



Windom Community Council Monthly Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 14, 2024
(Hybrid Meeting held via ZOOM videoconferencing & In-Person at 5843 Wentworth)

Attending: Michelle Hemingway Tatum (P), Becky McIntosh (T), Dembo Darboe, Mary Petersen, George Hall, Mario Vargas (Executive Director),

Absent: Incha Krein, Jamie Lieser

Guests: Emily Koski (City Council Ward 11 Councilmember), Jennifer Waisanen (MPD Crime Prevention Specialist), Cate McIntosh.

Welcome/Call to Order: Michelle called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

City Hall Updates – CM Koski was unable to make the meeting

Windom Crime & Safety Update - Jennifer

- Jennifer presented on the local crime happening in Windom. Most of the crime is related to larceny and auto related thefts. A new group of criminals is targeting the lakes area homes with Airtags on their vehicles. They then burglarize homes when they know residents are out. MPD used to have a Community Response Team or plain clothing police officers assigned to drug houses and bad areas. MPD has created an effort called the React Team with similar responsibilities and focus a lot on 19th and Nicollet. At the 5th Precinct there is an embedded social worker and a Community Navigator who contacts and works with victims of crime. WCC members Dembo and George raised concerns about personally being affected by thefts related to autos. There are only two investigators at the 5th Precinct. Dembo's vehicle (Kia and Hyundai) thefts could not be investigated further due to lack of evidence. Jennifer recommended for the vehicles to be moved, cameras to be installed and video shared with MPD. It is difficult when those are the vehicles being targeted for theft.

Council Business

- **January 2024 Board Meeting Minutes Approval**
 - a. Motion: Move to approve January 11, 2024, Monthly Board Meeting Minutes
 - i. Motion: Becky
 - ii. Second: Dembo
 - iii. All in favor: Unanimous
 - iv. Motion approved: Michelle
- **2023 4th Quarter December CORF - Becky**
 - a. Becky reviewed last year's fourth quarter reimbursement to the city. This is the last NCR reimbursement for 2023.
 - b. Motion: Move to approve 4th Quarter 2023 December CORF
 - i. Motion: Becky
 - ii. Second: George
 - iii. All in favor: Unanimous
 - iv. Motion approved: Michelle
- **NRP Policy Board: Windom Delegate Nomination & Vote –Becky**
 - The NCR's is reviving the inactive NRP Policy Board established by the MN Legislature in 1990. Elections will be held at this year's Community Connections Conference. The NRP Board membership consists of state and local officials and neighborhood representatives. Becky is interested in serving as the elector for the Windom neighborhood for District 6 representative. Each neighborhood can nominate a member for the District 6 position that represents the area on the NRP Policy Board.



- i. Motion: Move to approve Becky McIntosh from Windom for candidacy to the new NRP Policy Board representing District 6.
 1. Motion: Dembo
 2. Second: George
 3. All in favor: Unanimous
 4. Motion approved: Michelle
- **Announcements: NCR Neighborhoods Conference 2/17 from 8 am – 4 pm**
 - **Agate Housing & Services (Old Metro Inn Site project) _ Michelle**
 - Michelle has invited the onsite manager to meet attend a Board meeting to meet the community.
 - **Minneapolis SW Neighborhoods Collaborative Update – Mario**
 - Mario gave an update on Minneapolis Southwest (SW) Neighborhoods Collaborative. Six neighborhoods are currently working on building a formalized coalition including: Kenny, Windom, Tangletown, Lynnhurt, Fulton and Armatage. They have hired DeYoung Consulting Services to help them develop a vision for the coalition. They meet the second Tuesday of each month. Windom has been leading the group by developing the strategic framework and writing the contract plan that was reviewed and approved by NCR. Windom is also hosting the meeting both in-person and by ZOOM. The purpose of the Collaborative is to fundraise for the six neighborhoods and unite them to work better together.
 - **2024 Organizational Planning Minneapolis – Michelle/Mario**
 - 2023-2024 Strategies Review – Michelle/Mario
 - i. In 2023 WCC faced several organizational challenges including: three WCC Board Resignations which created disruptions in governance, board recruitment issues and delayed programmatic implementation of the equitable engagement plan, specifically the renter engagement work with City Limits Apartments. Additionally, the uptick in crime in the neighborhood and limited MPD response became a problem.
 - 2024-2025 Goals – Michelle/Mario
 - i. Three major goals will be the target for the coming year including: Executing on the renter engagement priorities of our contract with the city, recruiting new Board Members and activating the committee structure to increase volunteer engagement in the WCC.
 - ii. Environment & Land Use, Safety & Health and Community Development are the three active committees where the Board can start to develop some programming.
 - Environment: 2024 focus to be Water pollution, Loss of biodiversity, climate change
 - Safety & Health: 2024 focus to be Alley way & street lighting, personal safety, auto related thefts, traffic calming and working block leaders.
 - Community Development: 2024 focus to be engaging businesses (identifying new façade grant funding), shaping the redevelopment of the Aqua City site, and finding new funds for more home improvement loan programs for residents.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm