

MINUTES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE WEST BANK COMMUNITY COALITION
Saturday, November 17, 2007
10:00 a.m., RPTA Offices

Present: Jim Ruiz, Jennifer Moates, Jean Caron (arrived 10:50am)
Guests: Laura Silver, Tim Mungavan

1. Call to Order – 10:10am
2. New Business
 - A. Reviewed the events regarding the check request for the rental of tables and chairs for the Brian Coyle Multicultural Dinner. Tim suggested changing the WBCC check request form to include a signature line for NRP steering committee approval and initials for Robert Thompson. The Executive committee agreed that this would be a good solution.
 - B. Tim presented a letter from attorney John Cann regarding his analysis of the Cedar-Riverside NRP administrative structure. Jim discussed three administrative options: (1) no change, (2) the WBCC takes on the administration of NRP, (3) another entity takes on the administration of NRP. Tim noted that with adequate resources it is possible that the WBCC could administer NRP. Jim expressed that the most likely scenario is that the Minneapolis NRP will refuse to change anything and argue that the implementation strategy in the Full Action Plan addresses the problems that have occurred during the First Step Plan phase. The committee reviewed the resolution that was passed at the October board meeting that outlines a plan to have discussions with representative from the steering committee, Minneapolis NRP staff, and the NRP Policy Board. Tim suggested the first step would be to send a letter to the NRP steering committee requesting the first meeting. Executive committee members all agreed that it is necessary to go forward with negotiations in order to correct the problematic administrative structure. Jen expressed concern that negotiations be approached diplomatically and not with hostility. Tim suggested requesting to meet with the steering committee either as a whole or as a representative body of their choice. Jen expressed a desire for the WBCC to invite other board members other than the executive committee members. Tim cautioned that the executive would not want to create a situation where there is not a unified position from the WBCC. The executive committee expressed a desire to have Tim at the meeting with the steering committee along with all the executive committee members. Tim will help draft a letter for the executive committee to review. By the end of next week, the invitation will be delivered to the steering committee.
3. Old Business
 - A. Check – Jim will write to the NRP steering committee notifying them that for the case of the check for rental of tables and chairs for the Brian Coyle Multicultural Dinner, the executive committee has decided to accept Jim Erchul's email and Robert Thompson's email as evidence that the steering committee and Minneapolis NRP has reviewed the request and will sign the check.

Jen reported that she received a phone call from Rhonda informing her that there were no table and chairs at the Multicultural Dinner for 300 people and that Amano Dube (pr. dubay) was worried that Hani would be blamed. Jen suggested Jim send a letter of apology to Amano.

- B. CURA Grant (Bridging Community Grant/Project Open Door) – The final report and presentation has been moved to mid-January.
 - C. McKnight Grant (for public art, signage and lighting around the LRT station) – The final report is due in December. Rosemary is working with City staff to complete the report.
 - D. Pending: Committee guidelines, People’s Institute training
4. Secretaries Report –
- A. Attended NRP Full Action Plan planning committee meeting in Jim's absence. Made sure the WBCC board's comments were included in final draft with some advisement from Deb and helped plan the presentation and flow of the meeting.
 - B. Attended Land Use Committee meeting with Jim at Fairview and took notes and forwarded to Doris and Cam.
 - C. 2 board nominations have been received, from Robert Metcalf and from Abdirizak Abdi, and a note from Marvin mentioning that he cannot run again since North Country Co-op closed.
 - D. Was contacted by Rhonda by phone 11-16-07. Rhonda has extended an offer to help with the WBCC Annual Meeting.
 - E. The NRP check awaiting a 2nd signature was to be for Multicultural Dinner on Wednesday 11/14 - Amano Dube (pr. dubay) learned at the last minute there were no tables and chairs and had to scramble to attempt to seat 300 people.
5. Vice President Report - none
6. President’s Report
- A. Jim has been going to Dania Partners meetings as the WBCC’s rep. The Dania Partners have sent a letter to Metropolitan Council Chairman Bell regarding the Cedar-Riverside LRT station site. The letter requests a meeting with the Cedar-Riverside community.
 - B. Jim has given permission to Beth Elliot (CPED, Small Area Plan) and Jessica Hill (Metropolitan Council) to give short announcements and set up information tables at the WBCC Annual Meetings.
7. Treasurer’s Report – none. Laura announced that Jim’s honorarium for being on the University class panel has been deposited into the WBCC checking account and not the fundraising savings account as was discussed at the October executive committee meeting. All agreed that it is fine in that account.
8. Approve Minutes – 10/14 Executive Committee minutes, approved as amended (included “Vice President Report – none” and corrected the spelling of Susan Armington’s name).
9. Adjournment – 11:25 am