by requests for copying and notary services.

- How did you reach out to and involve under-represented communities in 2013?

By sharing information through block contacts, one on one communications, and at community events. The largest underrepresented group in Folwell neighborhood is Asian residents and the senior population. Folwell is in contact with the senior population related to the Senior Leaf Rake in the fall and the Senior Resource Fair in the spring. Those contacts continue throughout the year. We connect with the Hmong and other Asian populations through HMAA and other specific representative groups.

- Did you find any strategies to be particularly successful? Why?

Working with the Hmong youth at Patrick Henry High School and HMAA is the most consistent way to communicate and partner on community projects.

- What did not work so well? Why?

NA

- How many people did you reach through direct contact (door knocking, meetings, one-on-ones, etc.)?

700-800

- How many individuals volunteered in organization activities?

106

- How many individuals participated in your organization's activities?

Over 1400

- How many people receive your print publications?

Folwell does not distribute a print based newsletter. When there are public events or special meetings, depending on the purpose, flyer distribution can be between 300 to 1500 units for each event.

- How many people receive your electronic communications?

The e-mail contact list now exceeds 600 direct contacts. Neither the website nor the FaceBook page is accurately measured due to the wide range of topics.

1. 2013 Highlights

Annual Report
Folwell Neighborhood Association
November 2012 to October 2013

2013 was a return to normal period for Folwell neighborhood. There were still remnants of the tornado that devastated the north neighborhoods in May of 2011 and the recovery moved from immediate need into a long term plan focused on the future. One outcome was a proliferation of vacant resulting from the demolition of houses too badly damaged to be salvaged and the remnants of the foreclosure crisis that left houses vacant and unclaimed.

2013 will be the end of an eighteen month contract period with the NCR, the City of Minneapolis' Neighborhood Community Relations Department and the beginning of a new three year contract period beginning in January of 2014. Folwell and Webber-Camden neighborhood will begin discussion for a broader level of collaboration to meet the needs of residents and the work of the organizations. A 2013 co-initiative of the neighborhoods of to address litter, "The Litter Critters" was rolled out at Open Streets in September and is continuing to be developed.

NCR funding will be sufficient to operate the office but will not support programs or services provided through the Folwell Center for Urban Initiatives or the 4th Precinct CARE Task Force which has become a significant contributor to the stability of Folwell and other northside neighborhoods. Folwell is currently working with other partners, non-profits and foundations, to find funding to continue that work.

For FNA, housing is a primary focus; fewer houses are in, or pending property tax delinquency or foreclosure and home sales have been encouraging with several buyers who are owner occupants. The most current economic forecasts are even more encouraging. Folwell will continue to look for collaborative housing funds and work with economic development programs to support neighborhood stability.

FNA is an active member of the Lowry Corridor Implementation Council and a member of the Lowry Corridor Business Association which is focused on continued development of the Lowry Corridor. In 2013 Folwell representatives were elected to the Penn Corridor Public Works Implementation Committee which is focused on the redevelopment of the Penn Corridor for the Interchange to 4900 Osseo Road North

Folwell joined Webber Camden and McKinley neighborhoods in withdrawing from the NNC, Northside Neighborhoods Coalition. Some of that group continues to meet however the work is focused south of Lowry and is no longer relative to the Camden Community neighborhoods.

In 2013, Folwell saw a vigorous, grassroots community outreach in the form of virtual block clubs and subsequent in person gatherings. FNA supported 19 National Night Out events, two more events than in 2012.

In 2013, the Annual Ice Cream Social in Folwell Park was even bigger than 2012 with about 1400 folks attending. The partnership events of Folwell and Webber-Camden neighborhoods under the banner of Come Home to Camden were the Senior Resource Fair and the 10th Community Picnic at the Victory Race in September. The recently completed Senior Leaf Rake served 21 senior households. FNA tabled for the fourth year

at the Lowry Avenue Harvest Fest which was a combined event with Open Streets Minneapolis and grew to a regional event that attracted 7000 visitors to Lowry for a full day on September 29th.

2013 has been a challenge and full of new opportunities. We must continue to communicate, we need to express tolerance, patience, and welcome diversity to safeguard the quality of life in Folwell.

What percentage of time did your organization spend on housing-related activities?

Approximately 35% of staff time is directly related to housing.

2. Financial Reports

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

1. ***Impact***

What interactions with City departments occupied a major part of your time?
What worked well? What could be improved?

We work with multiple city agencies however most often with Regulatory Services and Fire as related to multi - family housing, Animal Control, NCR and the City Council (4th Ward).

Our relationship with city agencies has been positive and helpful.

On a scale of 1 to5, with 1 being poor and 5 being excellent, how would you rate your overall experience with your interactions with the City? 5

2. ***City Communications – effectiveness***

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

95% of the time communication is understandable and useful. When it is not we ask questions.

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 being excellent, how would you rate overall communications from the City? 5

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.

Yes.

On a scale of 1 to5, with 1 being poor and 5 being excellent, how would you rate the timeliness of communications from the City? 5

4. ***City Departments***

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

The city departments we have interaction with are usually functional and helpful.

5. ***City Assistance***

How can the Neighborhood and Community Relations Department improve the assistance it provides to your organization as a community participation group?

NCR has always been receptive to our requests.

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 being excellent, how would you rate the assistance provided to your neighborhood by NCR? 5

6. ***Other comments?***