

Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Policy Board

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF

November 24, 2008

Present and Voting: Debbie Evans, Beverly Conerton, Kari Anderson, Jeffrey Strand, Peter McLaughlin, Cara Letofsky (Alternate, Mayor's Office), Barbara Johnson, Rep. Joe Mullery, Scott Vreeland (Alternate, Park Board), David Ellis (Alternate, United Way), Ken Kelash (Alternate, Central Labor Union), and Gail Dorfman, chair, presiding.

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

Absent: Mark Stenglein, R.T. Rybak, Tom Nordyke, Lauren Segal, Bill McCarthy

Staff: Bob Miller, Carsten Slostad

Others Present: Doug Walter, Rita Ulrich, Dwayne Townsend, Muriel Simmons, Kerri Pierce Ruch, Amy Luesebrink, Crystal Trutnau, Del Lundeen

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ken Kelash, vice-chair of the NRP Policy Board, called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Peter McLaughlin moved and Barbara Johnson seconded approval of the agenda, which was revised by moving the Phillips West presentation to the beginning of the meeting.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Upon a motion by Jeffrey Strand and seconded by Scott Vreeland the minutes of the October 27, 2008 meeting were adopted.

IV. PRESENTATION

1. West Phillips Phase I Neighborhood Action Plan Review

Muriel Simmons and Crystal Trutnau presented the review and highlighted how important the NRP plan has been in the Phillips West Neighborhood. They also addressed questions and comments from the Policy Board members. Scott Vreeland moved and Debbie Evans seconded that the review be received and filed.

At this point in the meeting Gail Dorfman, chair of the Policy Board, arrived and assumed the chair.

V. ACTION ITEMS

1. FY 2009 NRP Administrative Budget

[NRP / FR2008-9]

Bob Miller presented the budget for adoption. He pointed out that the total amount requested had not changed since his original presentation in September. Clarifications were added to the cover memorandum reflecting the revised financial projections for the program and corrections were made to errors in the budget footnotes. Also added was a 2% cost of living increase for staff, which was done without adding additional dollars by adjusting some line items.

Upon a motion by Scott Vreeland and seconded by Beverly Conerton the FY2009 NRP Administrative Budget was adopted.

VI. POLICY ITEMS

1. 2009 Legislative Session Discussion

[NRP / PR2008-17]

Jeffrey Strand placed this tabled item from the October meeting under discussion. He moved the resolution from the October minutes and revised the final resolving clause to read:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Policy Board Chair and the NRP Director shall be authorized to pursue legislation that clearly allows for funds from the newly authorized Redevelopment Finance District to be used for the statutorily defined purposes of the Neighborhood Revitalization Program.

The motion was seconded by Debbie Evans and discussion then followed. The concern expressed in the discussion centered on the unease that the neighborhoods have that unless clarification in the legislation is made, funds may not be available to neighborhoods in the same way as they currently have been available. Consensus was not reached and a substitute final resolving clause was moved by Beverly Conerton and seconded by Scott Vreeland, which reads as follows:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Policy Board Chair and the NRP Director shall be authorized to work with the State Legislative Delegation and the City to ensure that funds from the newly authorized Redevelopment Finance District can be used for the statutorily defined purposes of the Neighborhood Revitalization Program and to pursue legislation if needed.

A vote was taken and the resolution with the substitute final clause was then adopted with Barbara Johnson and Cara Letofsky voting against the resolution. The following is the complete resolution as adopted.

WHEREAS, the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) Policy Board (Policy Board) was created in 1991 pursuant to the NRP legislation with multi-jurisdictional representation on the NRP Policy Board, which has successfully governed the Neighborhood Revitalization Program for 17 years, becoming a national model for community engagement and partnerships with independent neighborhood associations;

WHEREAS, on September 26, 2008, the Minneapolis City Council adopted Resolution No.2008R-402 that adopted the final report of the NRP Work Group entitled *Framework for the Future: Options for the Focus, Funding and Governance of NRP Program and Action Plan Activities after 2009* and approved establishment of a new City Neighborhood and Community Relations Department within the office of the City Coordinator, and the Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission, to coordinate community engagement and to oversee the operation of the NRP after 2009;

WHEREAS, on September 22, 2008, the Policy Board requested by Resolution that the City live up to its principles of community engagement by entering into a meaningful and direct dialogue with the Policy Board and neighborhood organizations on the future of the Neighborhood Revitalization Program, encouraged the City to consider whether residents' interests are best served by a Neighborhood Revitalization Program governance structure that brings policy makers and neighborhood representatives together through the multi-jurisdictional Policy Board as the governance structure for the Neighborhood Revitalization Program, funding of neighborhood organizations at a minimum of \$12 million annually after 2009 for operating support and for discretionary / implementation funding, and the City secure funding to cover the gap in NRP Phase II funding; and,

WHEREAS, the Policy Board also voted to strongly encourage the City to work with neighborhood organizations, the Policy Board, and its other jurisdictional partners to develop a mutually agreeable legislative proposal that clearly allows for funds from the newly authorized Redevelopment Finance District to be used for the statutorily defined purposes of the Neighborhood Revitalization Program;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Policy Board Chair and the NRP Director shall be authorized to work with the State legislative delegation and the City to ensure that funds from the newly authorized Redevelopment Finance District can be used for the statutorily defined purposes of the Neighborhood Revitalization Program and to pursue legislation if needed.

**2. Neighborhood Representatives to the Neighborhood and Community
Engagement Commission** [NRP / PR2008-18]

To begin the process for selecting neighborhood representatives to the new Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission, Debbie Evans presented the following resolution, which was seconded by Ken Kelash.

WHEREAS, The City Council of Minneapolis adopted the “Framework for the Future” on September 26, 2008; and

WHEREAS, The City is now moving to establish the Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission; and

WHEREAS, 8 of the 16 members of this Commission are to be residents selected by the recognized neighborhood organizations of Minneapolis; and

WHEREAS, the Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) has been working closely with neighborhood organizations for more than 18 years; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED: that the NRP Staff is authorized to invite representatives from each of the neighborhood organizations with which NRP works, to a meeting at which the neighborhood organization representatives shall be able to discuss the process that they would like to use to select their representatives to the new Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission, and NRP Staff may request resources from the office of the City Coordinator to implement this process to assist neighborhoods to select members of the City’s Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the neighborhoods shall be given a minimum of 45 days to consider this request and their interest in participating and be required to provide a resolution received by January 30, 2009 from their Board approving participation in this meeting to be held on February 21, 2009;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the meeting shall be scheduled on February 21, 2009, to minimize conflicts with holidays, neighborhood meeting schedules and to provide time for discussion at the neighborhood level if, and only if, at least 60% of the recognized neighborhood organizations agree to participate; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the NRP Staff identify a neutral, knowledgeable and skilled facilitator to conduct such a meeting, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that neighborhoods will be encouraged to provide their ideas for how this process could work and what factors should be used to determine how the neighborhood organization representatives should be chosen and that this information will be compiled and distributed to the neighborhood organizations and placed on the NRP website prior to the February 21 meeting.

Concern was expressed about including language in the resolution to encourage participation that represents the diversity of the City. Jeffrey Strand moved and Peter McLaughlin second adding language to revise the 4th whereas clause to address this concern. The revised clause is as follows:

Whereas: The City has not defined the process by which such members shall be selected except that they will be selected by the neighborhoods, although the city has recommended that appointments to this commission “should reflect the diverse interest and perspectives of the Minneapolis community” and “ take into consideration the City’s commitment to civil rights, affirmative action, and geographic distribution wherever possible”, and

After considerable discussion, a vote was taken on this substitute language and it was adopted. Then the motion as revised was adopted.

VII. REPORTS

1. NRP Neighborhood Representative Election Results [NRP / PR2008-19]

Upon a motion by Scott Vreeland and seconded by Ken Kelash the following Neighborhood Representative Election results were received and filed.

At-Large Representative	Debbie Evans
At-Large Alternate	Brock Hanson
Revitalization Representative	Mark Hinds
Revitalization Alternate	<i>No candidate available to select</i>
Redirection Representative	Kari Anderson
Redirection Alternate	Carol Pass
Protection Representative	Jeffrey Strand
Protection Alternate	Nicholas Kakos

2. Personnel Report

Bob Miller distributed a memorandum clarifying his activities and hours as Director of the NRP while he is running for political office.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Carsten Slostad, Secretary Pro Tem

ATTEST: Gail Dorfman, Chair