

Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Policy Board

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF

May 19, 2008

Present and Voting: Debbie Evans, Beverly Conerton, Kari Anderson, Jeffrey Strand, Mark Stenglein, Cara Letofsky (Alternate, Mayor's Office), Barbara Johnson, Scott Vreeland, Ken Kelash Rep. Joe Mullery and Gail Dorfman, chair, presiding

Alternates Attending: Brock Hanson, Mark Hinds, Carol Pass, Nicholas Kakos, Robert Lilligren

Absent: Peter McLaughlin, R.T. Rybak, Lydia Lee, Sandra Vargas, David Ellis (excused), Todd Klingel

Staff: Bob Miller, Carsten Slostad

Others Present: Gary Arntsen, Jim Graham, Mary Watson, Mike Kimble

I. CALL TO ORDER

Gail Dorfman, chair of the NRP Policy Board, called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

With the addition of an update on the legislation and framework for the future, Ken Kelash moved and Cara Letofsky seconded the adoption of the agenda.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Upon a motion by Ken Kelash and seconded by Scott Vreeland the minutes of April 28, 2008 were adopted.

At this point in the meeting a brief discussion was held on the legislation that was recently passed as part of the Tax Omnibus Bill. The Bill creates a new possible funding source for future neighborhood revitalization efforts..

IV. ACTION ITEM

1. Ventura Village NRP Phase II Neighborhood Acton Plan [NRP / FR#2008-05]

Bob Miller introduced Mary Watson and Jim Graham who then presented the plan to the Policy Board. He noted that this plan contains many unfunded items, which are priorities for the neighborhood for the future.

Mary Watson reported on the process used to develop the plan and Jim Graham reported that a majority of the NRP dollars in the housing section of the plan would continue the successful programs to upgrade the housing stock in the neighborhood. It was also noted that Ventura Village has many professionals who live in the neighborhood who volunteer their expertise so that the neighborhood does not have to have paid staff.

Upon a motion by Scott Vreeland and seconded by Jeffrey Strand the following resolution was then adopted.

WHEREAS: On April 19, 2004 the Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) Policy Board (“Board”) approved a Phase II allocation for the Ventura Village neighborhood of \$688,753 based on the Phase II revenues projected for NRP;

WHEREAS: The neighborhood conducted a Phase II neighborhood planning process that began in June 2006 and has submitted a Ventura Village neighborhood NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan that requests a Phase II allocation of \$688,753;

WHEREAS: The Ventura Village neighborhood has allocated at least 70% of their Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan to housing programs, projects, services and activities;

RESOLVED: That the Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program Policy Board (Board) hereby accepts and adopts the Ventura Village NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan;

RESOLVED FURTHER: That the Board hereby authorizes the Director to request that the City Council and Mayor: [a] approve the Ventura Village NRP Phase II Neighborhood Action Plan, and specifically those parts of the Plan that fall under City jurisdiction, for their Phase II allocation of up to \$688,753; [b] amend the 2008 General Appropriation Resolution to increase the Fund 01CNR-8900800 (NRP Fund) appropriation by \$220,738 from existing fund balance for implementation of the approved Plan; [c] authorize the appropriate City officers to reserve the remaining \$468,015 for Plan implementation in a reserve account within Fund 01CNR-8900800 for future years expenditures on the approved Plan provided that no more than 70% of the amount approved for the Plan (\$482,127) shall be obligated in the first three (3) years after approval of the Plan; and [d] authorize the appropriate City officers to enter into any contracts or agreements necessary to implement the Plan and the activities above.

V. POLICY ITEMS

1. Community Interest Members on the Policy Board

Bob Miller reported that a letter has been sent to these members asking about their level of participation on the Policy Board in the future. He is still waiting for replies. He will present an update at the June meeting with some recommendations on how to address this situation.

VI. PRESENTATIONS & REPORTS

1. 2008 Minneapolis / St. Paul Home Tour Report [NRP / PR#2008-08]

Bob Miller reported on the success of the 2008 Home Tour; this in spite of the worst weather in the twenty one years of the tour. He highlighted the changes made to make a more direct market appeal for attendees, thanked Hennepin County for the support the libraries give in distributing the Home Tour Guide, reported an improved relationship with the City of St. Paul and their new staff assisting with the tour, and pointed out that the tour this year generated extra revenue. This being after all the expenses, including internal staff time, were taken into account.

After a period of questions and comments by Policy Board members the following resolution was moved by Mark Stenglein and seconded by Debbie Evans. The resolution was then adopted.

RESOLVED, That the Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) Policy Board (Board) agrees that NRP should be the coordinator for the 2009 Minneapolis and Saint Paul Home Tour; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board authorizes the Director to: (1) enter into any contracts or agreements needed to conduct the 2009 Home Tour; (2) expend funds from the approved 2008 and 2009 Administrative Budgets as needed for this purpose; (3) create the accounts and files needed to document the revenues received and the expenses incurred for the Home Tour; and (4) use the NRP name, logo and website to promote and advertise the Tour; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Director shall provide a full report on the revenues and expenditures, attendance and any other relevant matters to the Board by July 30, 2009.

2. Update on the Framework for the Future of NRP

Robert Lilligren reported that the work group is on schedule and that their recommendation will be presented to the City Council Committee of the Whole on June 19th. A discussion on the issues that will be addressed in this recommendation was then held. Most of these discussions centered on the future administration and governance of the program.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 pm

Carsten Slostad, Secretary Pro Tem

ATTEST: Gail Dorfman, Chair