



Windom Community Council Monthly Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 8, 2022
(Meeting held via ZOOM videoconferencing)

Attending: Michelle Hemingway Tatum (P), Becky McIntosh (T), Rob Ley (S), Patrick Barrett, Louisa Hext, Dembo Darboe, Mario Vargas (Executive Director).

Guests: Emily Koski (City of Minneapolis Council Member Ward 11).

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

City Council Ward 11 Updates, Councilmember Emily Koski

- **Updates:**
 - **Police Union Contract Negotiation:** Final community listening session on the city's police union contract negotiation is on September 14th at 6:00 pm at Wittier Park Recreation Center.
 - Councilmember Koski attended 1/3 sessions. She was pleased to hear directly from community members and city staff and encouraged council members to attend.
 - **Police Chief Finalists:** Mayor Frey announced three Police Chief finalists: Elvin Barren, Dr. RaShall Brackney, and Brian O'Hara. Next step, the Minneapolis City Council will move forward with the interview process with Mayor Frey. Mayor Frey's nomination will be sent through for approval through the city council. Councilmember Koski estimates the nomination will come through sometime in October. She has yet to meet any of the nominees.
 - **Minneapolis City Attorney:** The City Council has approved the nomination of Kristyn Anderson for Minneapolis City Attorney. Her start date is Monday, September 26th.
 - Councilmember Koski believes Kristyn Anderson's experience and background fit perfectly with what the city requires at this time. Her experience includes: public service, Minnesota Attorney General's Office, and employed at the State of Minnesota.
 - **Week of August 1st:** The City Council held two 2-hour study sessions
 - **Purpose:** To have an informal dialogue in regards to The Office of Community Safety and the Minnesota government restructure; specifically, around the legislative branch.
 - Minneapolis City Clerk will remain under the Minneapolis City Council. A City Auditor instead of the Director of Audit; this unit is expanding.
 - **Rent Stabilization Work Group:** First meeting will occur on Saturday, September 13th. The meetings are open to the public; however, *not open for participation*.
 - Will meet 1-2 times per week now through December. Then, the first quarter of 2023, the work group will begin with a recommendation and a cost analysis of a potential rent stabilization policy for the City Council to review.
 - **Councilmember Koski is the Chair of Budget:**
 - Nearing Budget Season: There will be a series of Budget Committee meetings. Each department will join these meetings and present on their budget.
 - Meetings begin on Monday, September 15th.

- Introduction by the Director of Budget, Amelia Cruver and learn more about the committee's performance management system that they are revamping.
- Major Change: The Mayor will propose a biannual budget, which will examine the budget for 2023 and 2024.
- Held a meet-and-greet at an apartment in Tangletown.
 - Councilmember Koski would love to continue holding meet-and-greets and asked the Windom Community Council members to offer their suggestions.

Council Business

1. CPP/Equitable Engagement Funding 2023 Rollover Update—Mario/Becky

- **Reminder:** The CPP Program closed and the funds were rolled over into the Equitable Engagement Program. The council has made strategies to prevent the loss of funding.
- Mario and Becky met with Bob Cooper, the City's Senior NRP/Citizen Participation Specialist at Minneapolis Business Finance. His expertise is primarily with Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) funds and supporting Neighborhood & Community Relations (NCR).
- **Good News:** NCR has a waiver process.
 - NCR decision to provide waivers to some neighborhoods is strictly theirs and zero council directives.
 - NCR made the decision to limit rollover to 25% of new funds; for Windom, that is \$3,500.
 - WCC needs to develop a plan to participate in the waiver process.
 - WCC's Case: The work and the progress the council is making on its engagement plan requires funding in order to implement its plan. If there is not enough funding to implement the plan, then the time and effort put into developing this plan would be wasted according to the City.
 - There are also opportunities for grant funds:
 - The Minneapolis Foundation: In the past, the foundation supported neighborhoods with the Citizen Participation Fund.
 - There are other opportunities for funding, the council needs to develop clear proposals and look to get more funding from the Minneapolis Foundation.
 - The Windom Community Council may need to engage other communities to receive a grant from the Minneapolis Foundation.
- Windom Community Council Operations:
 - What can NCR do to help the neighborhoods?
 - 8-years ago, Becky was able to participate in a Financial Accountability Workshop for new board members. She has not seen a similar workshop since then.
 - With the expectation to develop an engagement plan, NCR has not provided training to help board members with little to no community engagement experience. Many neighborhood community councils do not have experienced organizers.
 - It would be beneficial to use some NCR funding to provide technical support to council members.
 - Some questions:
 - What is community organizing?
 - What does it mean to engage people?
 - How do we create and implement engagement strategies?

- Neighborhoods need resources on how to respond once they've engaged residents and have an idea of their needs. How do we address this?
- There is also a need for neighborhoods to be trained on how to hire contracted workers as official employees of the neighborhood council. What benefits can we provide, especially now that funding is cut? Health insurance? Retirement?

2. Equitable Engagement Funding 2023 Rollover Update—Mario

- Plan to have completed outreach by the end of September. Start implementing these plans by January.
- Will have more to report in October.
- October—Assess door-knocking results and begin in two apartment/townhome community complexes.
- November—Strategize and develop a plan for 2023. Then, send this report to NCR.

3. Door-Knocking Update—Mario

- **Zones (2&3) Review**
 - Developed pages on the website to display door-knocking results based on each zone's results. Each zone will have its own page with its own survey result themes collected from the data.
 - Once each quadrant has been successfully door-knocked and data has been collected, the pages will be published to the public.
 - Door-knocking goal is to knock on 20% of the homes in each zone. Half of those doors should be greeted. That is, 10% of the homes in each zone will be greeted.
- **Plan and Timeline**
 - Plan A: Can we get the commitment of everyone to complete their zone by the end of September?
 - Plan B: Mario and Marina will complete the zone if the council member is unable to commit.

4. Fundraising Update

- Fundraising Protocol—Review and Approval
- Potential Grants and Funding Opportunities
 - Grant Writing 101:
 - What is grant writing?
 - How does it work?
 - What are the types of grant funding?
 - What are the funding cycles and timelines?
 - What is our internal grant writing approval process?
- Board members vote on the approval of the 5-step fundraising protocol:
 - Motion to approve: Rob
 - Second: Dembo
 - All those in favor: 6
 - All those opposed: 0
 - Approved.

5. Hybrid Meeting Interactive Technology (The Owl) Update—Patrick

- Patrick reached out to the International Braille and Technology Center regarding The Owl's accessibility. He has not heard back from his contact.

- Mario and Patrick are joining the next Linden Hills Association meeting to gain hands-on experience using The Owl technology. The rest of the board is welcome to attend and participate.

Committee Updates

1. Finance Committee—Becky/Mario

- **Bookkeeper Contract**
 - Claire is finalizing 1st and 2nd quarter financials and should have those submitted to Becky by the week of the 12th.
 - Low on funds: currently \$4,700 remain.
 - Claire will continue to bookkeep for the 3rd quarter but will move-on and focus on her full-time job. There is a search for a new bookkeeper starting by the end of 3rd quarter.
 - **Claire King Extension & Bookkeeper Search**
 - Becky motions for a date extension of Claire's contract:
 - Motion to extend the termination date of Claire's contract to October 31, 2022.
 - Second: Rob
 - All those in favor: 6
 - All those opposed: 0
 - Approved to extend Claire's contract to October 31, 2022.
- **E-waste and Paper Shredding Event (Sat. Sept. 24th—9 am-Noon)**
 - E-waste: A licensed company will take accepted electronics for recycling.
 - Paper recycling: Another licensed company uses large locked bins, which are taken and shredded.
 - WCC asked to volunteer and help with traffic control and clean-up.
 - Concern: If WCC offers to help residents to recycle their documents, is WCC liable?
 - WCC will **NOT** provide assistance to residents due to liability concerns.

2. Safety & Health Cyber Security Committee—Patrick

- No updates.

3. Community Development—Dembo

- **Home Loan Program/CEE Loans**
 - Windom had 3 new applicants:
 - 1 applicant approved for maximum loan amount of \$15,000.
 - 2 other applicants are in the loan process.

4. Environment & Land Use Committee—Becky

- **Technical Consultations Program—Update**
 - 20 out of 24 consultation spots taken.
 - 4 spots remaining!
 - Consultations will be done by the end of September, early October.
- **E-waste and Paper Shredding Event (Sat. Sept. 24th—9 am-Noon)**

5. Outreach and Engagement—Michelle

- Both motels on Lyndale Avenue have been purchased by the county. Michelle has more information and will send the details to the neighborhood.
- Possible celebration on Garfield avenue. Details unknown at this time.

August Meeting Minutes

- Michelle motioned for approval
 - Move to approve: Patrick
 - Second: Dembo
 - All those in favor: 6
 - All those oppose: 0
 - August minutes are approved.

Meeting adjourned.