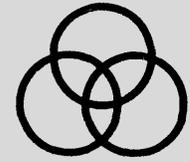


NRP Link

June 2001

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Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program News



Policy Board gives three neighborhoods approval to begin Phase II planning

On May 21, 2001, the NRP Policy Board approved the first three participation agreements for neighborhoods ready to begin Phase II planning. All three neighborhoods, Powderhorn Park, Seward, and Stevens Square/Loring Heights, have either spent 85 percent of their Phase I allocation or have contracted 95 percent of that same allocation – the required threshold for entering Phase II. Last November, the Policy Board also approved advance Phase II funding so the Jordan Area Community Council could begin working on its Phase I plan review and Phase II participation agreement.

A participation agreement serves as a blueprint for the NRP planning process. The document outlines how the range of community interests will be involved;

details how plan strategies will be developed and prioritized; and explains the process by which the neighborhood action plan will ultimately be approved.

Developing a neighborhood action plan is a process through which a broad spectrum of residents and other stakeholders define what they want for their community. Neighborhood action plans define the vision, goals, objectives and strategies for a neighborhood's future. When completed, an action plan serves as an outline for changing a neighborhood and making it a better place to live, work, learn and play. Before neighborhoods can begin Phase II planning, they must also complete a full review of their Phase I plan.



Photo by John Ake

East Calhoun tot lot dedicated May 15

Thanks to a substantial NRP investment from the East Calhoun Community Organization (ECCO), a new tot lot has been added to the shores of Lake Calhoun. Situated on the eastern shore of the lake near West 32nd St and East Calhoun Parkway, the tot lot also features a curved seat wall and wider park benches to make supervising children a more pleasant experience for adults.

Volunteers needed for Bassett's Creek wetlands planting June 23

Teams of volunteers will work to plant some 5,000 plants in the wetlands area near Bassett's Creek on June 23 from 9 a.m. until noon. Both the Bryn Mawr and Harrison neighborhood associations are encouraging residents from other neighborhoods to join them in this important and exciting endeavor.

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) has already cleared buckthorn and other intrusive plants from the wetlands area. Volunteers may park on Washburn and Glenwood Avenues N., then walk down to the site on the path (south side of Glenwood) at the west end of Glenwood Bridge. Trowels, special boots, trash bags, and buckets will be provided. However, volunteers should bring their own gloves and mosquito repellent. Volunteers should also anticipate muddy conditions especially if it is raining. If you would like to volunteer, please call Vida Ditter at 612-374-1481 or Paul Ragozzino, 612-377-6218 to offer your services.

Humphrey Center offering free training for neighborhood volunteers

Neighborhood organizations are facing an ever-increasing number of challenges that require the help of skilled volunteer organizers.

That is why beginning on Wednesday, June 20, the Humphrey Center's Minneapolis Training Program for Neighborhood Organizers will be providing free in-depth training for neighborhood volunteers.

The Humphrey Center's in-depth training program is designed to help volunteers learn organizing fundamentals and apply them effectively to their organization's unique situation. The training combines comprehensive coverage of organizing basics, trainings individually tailored to the individual needs of each volunteer and group, long-term follow-through, and group support from fellow neighborhood volunteers.

The program consists of six to eight two-hour weekly sessions and will kick off with a discussion entitled "Recruiting Volunteers." Other topics will be chosen by the participants and can include:

- * Leadership development
- * Issues identification
- * Grassroots and foundation fundraising
- * Organizing under-represented groups
- * Running meetings and events
- * Research
- * Media and communication

In addition, several monthly follow-up meetings will be held so participating volunteers can share their experiences and exchange ideas on challenges and problems they are facing or have overcome.

The first meeting will take place on Wednesday, June 20 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Northeast YMCA located at 2304 Jackson Street NE.

If you are interested in participating in this program, or would like directions to the Northeast YMCA, please call Jay Clark at 612-625-2513.

In Brief

Minneapolis Planning Department currently has three paid internship opportunities

Three paid internship opportunities are available immediately in the Minneapolis Planning Department: 1) analysis and presentation of 2000 census data – up to 30 hours/week; 2) analysis and presentation of housing density information – up to 20 hours/week; and 3) intern for the Committee on the Urban Environment (CUE) – up to 20 hours/week. If you would like more information about any or all three of these internships, please call 612-673-2036. To apply, please send your resume to: Julia Paulsen, 210 City Hall, 350 S. 5th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55415. E-mail inquiries and applications can be sent to: julia.paulsen@ci.minneapolis.mn.us.

2nd Annual National Night Out Planning Week set for June 18-21

In order to help active block clubs prepare for National Night Out on August 7 as well as to encourage inactive and new block clubs to organize, CCP/SAFE is promoting the 2nd annual National Night Out (NNO) Planning Week June 18-21. Block clubs are asked to hold a NNO planning meeting so that block parties go smoothly when NNO arrives. Block clubs are groups of neighbors who get to know one another, who watch out for each other and report crimes and suspicious activity to 911. Those who hold a planning meeting between June 18-21 will qualify for a special prize drawing that includes gift certificates for restaurants, theaters, hotels, and grocery stores.

Planning meetings enable neighbors to make the necessary preparations for a successful NNO. Neighbors can decide such things as who will be responsible for bringing food and utensils, the types of activities that will be available for adults and children, and whether or not the street needs to be blocked off. Planning meetings are also a good time for neighbors to decide who will make invitations and how they will be distributed.

For more information about NNO Planning Week, please call the NNO hotline at 612-673-3568. For more information about NNO or about starting a block club, please call Lisa at 612-673-2812.

Job Opportunities

Cedar Isles Dean Neighborhood Association seeks PT Program Coordinator

The Cedar Isles Dean Neighborhood Association (CIDNA) is currently seeking an experienced, PT independent contractor to serve as its Program Coordinator.

Program Coordinator duties include: organizing neighborhood outreach to increase community participation in CIDNA activities; assisting in organizing and implementing evaluation of Phase I Action Plan; assisting in organizing and implementing the planning of Phase II Action Plan; preparing required documents and reports for NRP as requested; documenting meetings; and serving as a liaison between CIDNA and governmental units. Some evening work will be required (primarily committee and board meetings) as well as other duties as requested.

The Program Coordinator should have the following skills and experience: excellent interpersonal, verbal, and written communications; strong organizational and administrative ability; computer literacy (Word, Excel, Access, Quicken would be helpful); ability to work independently; familiarity with the NRP process; and volunteer recruitment.

Compensation will be as an independent contractor and will be commensurate with skill level and experience and competitive with similar positions in the NRP system. Anticipate 10-15 hours per week (flexible). To apply, please send cover letter, resume, and three references to CIDNA, P.O. Box 16270, Minneapolis, MN 55416-9998.

Cleveland Neighborhood Association seeks PT Community Organizer

The Cleveland Neighborhood Association (CNA) is seeking a PT Community Organizer who will be responsible for working on neighborhood initiatives, assisting with special projects, and assisting with administrative duties that impact the general workings of the neighborhood association. Knowledge of the NRP and Block Club organizing is a plus. The ideal candidate is a self-starter who is comfortable speaking

to people one-on-one and in front of groups. Candidates should have good written and verbal communication skills, be reliable, and be able to meet deadlines and goals.

Pay for this position is \$10-12/hour and will not exceed \$12,480/year. Must be able to work some evenings and weekends. To apply, or to request a complete job description, please contact Amy Brock at 612-522-8167. PO Box 11635, Minneapolis, MN 55411.

Elliot Park Neighborhood, Inc. seeks Economic Development Coordinator

Elliot Park Neighborhood, Inc. (EPNI) is currently seeking an Economic Development Coordinator to work closely with its citizen participation Economic Development Committee to plan and implement an economic development program in the Elliot Park neighborhood. The Economic Development Coordinator will be responsible for staffing the citizen participation Economic Development Committee; developing and maintaining data bases of neighborhood buildings, land, and businesses; developing and implementing a marketing plan for the neighborhood, specifically to recruit new neighborhood businesses; providing support to businesses interested in moving into the Elliot Park neighborhood; acting as the EPNI liaison to the neighborhood business council; maintaining professional relationships with area residents, institutions, businesses, government staff and elected officials; and co-ordinating and implementing special projects as assigned.

Qualified candidates will have a BA/BS in community/economic development, political science, urban studies or four years experience in community/economic development; proven computer skills including data base development and management; and experience/familiarity with the NRP. This FT position offers a competitive salary and benefits package. To apply, please send cover letter and resume by June 9, 2001 to: Christopher Gerrard, Executive Director, Elliot Park Neighborhood, Inc., 719 South 10th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55404. For a complete job description, please call EPNI at 612-335-5846.



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NRP

Nokomis Environmental Fair fun for the ages



Photo by Diana Lynn Larsen

The Nokomis East Neighborhood Association (NENA) held an Environmental Fair at the Nokomis East Community Center on May 19. Participants were treated to a number of environmental activities and exhibits including the always popular seed planting for children as pictured above.

— June 2001 Calendar of Events —

- 7 Management Review Team (MRT) Meeting**
4:30-6:30 p.m., 333 City Hall
- 17 Father's Day**
- 18 NRP Policy Board Meeting**
4:30-6:30 p.m., Room C-2350 Hennepin County Government Center.
- 20 Minneapolis Training Program for neighborhood organizers first meeting**
4:30-6:30 p.m., Room C-2350 Hennepin County Government Center.
- 22 July Link Submission Deadline**
Call 612-673-5158, or fax your submission to Brett at 612-673-5138.
- 23 Bryn Mawr Neighborhood Association Bassett's Creek Valley Restoration Planting** 9:00a.m.-noon, near Washburn and Glenwood Avenues N. See front page for more information and directions to the planting site. To volunteer, please call Vida Ditter at 612-374-1481 or Paul Rogozzino at 612-377-6218.

- 23 NRP Training Series 2001: "Working with the community"**
8:30-11:30 a.m.
Suite #200, Crown Roller Mill, 105 Fifth Ave. S. Call Robert Thompson at 612-673-5149 for info.
- 25 NRP Training Series 2001: "The Minneapolis Plan and your Action Plan"**
6:30-8:30 p.m.
Suite #200, Crown Roller Mill, 105 Fifth Ave. S. Call Robert Thompson at 612-673-5149 for info.

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.

