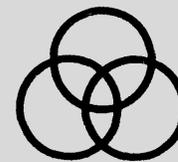


NRP Link

April 2001

Volume 8, Issue 4

Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program News



NRP Phase II kickoff a success

Minneapolis residents showed how proud they are of their neighborhoods and city by attending the NRP Neighborhoods Conference on Saturday, February 24, 2001 at the Minneapolis Convention Center. More than 400 neighborhood and city leaders spent the day participating in 27 workshops before heading to the Minneapolis Regal Hotel for the NRP Awards Dinner and a late night dance. The Conference provided an opportunity for neighborhood activists involved in the NRP to celebrate their successes and receive inspiration to accomplish even greater things in Phase II of the NRP.

Most participants said they came to the conference in order to attend the numerous workshops. According to a survey that was returned by 120 conference participants, the most popular and well received workshops included "The Changing Face of Minneapolis," "What is Phase II," "The Neighborhood, the Arts and the NRP," "Reviewing Your NRP Phase I Plan," "Working with the City and Jurisdictions on NRP Projects," and "Putting the Action into Your Plan." Neighborhood Pride and networking opportunities were also rated as important reasons for attending the event.

Keynote Speaker John McKnight, who spoke during breakfast, was very well received. Most participants also responded positively to the neighborhood exhibits on display on the second floor of the Convention Center.

Twenty awards were presented at the Awards Dinner for projects in 12 award categories. 63 projects were nominated overall. In addition, NRP Policy Board Chair and Hennepin County Commissioner Mark Stenglein presented Michael Rainville Sr. with the Prestigious Chairperson's Award for his neighborhood involvement and activism. Dozens of neighborhood volunteers were also recognized during the event for their individual contributions to their neighborhoods.

Humboldt Greenway construction set to begin April 19

Neighborhood residents are invited to celebrate the start of new housing construction along the Humboldt Greenway on Thursday, April 19 from 4:00-6:00 p.m. Hosted by the Minneapolis Community Development Agency (MCDA) and Hennepin County, the construction kickoff for the first phase of the housing development will take place at the Creek View Neighborhood Center, 5001 Irving Ave. N.

Following comments about the project by city and county officials at 4:00 p.m., residents can board the RiverCity Trolley for a guided tour of the Greenway to learn about the single-family and senior housing projects planned for the area. Refreshments will be served and developers will be on hand to answer questions.

The project involves an eight-block area of Humboldt Ave. between Victory Memorial Drive and 53rd Ave. N. It will feature a new parkway, improvements to Shingle Creek, landscaped medians, boulevards, new open space, a pedestrian mall and a variety of housing. Construction will take place in several phases with CountryHome Builders, Inc. as the lead developer for nearly 200 units of single-family homes and town-homes, and CommonBond Communities as the developer for senior housing. Special financing will be available for low- and moderate-income buyers.

The Humboldt Greenway project evolved over several years as a cooperative effort between several public and private entities, including the MCDA, Hennepin County, the City of Minneapolis, the Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program, the Lind-Bohanon, Shingle Creek and Webber-Camden neighborhood association, and many others. For more information about the Humboldt Greenway kickoff event, please call the MCDA at 673-5095.

Schedule of topics for NRP Training Series 2001 now official

In response to numerous requests for customized, NRP-specific training, the NRP will once again host a unique training series catering toward the needs of neighborhood association board members and staff. The series, titled NRP Training Series 2001, begins Monday April 30, 2001 with a workshop titled "Preparing for your Audit."

All training series workshops will be presented by NRP staff and other seasoned neighborhood veterans, and will be held at the Crown Roller Mill, 105 Fifth Ave. S., Suite 200, in MCDA Conference Room #3. All weeknight sessions will take place from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., and all Saturday sessions (June 23 and August 25) will take place from 8:30 - 11:30 a.m.

"The training series is a response to input from neighborhoods requesting more information about NRP itself," said NRP Training Coordinator Robert Thompson. "Due to considerable board and staff turn-over, many neighborhoods lose touch with their history of involvement with the NRP. This series will help reintroduce neighborhoods to the purpose and workings of the NRP."

Other topics scheduled to be covered during this series of weeknight and Saturday workshops include: contract management; financial record keeping; audits and reporting; modifying your action plan; evaluating Phase I activities; and preparing for Phase II of the NRP.

The NRP is seeking individuals and groups with experience in neighborhood work to facilitate some of the workshops. If you feel that you or your organization have experience that can be shared, or if you would like more information about the workshops in general, please call Robert Thompson at 673-5149.

The schedule for the training series was developed after one-on-one meetings with neighborhood leaders, phone discussions, group meetings, a mail survey, and through feedback from the NRP's February 24, 2001 10-Year Anniversary Conference.

NRP Training Series 2001 Schedule & Topics

- Monday, April 30, 2001** - 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Preparing for your Audit: How to prepare and get the most out of your audit.
- Tuesday, May 29, 2001** - 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Financial Filings: What you need to file and when.
- Saturday, June 23, 2001** - 8:30-11:30 a.m.
Working with the Community: What does it mean to be a "Citizen Participation Organization?" Understand the impact and importance of involving the community when making decisions.
- Monday, June 25, 2001** - 6:30-8:30 p.m.
The Minneapolis Plan and your Action Plan: Learn how your neighborhood can most effectively incorporate the Minneapolis Plan into your NRP Action Plan. Presented by staff from the the Minneapolis Planning Department.
- Monday, July 30, 2001** - 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Preparing for Phase II: A basic introduction to Phase II of the NRP including statutory purposes, history, and how to enter into a participation agreement for Phase II.
- Tuesday, July 31, 2001** - 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Evaluation I: Why it is important to evaluate Phase I activities; and understanding administrative, financial, and programmatic evaluation.
- Wednesday, August 1, 2001** - 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Evaluation II: How to identify and collect key data for evaluation as well as organize it and use it to make sense of your neighborhood's Phase I activities.
- Saturday, August 25, 2001** 8:30-11:30 a.m.
Financial Software: How to use Quicken, Quickbooks, and other financial software to record transactions, and create financial reports for your board, MCDA, and NRP.
- Tuesday, August 28, 2001** - 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Financial Record Keeping I: How to create and use a simple chart of accounts, record transactions, and create financial reports for your board.
- Thursday, August 30, 2001** - 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Financial Record Keeping II: How to record, manage and report your organization's use of NRP and MCDA funds.
- Monday, October 29, 2001** - 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Contract Management: How to develop a scope of service and line-item budget; and how to create and manage a contract.
- Tuesday, October 30, 2001** - 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Modifying Your Action Plan: Everything you need to know before you modify your Action Plan.

IN BRIEF

McKnight Photography Fellowship Program Deadline is April 19

Since 1982 the Minneapolis-based McKnight Foundation has awarded Fellowships to Minnesota artists who use photography as a primary means of creative, personal expression and whose work demonstrates excellence. The University of Minnesota Department of Art is the administrative host for the Photography Fellowship Program. Beginning in 2001, a criterion for eligibility for the Fellowships will be evidence of advanced, active engagement with the community of photographic artists over a period of at least five years. A combination of exhibitions, publications, teaching, lecturing, and other activities will be weighed in making this decision.

Five \$25,000 Fellowships are awarded each spring by a three-member panel. The reviewers are selected from the community of artists, educators, curators, and critics outside of Minnesota who are familiar with the broad spectrum of photographic practice and receptive to a range of sensibilities. Their decisions are based primarily on the quality of work submitted, a plan for use of Fellowship funds and a record of past artistic accomplishments are also considered.

The McKnight Fellowships intend to enable the creative lives of Minnesota photographers for a twelve-month period. Funds underwrite free exploration of new ideas in an artist's own work. The money may be used during the Fellowship year to secure time, to purchase materials or equipment, and to supplement related travel expenses. Applicants must be residents of Minnesota for a year prior to and during the Fellowship year. Recipients cannot attend school full time during the Fellowship year.

Besides the financial assistance, the program also provides an exhibition opportunity following the Fellowship year, a publication accompanying the exhibition, a chance to consult with one of the review panels, and other opportunities to present work and interact with people interested in photographic art. Application forms are now available online at www.mcknight.org/program/arts.htm. They can also be obtained by calling 612-626-9640. The application deadline for the upcoming year is April 19, 2001.

Job Opportunities

West Bank Community Coalition seeks temporary Program Coordinator

The West Bank Community Coalition is currently seeking a temporary Program Coordinator to work 30-40 hours per week. This six-month temporary position, which could become permanent, involves working primarily with a diverse resident population, the West Bank Community Coalition's board and committees, and local agencies, institutions and businesses.

Applicants are expected to have a BA or equivalent, experience working with grass roots organizing, and must be able to attend evening and weekend meetings. Some knowledge of the NRP process is helpful.

The West Bank Community Coalition is an Equal Opportunity Employer that offers competitive wages and benefits. To apply for this position, please send a cover letter and resume to the West Bank Community Coalition, 1808 Riverside Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55454.

Stevens Square Community Organization (SSCO) seeks FT Community Outreach/Greening Organizer

The Stevens Square Community Organization (SSCO) is currently seeking a qualified community outreach and greening organizer to work with residents on community greening efforts, planning community events, and other community organizing activities. While there are certain activities that this job requires, there is also room for new creative and energetic projects as the employee's interest suggests.

Compensation for this FT position is \$24,500 - \$26,000 to start plus benefits, including full health and dental coverage, and a 403 (b) plan.

To apply for this position, please submit a cover letter and resume along with three references to: Organizer Search Committee, SSCO, 110 East 18th St., Minneapolis, MN 55403.

For a complete job description, contact SSCO at 612-871-7307. The deadline for applications is April 12.



Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program
Crown Roller Mill, Suite 425
105 Fifth Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55401

Heritage Award nominations due April 16

The Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Commission and the Minneapolis Chapter of the American Institute of Architects are sponsoring the 10th Annual Heritage Preservation Awards to recognize projects, individuals and organizations that enhance Minneapolis' historic character.

Nominations are due April 16. The awards, given in five different categories, will be presented at a luncheon May 24 as part of a week-long celebration of National Preservation Week.

Nominations should be delivered or mailed to the Minneapolis Preservation Commission, Room 210 City Hall, 350 S. Fifth St., Minneapolis, MN 55415. For more information, or to obtain nomination forms, call Amy Lucas at 612-673-2422.

— April 2001 Calendar of Events —

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| <p>1 Daylight Savings Time Begins
Move clocks forward one hour.</p> <p>5 Management Review Team (MRT) Meeting
4:30-6:30 p.m., 333 City Hall</p> <p>11 McKnight Photography Fellowship Program Informational Meeting
6:00-7:30 p.m., pArts Photographic Arts Gallery, 711 West Lake Street. For more information on this meeting, please contact the pArts Gallery at 612-824-5500. You can find more details on the McKnight Photography Fellowship Program on page 3.</p> <p>16 Heritage Preservation Award Nominations Due
See this page, or contact Amy Lucas at 612-673-2422 for more information.</p> <p>19 McKnight Photography Fellowship Program Application Deadline
For more information, see page 3 or visit the McKnight Fellowship web site at www.mcknight.org/program/arts.htm.</p> | <p>20 May Link Submission Deadline
Call 612-673-5158, or fax your submission to Brett at 612-673-5138.</p> <p>23 NRP Policy Board Meeting
4:30-6:30 p.m., Room C-2350 Hennepin County Government Center.</p> <p>30 NRP Training Series 2001: "Preparing for your Audit"
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Suite #200, Crown Roller Mill, 105 Fifth Ave. S. Call Robert Thompson at 612-673-5149 for info.</p> |
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The NRP Link is published monthly by the Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program. For more information, call Brett Feldman, Editor, (612) 673-5158. The NRP Link is available in Braille or large print upon request. TTY (612) 673-2626.

