

Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Policy Board

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF

December 17, 2007

Present and Voting: Debbie Evans, Beverly Conerton, Carol Pass, Jeffrey Strand, Mark Stenglein, Peter McLaughlin, Barbara Johnson, Rep. Karen Clark, David Ellis (Alternate, United Way), Ken Kelash (Alternate, Central Labor Union), and Jon Olson, chair, presiding

Alternates Attending: Nicholas Kakos, Mark Hinds, Tom Bissen, Carletta Sweet, Robert Lilligren

Absent: Gail Dorfman, R.T.Rybak, Rep. Joe Mullery (excused), Chris Stewart, Sandra Vargas, Todd Klingel Anita Duckor

Staff: Bob Miller, Carsten Slostad

Others Present: Brock Hanson, Kathleen Lamb, Rick Collins

I. CALL TO ORDER

Jon Olson, chair of the NRP Policy Board, called the meeting to order at 4:50 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Jeffrey Strand moved and Debbie Evans seconded the motion for approval of the agenda. Jeffrey Strand then asked to amend the agenda with the addition of a resolution on the future of NRP as an action item. The revised agenda was adopted. After the minutes were adopted, Carol Pass indicated that she had a resolution to add to the agenda.

Barbara Johnson moved and Ken Kelash seconded a motion to reconsider the agenda. The Carol Pass resolution was added to the agenda and this secondly revised agenda was then adopted.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Upon a motion by Beverly Conerton and seconded by Mark Stenglien the minutes of the November 19, 2007 meeting were adopted.

IV. ACTION ITEMS

1. McKinley Neighborhood Phase I Plan Modification #17 [NPR / FR#2007-26]

Bob Miller explained that the modification requested would move dollars within established housing strategies to allow the neighborhood to make more effective use of their funds to help address some of the current housing challenges in their neighborhood. Policy Board approval is needed because of the dollar amount being requested.

Upon a motion by Mark Stenglein and seconded by Ken Kelash, the following resolution was adopted.

RESOLVED: That in accordance with the Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program Policy Board (Board) policy on "Changing Approved Action Plan and Early Access Requests" (approved by the NRP Policy Board on June 6, 1994 and amended on September 5, 1995, and November 19, 2007) the Board hereby approves that Directors Recommendation to authorizes the reallocation of \$300,000 between existing plan strategies as detailed in the Summary of Proposed Changes included with the neighborhood plan modification request.

2. Additional Funding for Allina Jobs Program [NRP / FR#2007-27]

Bob Miller reviewed this item with the members of the Policy Board. Upon a motion by Mark Stenglein and seconded by Peter McLaughlin the following resolution was adopted.

RESOLVED: That the Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) Policy Board ("Board") supports the Job Relocation, Resident Recruitment, and Community Stabilization Agreement Between the Allina Health System, NRP and the Neighborhoods of South Minneapolis ("Agreement") as detailed in the Attachment;

RESOLVED FURTHER: That the Board approves and appropriates \$125,000 from the Administrative Contingency Fund approved by the Board on March 22, 2004 as an additional NRP commitment to the relocation loan offered under this Agreement to the Allina Health Systems;

RESOLVED FURTHER: That the Board authorizes the Director to spend up to that amount for this loan and negotiate and sign any Agreements needed to transfer these funds without further approval from this Board; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Director is hereby authorized and directed to request that the City Council, City of Minneapolis, appropriate \$125,000 to Fund CNR0-890-3550 for the purposes herein authorized.

3. Resolution on the Future of NRP

[NRP / PR#2007-23]

Jeffrey Strand distributed and then moved the resolution on the future of NRP with Mark Stenglein seconding his motion. During discussion Barbara Johnson indicated her support of the spirit of the resolution and her support for NRP but had reservations about supporting some of the specific language in the third and fifth resolved clauses.

Peter McLaughlin then suggested revising the third clause to read;

“That funding for NRP beyond 2009 provide operating support at a substantial amount for discretionary/implementation funding with most of the discretionary/implementation funds being non-competitive”

The revised resolution was then moved by Peter McLaughlin and seconded by Jeffrey Strand. After continued discussion a vote was taken on the revised resolution. The revised resolution failed to be adopted. Debbie Evans then moved with Jeff Strand seconding that a clarification to the third resolving clause be made to add the word “annual” so it reads “That the *annual* funding for NRP.....”. This clarification was adopted. A vote was then taken on the following revised resolution, which was then adopted. Barbara Johnson and Mark Stenglein abstained.

WHEREAS, The Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) was enabled by Legislative action and established as a Joint Powers program in 1991 by multi-jurisdictional actions to preserve and enhance private and public infrastructure, public health and safety, economic vitality, sense of community, social benefits and capacity building in the neighborhoods of the City of Minneapolis (City); and

WHEREAS, In 2008 the need for neighborhood infrastructure and investment remains critical as Minneapolis neighborhoods and residents face new and continuing challenges that negatively impact neighborhood livability, such as the ongoing mortgage foreclosure crisis; and

WHEREAS, The residents of Minneapolis, volunteering through their neighborhood organizations, have contributed more than one million hours (1,000,000) of volunteer service to make this City a better place to live, work, learn and play; and

WHEREAS, Minneapolis residents have become more connected to their City and other local governments through their involvement with their neighborhood organizations; and

WHEREAS, The Teamworks evaluation of NRP praised the program and found statistically significant evidence that NRP has improved the housing stock of the City of Minneapolis, increased homeownership rates and fostered inter-governmental collaboration; and

WHEREAS, Residents of the City believe that NRP has greatly contributed to the quality of life in the City and allowed them to directly participate in decisions that affect their lives; and

WHEREAS, NRP has been internationally recognized as a successful and innovative community empowerment program; and

WHEREAS, The residents of the City have repeatedly expressed and reaffirmed their opinions regarding the continuation of NRP and its funding, governance and organizational structure and have strongly supported:

- * Continuation of the NRP program
- * Funding for organizing and resident participation activities at the neighborhood level
- * Funding for implementation of projects and programs identified in Neighborhood Action Plans
- * Having an independent NRP Board
- * Having NRP staffed by employees of the NRP Board
- * Strengthening the formal public processes through which neighborhood organizations can meaningfully communicate and participate in City decisions; and

WHEREAS, The NRP Policy Board wants to maximize the potential for the continued success of NRP, encourage even greater resident participation and recognize and work within the continually changing financial environment in which the program operates; and

WHEREAS, Neighborhood organizations through the use of NRP funds have leveraged over ONE BILLION DOLLARS (\$1,000,000,000) in additional public and private investments in the City of Minneapolis; and

WHEREAS, The long-term funding provided to neighborhood organizations through the Neighborhood Revitalization Program has empowered neighborhood organizations and residents allowing them to plan and implement strategies that have positively affected the quality of life in every neighborhood of the City; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the NRP Policy Board strongly supports, (1.) That the NRP Phase II neighborhood allocations be funded at one hundred percent 100%; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, (2.) That NRP continues beyond 2009; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, (3.) That annual funding for NRP beyond 2009 is at a minimum of four million dollars (\$4,000,000) for operating support and a minimum of eight million dollars (\$8,000,000) for discretionary/implementation funding with no less than eighty-five

FURTHER RESOLVED, (4.) That secure stable, dedicated, and predictable revenue sources are provided for the operating support and discretionary/implementation funding indicated above for a period of no less than ten (10) years; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, (5.) That the Neighborhood Revitalization Program be governed by an independent board comprised of no less than fifty percent (50%) neighborhood representatives who are elected by neighborhood organizations; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, (6.) That the Neighborhood Revitalization Program central office staffing is under the direct supervision and control of the NRP board; and be it

FINALLY RESOLVED, (7.) That efforts be made to improve the cooperation between neighborhood organizations and local units of government;

4. Resolution on Legacy Fund Transfers

[NRP / PR#2007-24]

Carol Pass distributed a proposed resolution, which she then moved. Debbie Evans seconded the resolution. Following discussion the following resolution was then adopted with Barbara Johnson voting against it.

WHEREAS, The City Council has taken the positive and welcome action to guarantee that each neighborhood of the City will receive at least 70% of its Phase II NRP neighborhood allocation; and

WHEREAS, Sources of revenue are still needed to address the projected shortfall of more than \$12.5 million that results from the October 1, 2007 projections of Common Project revenue provided by the City; and

WHEREAS, The City has identified the Legacy Fund as the source of its 70% guarantee; and

WHEREAS, The current Discretionary Development Funding resolution of the City (Resolution 2003R-404) uses transfers from the Common Project to repay expenditures that would otherwise draw down the balance of the Legacy Fund; and

WHEREAS, The Common Project has been and is the primary source of funding for NRP;

RESOLVED: That the NRP Policy Board strongly urges the Minneapolis City Council to immediately end its use of transfers from the Common Project to pay for expenditures from the Legacy Fund;

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the transfers approved to cover expenditures that have already been made from the Legacy Fund be honored but that no transfers be made to pay for any Legacy Fund expenses for which there is an allocation but no expenditure as of December 31, 2007.

V. PRESENTATIONS & REPORTS

At this point in the meeting the chair recognized and thanked outgoing neighborhood representative alternates Tom Bissen and Carletta Sweet for their service on the NRP Policy Board. They were also presented with a certificate of recognition.

1. Review of Results from the Future of NRP Questionnaire

Bob Miller explained to the members that the results of the questionnaire included in the meeting materials packet was edited only for clarity and no analysis of the responses was made.

2. Update on the City's Task III NRP Future Working Group

Robert Lilligren reviewed with the members of the NRP Policy Board information on this working group, who participated and what was accomplished. The report from this working group will be presented to the City Council committee of the whole on December 20th. It is anticipated that the recommendation for a framework for NRP will then be sent to the neighborhoods for comment during the first quarter of 2008. He emphasized that one model will be presented rather than several options, with the understanding that recommendations will be considered to revise and enhance this model as it is being reviewed. Discussion followed on funding and what might be needed from the legislature.

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VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Carsten Slostad, Secretary Pro Tem

ATTEST: Jon Olson, Chair