

## **CNC JUNE 24, 2013 Meeting Minutes**

**District Council representatives in attendance per sign in sheet:** Phil Shack, (North District and CNC Chair); Ed Marquez (Greater Duwamish District Council and CNC Vice Chair), Chris Leman, (Lake Union District and CNC Budget Committee Co-Chair); Laine Ross, (Downtown District and CNC Neighborhood Matching Fund Committee Chair); Andrew Taylor, (East District); Chas Redmond, (Southwest District); Alexis Gallegos, (Greater Duwamish District), Catherine Weatbrook, (Ballard District); Joe Wert, (Ballard District), Tod Rodman, (Southwest District), Mat McBride, (Delridge), Lauren Balter (Magnolia/Queen Anne District), Bill Bradburd (Central District)

**Guests: Karen Gordon, DoN NMF Staff; Bill Zosel, 2013 CRT Panel Chair; LeAna Alvarado-Smith, Montlake Fitness Project #2**

### **Agenda and Meeting Minutes Approval**

June 24 Agenda and MAY CNC Minutes were approved as presented.

Request by CNC member to discuss change of CNC meeting venue – at end of agenda

### **DoN Presentation: CRT NMF – LPF Award Recommendations**

#### **Copies of CRT Panel 2013 LPF Project Award Recs -- Final ranking with funding amounts - circulated**

Guest Bill Zosel led with overview of CRT process, description of various projects, award recommendations outlined. Bill noted process changes occurred to LPF in 2013 and six total LPF projects were reviewed by CRT Panel members. LeAna Alvarado-Smith, Montlake Fitness Project: Shared experience from project applicant perspective: as first time participant, she had no point of comparison for how process had previously been conducted but found the experience to be enjoyable and it was good to hear various comments / questions from broader groups. Learned about other projects, commented this round was not as competitive and could see where District review could be beneficial. Applicants should take responsibility for finding out how to learn more about the process.

### **Broad Discussion:**

CNC Member asked if scoring sheets were available or copies of award letters. Not included by DoN Staff Karen Gordon. CNC Member who served on CRT Panel commented that CRT struggled with scoring on at least 2 projects – where District Council scores were very low, yet projects were funded anyway.

Bill Zosel - DC scores may have been lower - yet the projects were good examples of what NMF funds. Further, there were several projects that reflected great grant writing.

CNC Member asked if language regarding the rollover of unspent LPF dollars was included in CRT de-brief comments.

Karen Gordon answered no. CNC Members concerned about rollover funds. Bill indicated CRT panel members were assured by DoN Staff at the final CRT meeting. CNC Member asked about projects being conditioned.

Gordon responded nothing out of the ordinary was conditioned.

**Overview of remainder of unspent funds for this LPF round:** \$2.3M total + approximately \$600,000 from 2013 results in \$2.9M available in 2014. DoN does not have the information from Small & Simple cycles just yet. Gordon further clarified from an earlier comment -- the rollover in 2012 was \$100,000 from 2011. Gordon restated: \$2.3M would be new funds in 2014 which reflects all past + under spent \$600,000 from 2013 LPF and Small & Simple not known yet.

CNC Member asked if DoN was considering another LPF round for 2013. Gordon answered no.

CNC Member: DoN appears resistant to another round of LPF in 2013 - In earlier years, 2 cycles offered more citizen access, now only 1 cycle, also favors Parks projects. Parks promotes NMF as a way to fund their projects.

DoN was urged to hold another LPF cycle this fall.

CNC Member: DoN appeared to push harder for Small & Simple fund but not as much for LPF in 2013. What about 2014?

Gordon: In 2014, DoN will hold a series of workshops over 2-3 months vs. how it was done in 2013. 2012 promotion was via radio, print, listserv – but word of mouth seemed to be best course. Small & Simple increased from \$20,000 to \$25,000, most folks were better suited for Small & Simple in 2013.

CNC members indicated that scores are all over the map with large numerical differences. Scoring challenges exist, per Bill Zosel. CNC Chair indicated it was difficult to make decisions without having all the data available at the table for discussion.

### **CNC JUNE 24, 2013 Meeting Minutes – Continued**

#### **DoN Presentation: CRT NMF – LPF Award Recommendations**

More discussion: Karen Gordon indicated they did not make copies of scores but had sent award letters to NMF Chair. CNC Member pointed out this year's process has been referenced as an 'experiment' numerous times by Bill Zosel. Does DoN consider it successful? Bill Zosel replied he could not answer for DoN – would be useful to come up with process so both parties hear same information – this was an attempt to do so.

CNC Member indicated this didn't happen: in the Open House model, some CRT members go around to various projects and information is not heard by all parties -- very different than in prior years where project applicants presented to the full CRT at one time. This process does not ensure consistency at all.

Per Gordon: a 2012 survey was done of DCRT / CRT members – regarding process changes – positive feedback occurred.

CNC Member: Push back from District Councils occurred on Joint Open House process. Are Districts being surveyed?

Gordon: DoN has been focused on DCRT members, could send surveys to District Chairs.

CNC Member: Does DoN take District Council push back into consideration? Gordon: Yes

CNC Member: Does DoN provide fiscal sponsors? Gordon: There are a number of organizations who serve as Fiscal Agents

CNC Member: Goal is to summarize points discussed at this meeting in a letter to include with LPF recommendations file.

**CNC Chair: Must conclude this business by voting on 2013 NMF LPF CRT Panel Award Recommendations.**

**CNC Member Weatbrook Motioned to approve all six projects as presented by CRT Panel**

**CNC Member Redmond Seconded the Motion**

**7:30 PM – Discussion:** CNC member stated that folks must realize that this is a CNC decision and that CNC members do not have all of the information regarding the process to make a well informed decision – including conditions, which are critical. DoN is asking for a vote without all the information.

CNC Q: What happens if this slate is not approved tonight? Gordon: Must be sent to Council by mid-July

#### **CNC Chairs asks votes to be called out – 6 Approvals/ 4 Abstentions**

**Delridge, LUDC, GDDC, QAM** Abstain

**Downtown, East, Central, North, Ballard, Southwest** Approve

**Motion to approve CRT Panel Award Recommendations carries.**

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**Guests were thanked for their attendance and for work done by CRT/DCRT Panels.**

**(CNC member suggested reasons for abstentions be included in letter. More process discussions among CNC members: Lingering concerns regarding DoN Process changes/impacts, applicant project conditions - not provided by DoN – were primary reasons for abstentions.)**

#### **Neighborhood Matching Fund Committee/Laine Ross, Chas Redmond**

NMF Chair provided brief update: Per CNC request in its May 24 Mayor Letter, a one half hour meeting with the Mayor occurred June 24<sup>th</sup>. Attendees: Phil Shack, Chas Redmond, Laine Ross, Darryl Smith and Mayor McGinn

Topics included Department of Neighborhood (DoN) initiated Process Changes to Neighborhood Matching Fund, Large Projects Fund – NMF LPF. CNC Members provided the Mayor with an additional copy of May 24, 2013 letter detailing the concerns, issues and other relevant information for the discussion. Mayor McGinn shared that several efforts within the Department may not have turned out as expected. The Department of Neighborhoods has been focusing on improving internal relationships between DoN and other departments. Based upon decline in LPF applications submitted in this round, CNC members requested another cycle to be scheduled in the fall. Mayor McGinn asked Darryl Smith to investigate.

Additional points were raised by CNC Members on whether city is increasing/reducing barriers to citizen access/participation and other aspects of improvements were discussed. More news expected on 2<sup>nd</sup> round from the MO.

### **CNC Mayoral Candidate Forum – Update: Alexis/Laine**

#### **Quick update on June 26 Forum:**

Bertha Knight Landes Room / CM Godden Sponsor / Jim Diers Moderator

Brief outline of program: Jim Diers has latitude on questions; CNC Event Group meets with Jim in advance to walk through questions and format / Invitations have gone out via CNC lists, posted on DoN Calendar and in other venues

Questions were received from various District Councils, compiled in a master list. Waiting on a couple of candidate RSVPs.

Punch/Pie – need help setting up/breaking down. Several CNC members volunteered and will coordinate with Alexis.

CNC member pointed out that the CNC is the only group out of City Boards & Commissions who are elected in a grassroots process vs. being appointed.

### **Budget Committee/Chris Leman/Bill Bradburd**

CNC Budget Committee previously drafted a letter, requested edits/comments and circulated latest version. CNC Secretary, Jody shortened earlier version without the loss of valuable content. Lots of diversity in input, some queries about being specific – City Budget is approximately 2000 pages long. A broad discussion occurred regarding the addition of specific references to various funding aspects to the letter. In May, departments made recommendations to MO, in late July MO will have made decisions and in September, budget will be transmitted to Council – who makes final budget decision and passes budget by the end of November. There will be another opportunity for CNC to weigh in.

**DoN:** CNC member reminds group that in May's meeting, there was a discussion regarding being more specific vs. saying restore 'past cuts' and group reviews page one of the letter. Support to adding language of restoring back to 13 District Coordinators, for example. Discussion around being more general, restore to pre-2010 cuts or 2009 levels. Varying opinions on which manner would be most compelling. CNC member suggests adding 'end notes' which is good blend of both data and general. CNC Budget Co-Chair reminds group the letter has been out for some time, may be too late to make such specific changes tonight. Difficult to gauge what to ask for in one evening. Other CNC members voice the thought of asking for more to get better results – without making the letter too long.

CNC members walk through points in letter to highlight specifics – with some caution that some specifics may need more District Council input. Basics to be approved tonight - will insert edits and circulate – CNC comments by Friday. Budget is finalized by mid-August. Either Mayor or City Budget Director attends September CNC meeting to present/discuss budget. District Councils should review and also write their own letters citing district priorities.

Longer discussion occurred regarding recording city boards/commission meetings.

NMF - \$2.6M minimum, restore to 13 District Coordinators

Restore to 10 Crime Prevention Coordinators; Neighborhood Service Centers – restore late night hours by 50%

# 6 & #7 – Do not combine; #7 Eliminate maintenance backlog; #8 Eliminate deferred maintenance backlog.

**8:30** - CNC Chair requests authorization to move beyond 8:30 end time. Various comments regarding time expiring.

Discussion continues.

**CNC Member Redmond Motions to approve CNC Draft Budget Letter with edits discussed**

**CNC Member Gallegos 2nds;**

**Letter approved with edits to be inserted.**

**Meeting Adjourns 8:50 PM**