

**West Bank Community Coalition Board of Directors Meeting
January 25, 2006
Brian Coyle Community Center**

The meeting was called to order by Jim Ruiz, President and roll call was taken.

Present: Jim Ruiz, Xan Cassiel, vice chair; Abia Ali, Treasurer and NRP steering co-committee chair; Doris Wickstrom, Secretary; George Gammans; Rosemary Knutson; Robert Metcalf; Mary Mellen; Marvin Loxterkamp; Brian Monroe; Xan Cassiel; Mohamed Issa; Todd Smith;

Guests: Deven Nelson, NRP coordinator, Robert Thompson, NRP Contract Manager; Laura Silver, NRP Co-Chair; Becca Daggett, Institute for Local Self Reliance; Cindy Collins, Bridges; Rhonda Eastlaund, Coyle Center; Fredda Scoby, RPTA Exec. Dir.; Sarah Penman, WBCDC.

Absent: Africa Abdi; Hashi Abdi;

- I. **Call to order:** 6 :10 pm
- II. **MOTION to approve agenda.**
motion made and seconded to approve Agenda. Agenda approved, with 2 changes: Move Board member appointment to earlier time and Becca Daggett presentation to beginning.
- III. **Board Member Appointment:** The resignation of Monica Weber was made via e-mail to old board members. A hard copy will be made available for the record.
Motion made and seconded to appoint Susannah Dodge to board seat vacated by Monica Weber.
Motion passes.
- IV. **Approve Minutes** - August, September, December 2005. Motion made and seconded to approve minutes from December as well as August and September. Motion passes.
- V. **Minneapolis Wi-Fi**
 - A. Becca Vargo Daggett spoke to the whole board about public ownership of information Network. The city made a decision last year to support a privately owned and operated wireless network. This action was taken without public input.

Motion: Be it resolved that the WBCC supports the following actions by the city council. We request the City Council consider the following actions:
The City should hold public meetings that include a discussion of ownership before making any further decisions regarding the wireless initiative.
The City Council should initiate a feasibility study that considers public ownership of a high speed information network, similar to those done by Saint Louis Park and other cities.
The City Council should not enter contract negotiations with a single bidder until such a study has been completed and the results made available for public comment.
- VI. **Executive Committee Report**
 - A. Jim gave report on Executive committee meeting. See Notes attached
Grievances: the board has not received any information from old board officers as to status of grievances. Doris will look at files in office on Wednesday to determine what has

been done. If necessary another request to Rosemary and Mary will be made.

VII. Committee Reports:

- A. **Land Use Committee**- Susannah Dodge reported on January 9 meeting with Fine Associates representative, Jim White. Mr White reported about changes to plan which resulted in the purchases of several properties and an increase in units to 435. Mr. White will keep the community informed of additional changes. The Land Use Committee meets the 2nd Monday of the Month at 1 PM at Mapps Coffee Shop.

Susannah announces U of M architect students will be doing a charite on the Dania Site. The presentation will be on Sunday February 5th. Deven will get information out to people.

- B. **Safety Committee** will meet on February 8th at 1 PM at the Hard Times Cafe. Cam Gordon will be on hand to help with plans. The Coalition passed a resolution in August to support cameras. The committee is considering Community Policing. Rosemary requested input from the neighborhood on how community policing would look like .

- C. **Website /Outreach committee** Xan presented information on WI-FI. Handout. Currently, he is paying for and maintaining web site. Xan will investigate what we can get for a particular price.

- D. **E. NRP Report** Deven presented Survey results. The Work Groups will be revising first step plan. A community vote will be taken for plan approval. 30 days notice will be given. Deven is working on building momentum to move to the implementation stage. Deven raised the question of how this will fit into the WBCC? Xan and Deven have worked on charts on how committee structure might look. Handout.

Deven presented a Leadership Program hosted by St. Thomas. It consists of 10 3 hour sessions for 20-30 participants. Community would provide food and location Applications need to be made by February 24th.

- VIII. **Treasurers Report**. Abia handed out 3 page financial report. We currently have \$5486.53 in the bank. At the next meeting Abia will present Budget. Robert Thompson will present a financial training for the NRP committee and WBCC Board.

- IX. Council member Gordon presented written report to the neighborhood of his activities. He will take leadership from the community. He spoke of the city approval of \$600,000 for the Peoples Center Clinic. He will give notice when Town Hall meetings are happening. There will be a monthly Round Table at Saint Martins Table, sometime soon.

- X. Robert Thompson announced a **Community Leadership** meeting on February 2, 6:30 -8:30 2nd, Floor Crown Roller Mill.

Robert expressed his concern about the Camera Discussion at the NRP Community meeting on January 18th.

He advised maintaining distance between WBCC Board and NRP Planning process.

The NRP will work through the Coalition but have an independent Steering Committee. There is a need for controls to provide security for neighborhood input. Robert acknowledges the committees have worked very hard. Robert objected to a straw vote January 18th on the cameras. Robert

advised that it is not appropriate for Board members to voice their objections to projects. Robert reminded the board of their duties of Care, Loyalty and Obedience and to respect decision made in the past and to respect the NRP process. The NRP community meeting was not a place to hold a forum on Cameras the neighborhood.

XI. Old Business:

A. 5th Street Sidewalk Resolution needed a revote.

Motion made and seconded. Be it resolved that the West Bank Community Coalition (WBCC) recommends that access between Cedar Avenue and 5th Street to its' East remains open for pedestrian access and that a sidewalk be built on the South side of land currently owned by the Community Planning and Economic Development office of the city of Minneapolis and other parties on the implementation of sidewalk construction and lighting installation.

Motion Approved

B. LRT Lighting.

Motion made and seconded:

The West Bank Community Coalition (WBCC) Recognizes the lantern light as the designated light around the LRT station.

MOTION APPROVED.

XII. New Business:

A. Citizen Participation Guidelines and Jeff Schneider Letter

Doris Wickstrom and Jim Ruiz reported on January 24th meeting on reviewing the Draft of the new CPED Guidelines for Neighborhoods. The neighborhood is reclassified from a target neighborhood to a non-target neighborhood. More neighborhoods are in the non-target category and therefore the allotments will be smaller. Each neighborhood can receive \$2000. A one time offer from the city to ease the transition will be made for 2006. We are in a better positions than most neighborhoods because we have money left from last year. However, this money will be deducted from our 2006 allotment.

B. Motion made and seconded:

The WBCC resolves to state its opposition to the reduction in the annual Community Participation funding to the sum of \$2000 or less."

Written comments need to be in by February 2nd.

Motion approved.

C. Postcard

Rosemary Knutson makes a motion for selecting 3rd Wednesday of the month for meeting day to be included on postcard schedule for yearly meetings.. Meeting time will be changed from 6- 8 PM. 3rd Wednesday will be printed on card.

Motion made and Seconded :

The WBCC approves of the 3rd Wednesday of the month as this years meeting day to be distributed to neighborhood.

Motion is approved unanimously.

- D.** **By Laws committee:** Motion made and seconded:
The WBCC wishes to appoint Robert Metcalf as Chair of by Laws committee.
The purpose of the committee will be to recommend a community input process and timeline to BOD.
The committee will make recommendation for changes.
Motion passed
Volunteers for committee include: George Gammans, Mary Mellen, Susannah Dodge, Doris Wickstrom

E. Table Goals.

Motion made and seconded to Adjourn
Meeting Adjourned 8:40 PM