

SAPCC Board of Directors
July 10, 2014

Board members: Seth Levin, John Seppanen, Ray Bryan, Mimi Jennings, Christina Morrison, Brad Engelmann,

Guest: Kurt Schultz (Saint Paul PED), Daniel Sarasti

Staff: Amy Sparks, Suyapa Miranda

Mimi noted that Environment Committee sent an ERG resolution to the board. It was added to the agenda after general updates. Consent agenda was approved unanimously.

District Council History and Funding

Kurt Schultz of Saint Paul PED presented a brief history and an overview of the district council. The program began as a Citizen Participation program in 1972. After CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) was created by HUD and federal funding became available, Saint Paul was able to create and fund 17 district councils to facilitate 2-way engagement and communication between citizens and city government. After budget cuts in the early 2000s, a new funding formula was created based on demographic, economic, and crime data in each neighborhood. District Councils agreed to increase inclusivity and outreach.

This year, the citizen participation and crime prevention programs were consolidated. An increased emphasis was put on having a clear work plan for the year. Kurt also provided a copies of a demographic profile for District 12, as well as a list of common eligible and ineligible expenses.

CEZ & Launch Update

Amy Sparks reported on June and July activities. CEZ has to separate accounts and grants money from SAPCC accounts, and do a business plan to qualify for \$40,000 in Central Corridor as Cultural Corridor (C4) money through Central Corridor Funders Collaborative and LISC. On September 6th, there is an arts and business node event planned in the US Bank parking lot through C4. There was a community meeting last week to discuss Knight Green Line Challenge ideas, which are due July 24th. CEZ was also chosen as a finalist for a \$120,000 Knight Arts Grant, which requires a 50% match. The Green Line Launch Party in June was a success (despite the weather), and had a lot of participation from local vendors. Amy is also working with several businesses and organizations who are interested in moving to the neighborhood, and helping to match people with properties and building owners.

ERG Proposal

Environment Committee recommends the Council be the fiscal agent for a Knight Foundation grant for ERG activities. Mimi moved, Ray seconded. Approved unanimously.

Board Retreat Update

The board will meet, Sunday, August 3 for a retreat. Barbara Raye will be the facilitator, and we will do a DIAworks analysis as well (a survey link will be sent in advance). Suyapa noted that we will want to ask some specific questions to internal and external stakeholders about communication, programming, inclusivity, trends, etc. Brad noted that getting written responses to some open-ended questions would be helpful, and there was some discussion about the value in an anonymous survey (or optionally anonymous) giving everyone the opportunity to bring items to the table.

Saint Paul Public Schools

Saint Anthony Park Elementary is one school reaching space and programming capacity and is looking to partner with local organizations to get input on a Facilities Master Plan. Ray suggested to tap people in the community to do workshops in their area of expertise (e.g. fine arts) to provide different kinds of programming. Suyapa noted that this is a major time commitment. Seth noted that it would be good to get an update on the schools in our area and find out more about our role. Christina suggested we send this to a committee for further discussion, noting that we should really consider if this is something we want to dedicate our time and volunteers to without clear direction, perhaps at the expense of other goals we have set for the year.

Mayor's Budget Update

Suyapa noted that despite budget issues, the Mayor has agreed to leave district council budgets untouched for the next three years. He is going to be having satellite meetings to talk about ways to fill budget gaps.

Election Update

Ray noted that we need to have an election committee to talk through logistics and outreach for October elections. John said this could be a potential topic for the retreat.

General Updates

Volunteer needed for the garage sale on September 13th, from 9 am – 5 pm at the fairgrounds. The board hasn't been involved in the garage sale because the timeline is close to the community clean up, but staff has been involved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.