



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

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

Guests: Cole Mullins (Windom Community resident).

Welcome/Call to Order: Pat called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

City Council Ward 11 Updates, Councilmember Emily Koski – *Will not be able to attend today's meeting due to door-knocking for an event.*

Council Business:

1. WCC/CEE Home Loan Program Contract Renewal Vote

- a. Motion: Approve the execution of a budget revision in WCC's NRP contract in the amount of \$2,500 from the Program Capital budget line to Program Administration budget line in Contract #26697 with CEE.
 - Becky: This budget revision is for the administrative cost that WCC covers for CEE to manage the loan program for WCC. Duties include: processing loans, paperwork, and managing everything related to the program.
 - Rob Ley: Where do we get the money to support these costs?
 - Becky: The money comes from our Neighborhood Revitalization Project, which has been around for 20+ years. New NRP money has not been added, as the funding that established it has gone away. At least 70% of the NRP money that Windom was granted must go towards housing. This is our big commitment towards meeting those guidelines.
 - Rob Ley: The money in the bank is never in danger of being taken back. We don't have to spend it or lose it. It can stay in the bank as we make a "good-faith" effort to lend it out.
 - Becky: Money that is not under contract will require WCC to take action, so it does not lose that money. NRP Report: WCC has \$87,000 in uncontracted funds. Roughly half of this money is the program income.
 - Motion: Rob
 - Second: Becky
 - All in favor: Unanimous
 - Pat: Motion approved unanimously.
 - Becky: Motion added. WCC approved \$250 to participate in the e-waste event in September. The cost was significantly more. Motion to approve amount not exceeding \$700.
 - Motion: Becky
 - All in favor: Unanimous
 - Pat: Motion approved unanimously.

2. 2023-2024 City of Minneapolis Contract: Citywide Neighborhood Network and Equitable Engagement Funds Application Update - Mario

- a. WCC's contract has been approved/

- \$10,000 – Base Funding
- \$8,085 – Equitable Engagement Funding
- 83-84% approval – higher approval scores
- Guaranteed Funds for 2 years: \$18,085 per year.

3. New Board Member Recruitment for 2023 - Mario

- Recruitment has not begun. When does WCC want to start recruiting?
- WCC operating under capacity. Six out of nine seats filled. We need to recruit.
 - Recruitment Criteria:
 - People of Color (POC) & Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC).
 - Financial and Fundraising experience.
 - Parent from the school (PTO member).
- Timeline:
 - January – Visit BIPOC business, places of worship, and buildings.
 - Work with Mario on strategies.
 - Provide flyers for those interested – flyers need to be translated into various languages.
 - During recruitment, look for a WCC Newsletter sponsor to help pay for newsletter publishing.
 - February Board Meeting – invite residents to meet.

4. Mario Vargas 2023 Contract Discussion

- WCC has not heard back from the city regarding money carryover for 2023.
- This will greatly impact on the number of hours WCC is able to compensate.
- 2022: \$126,000 (\$25,000 may carryover or may be lost; approval for carryover not yet approved)
 - Protentional option to prepay a contract for 2023.
 - WCC will meet December 24th to discuss and approve a prepaid contract with Mario Vargas or Socios Consulting Inc. to avoid losing money, if the city does not approve rollover.
- 2023: \$20,000 (includes administration, outreach/engagement, etc.)

5. Food Drive Update - Pat

- Volunteers Enlisted to Assist People (VEAP) general poster – Pat suggests placing WCC logo on flyer.
- Spoke with Leslie Croft about the application process.
 - VEAP provides boxes that WCC picks up to leave at businesses and/or community center for donations.
 - Leave the boxes for 2-3 weeks.
 - Promote on WCC Facebook page.
 - Food and supplies collected will be dispersed to various neighborhoods, not just Windom.
 - Timeline: February or March
 - Important to notify Windom residents in need – VEAP can help!
 - Look into having a Windom community church serve as a designated site for VEAP.
 - Connect with United Methodist Church

6. Events – Committees charter amendment discussion – Mario

- In the last two years, since restructuring the organization and rewriting the Bylaws, traditional event planning with WCC has changed.
 - Events are core to the organization. WCC needs to establish where it best fits:
 - Fundraising
 - Educational Events to promote WCC
 - Fundraising Events to bring in money
 - Outreach & Community Engagement
 - This will require an amendment to the Bylaws.
 - Need to gather neighborhood input and vote.
- Spring updates – Ready for May Annual WCC Meeting

Committee Updates – Michelle 8:10 pm.

1. Finance Committee – Becky/Mario

- a. Bookkeeper Contractor Update
 - The previous bookkeeper is no longer with us.
 - Mario has contacted two protentional replacements.
 - Part-time position: protentional 4-hours per quarter.
- b. 2022 Year-End and 4th Quarter Financials Update
 - Waiting to hear about carryover.
 - Give to the Max: \$347 in donations.
- c. 2023 Organizational Funding Outlook
 - Examine NRP funding and whether there will be carryover.
 - Prefunding contracts for 2023 to account for some money.

2. Safety and Health Committee – Patrick/Dembo

- a. Porch Thieves
 - Be aware! Keep an eye for your neighbors.
 - Deliveries:
 - Schedule deliveries for times when you are home.
 - Plan to have your items delivered to a neighbor if you are unable to be home.
 - In a multi-unit building:
 - Bring packages indoors that are left outside.
 - Leave a note on a trusted neighbor's door.
 - Minneapolis Police Department sends communities “Holiday Tips”
 - WCC will promote their recommendations to reduce theft on WCC Facebook page.
 - Make a report with the police department if a theft occurs.
 - Councilmember Koski – Ward 11 Safety Meeting
 - Location: Pearl Park
 - Date: Tuesday, December 13th
 - Time: 7:00 pm
 - The community has the opportunity to meet the new Minneapolis Chief of Police.
 - Discussion of the City's new safety initiative.
 - Patrick would like to attend. WCC members will figure out a transportation plan.

3. Community Development – Dembo/Mario

- a. 120 W. 59th Street Variance Application & Neighborhood Information Meeting
 - Occur when homeowners and business owners plan to expand their properties blueprint.
 - There are zoning regulations which are established and are based on state construction codes.
 - If you are seeking to exceed or go beyond what is allowed, then you must submit a Variance application. The application is sent to the Planning Commission which decides whether or not it will make an exception.
 - Dembo is currently in the process of submitting a Variance application.

4. Environment & Land Use – Becky/Mario a. Tech Dump Final Costs Vote

- a. Windom Community Garden Update
 - MnDOT: Parcel of land the garden occupies should have been sold. MnDOT cannot find any formal agreement between WCC and MnDOT. Previous WCC board members do not have a copy of a formal agreement.
 - There is no agreement in our office.
 - MnDOT is going to sell the property in a private bid sale. MnDOT has asked the city if it is interested in purchasing the land. It is our understanding that the city is not interesting.
 - WCC has asked MnDOT to update them throughout the process so WCC can notify the public about upcoming changes.

- The Windom Community Garden project has been removed from WCC insurance policy and is no longer covered.
- Any funding set aside for the Windom Community Garden will remain with WCC as there is no garden to fund.
- Bids that are under fair market value will likely not be accepted.

5. Outreach & Engagement – Michelle/Mario

a. Door-Knocking Update 8:25

- We are still working towards door-knocking in apartment complexes.

November Meeting Minutes – 8:25 pm.

- Motion: Patrick
- Second: Pat
- All in favor: All but Becky
- All abstain: Becky (was not present)
- Michelle: Motion approved.

Meeting Adjourned – Michelle at 8:40 pm.