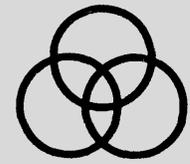


# NRP Link

March 2002

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Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program News



## Minneapolis residents give the NRP high marks for the third time in three years

For the third time in less than three years, Minneapolis residents responding to a random survey gave the NRP high marks for the positive impact the program has had on their neighborhoods. The most recent phone poll of 1,210 randomly sampled residents was conducted between Nov. 11 and Jan. 4 and was part of a broader survey aimed at measuring citizen satisfaction with city services and perceptions about key quality of life indicators. The survey revealed that 59 percent of the residents surveyed were familiar with the NRP. Of those, 59 percent said the NRP had a 'very positive' or 'positive' impact on their neighborhoods. 65 percent of those familiar with the NRP also said they 'agreed' or 'strongly agreed' with the statement "Because of the NRP, city residents have more influence on how important issues are addressed, public services delivered and public funds used." The entire survey is now available on the city Web site at <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us>

### NRP Policy Board elects new officers

The NRP Policy Board elected new officers at its February 25, 2002 meeting. Minneapolis Public Library Board Trustee Diane Hofstede was elected Chair; Jeffrey Strand, protection neighborhood representative, was elected Vice-Chair; and Ken Kelash, Minneapolis Central Labor Union representative, was elected Secretary. The Policy Board elects its officers annually in February.

The 19-member Policy Board provides overall direction to the program and is primarily responsible for the review and approval of Neighborhood Action Plans. The Policy Board consists of four neighborhood representatives, 10 public officials and five community interest group representatives. More information on the NRP Policy Board is available on the NRP Web site at [www.nrp.org/R2/AboutNRP/PB/PolicyBoard.html](http://www.nrp.org/R2/AboutNRP/PB/PolicyBoard.html)

The results support an earlier *Star Tribune* Minnesota Poll of voters likely to vote in the 2001 mayoral election. That poll, taken when the NRP's financial future was in doubt, found that an overwhelming 77 percent said the NRP should be continued. In August 1999, San Francisco-based research consultant Teamworks found that 66 percent of the adults living in Minneapolis reported that they had heard of the NRP. The Teamworks report also found that the NRP made a significant difference in increasing the number of repairs and improvements in the Minneapolis housing stock.

### Shingle Creek Commons opens 75 units of senior housing with supportive services

The 75-unit Shingle Creek Commons retirement living community officially opened its doors on February 28 thanks to the work of the Lind-Bohanon, Shingle Creek and Webber-Camden neighborhood associations. Combined, the three groups invested \$250,000 of NRP funds in the CommonBond Communities facility, part of the larger Humboldt Greenway project bringing nearly 200 units of single-family homes and townhomes to an eight-block stretch of Humboldt

Avenue between Victory Memorial Drive and 53rd Avenue in north Minneapolis. Hennepin County, the City of Minneapolis and the MCDA are among the many other partners making the project possible.



Shingle Creek Commons resident Pat Halliday in the computer lab.

## NRP to host three workshops in March

The NRP is hosting three workshops this month that are specifically designed for neighborhood association board members and staff of who are responsible for managing NRP and MCDA activities. Below you will find a brief description of each upcoming workshop.

### **"Board Chair Peer Group"**

**Saturday, March 9, 2002**

**9:00 - 11:00 a.m.**

Peer group workshops have proven to be an effective way of sharing information among neighborhood organizations citywide. This workshop provides an excellent networking and peer-to-peer learning opportunity. Please contact Robert Thompson at 612-673-5149 if you would like to place an item on the agenda for this workshop.

### **"Working with the Community"**

**Thursday, March 21, 2002**

**6:30 - 8:30 p.m.**

This workshop will help prepare your neighborhood organization for both the positive and negative impacts of working with the community. Facilitated by Jana Metge of Citizens for a Loring Park Community and Rebecca Polston of the Harrison Neighborhood Association, this workshop will cover some of the proven techniques for community organizing and working with volunteers.

### **"The Minneapolis Plan and Your Neighborhood Action Plan"**

**Tuesday, March 26, 2002**

**6:30 - 8:30 p.m.**

Presented by Julia Paulsen of the Minneapolis Planning Department, this workshop will focus on the way the Minneapolis Plan impacts neighborhood planning efforts. Learn more about your community's future and about designing your Phase II Action Plan.

To attend upcoming workshops, please RSVP by phone to Robert Thompson at 612-673-5149 or by e-mail at [rthompson@nrp.org](mailto:rthompson@nrp.org). Light refreshments will be provided at all workshops! All sessions will be held in MCDA Conference Room 3 at the Crown Roller Mill building, 105 Fifth Ave S., Suite 200. More workshops will be presented throughout the year so please check the training workshop section of the NRP Web site at <http://www.nrp.org/R2/Resources/Training/Workshops.html> to learn about upcoming sessions.

## In Brief

### **Deadline for Building Blocks Awards nominations is March 15**

Are you part of an effective block club? Do you know of a block club that is doing creative work? If so, nominate the block club for a Building Blocks Award by March 15 and help CCP/SAFE honor the club.

The 4th Annual Building Blocks Awards will be given to successful block clubs that build a sense of community, share leadership, improve livability, and resolve neighborhood problems while working cooperatively with the Minneapolis Police Department. Award recipients will be publicly recognized and will be asked to share their stories in order to promote the importance of block clubs and to stimulate the creation of new ones.

Minneapolis is home to an active network of nearly 1,500 block clubs. Such community spirit is unusual for a large city, and Minneapolis has become a model for the nation. The large number of block clubs has grown out of the continued efforts of CCP/SAFE and those of enlightened and active citizens.

To nominate a block club, detail why it is exceptional:

- What kinds of events took place on the block and how did people work as a team?
- How were diverse groups involved?
- How did the block club work with CCP/SAFE, other Minneapolis Police Department units and/or other city departments?
- How has life on the block improved through the block club's efforts?
- In what ways did the block club work to build connections among people to address problems on the block?
- In what other ways is the block club outstanding?

Please send your name and phone number with the name, address and phone number of the block leader(s) as well as the boundaries of the block club to Crime Prevention Manager Pat Behrend, Fourth Precinct CCP/SAFE, 1925 Plymouth Ave. N. 55411. If you have questions, call Pat at 612-673-2807. The deadline for nominations is Friday, March 15, 2002. Winners will be announced in early April.

## **Eighth Annual South Minneapolis Housing & Home Improvement Fair Saturday, March 9**

The Eighth Annual South Minneapolis Housing and Home Improvement Fair is scheduled for Saturday, March 9, 2002, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at South High School, 3131 19th Ave. S.

The fair, which is free and open to the public, will include information about home remodeling and rehabilitation, home buying and financing options like Minneapolis Community Development Agency (MCDA) and Fannie Mae low-interest loans. More than 90 reputable contractors, real estate agents, lenders and neighborhood representatives will be on hand to answer questions. Stop by your neighborhood association's table to learn what your neighborhood can do for you and what you can do for your community.

Free informative seminars will be offered such as: hiring and working with a contractor, first-time homebuyer programs, roofing seminars, decorative stone installation; MCDA mortgage and home improvement loans, and a Bennett Lumber and Elpis Enterprises wood craft workshop for children. Food will be available and there will be hourly drawings for door prizes. Don't miss your chance to win a \$100 gift certificate to Hi-Lake True Value Hardware Store in the Hi-Lake Shopping Center. For more information about the fair and a list of workshops, please call 612-721-0310.

## **Eighth Annual Teen Job & Opportunity Fair Saturday, March 16 at South High School**

The Teen Job and Opportunity Fair is a free event designed for Minneapolis youth ages 14-18 seeking employment, volunteer, and employment-ready workshop opportunities. This year the event will be held on Saturday, March 16, 2002, from noon to 2:30 p.m. at South High School. For the eighth year, employers and service agencies will have the opportunity to connect with more than 700 prospective youth employees and volunteers. This event not only serves as an opportunity for youth, businesses and non profits,



but also as a celebration of the city's resource of energetic and motivated youth. The Teen Job and Opportunity Fair offers positive and constructive activities for kids while helping them earn money and build résumés. Those attending this year's event will be able to apply for summer jobs, attend career workshops, and mingle with other youth and employers. Admission to the event is free. For more information about the Teen Job and Opportunity Fair, please call the What's Up? Youth Info Line at 612-399-9999.

## **Job Opportunity**

### **Longfellow Community Council seeks executive director**

The Longfellow Community Council, a nonprofit neighborhood organization located in south Minneapolis, is seeking a highly motivated team player to serve as executive director. Job responsibilities include personnel management, financial record keeping, contract management, budgeting, program planning and evaluation, fundraising, strategic planning, marketing and promotion and public relations. The ideal candidate will have a four year degree in public or business administration, political science, urban studies or a related field. The candidate will also have a minimum of three years experience working for a neighborhood group, a nonprofit organization and/or the city. Additional qualifications include supervisory experience, proven fundraising abilities, excellent oral and written communication skills, and demonstrated knowledge of accounting. The position offers a competitive salary, great health benefits and three weeks vacation. Send cover letter, résumé, writing sample and references to 2727 26th Avenue S. Minneapolis, 55406, by March 12. First round interviews will be held on March 15 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. For a complete job description visit the "work with us" section of the NRP Web site at [www.nrp.org/r2/aboutNRP/jobs.html](http://www.nrp.org/r2/aboutNRP/jobs.html), call the LCC at 612-722-4529 or e-mail [sdelaney@visi.com](mailto:sdelaney@visi.com).

**Would you like to publicize an upcoming event in your neighborhood? Please call Brett today at 612-673-5158 to get your event listed on the NRP Web site**



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**NRP**

## Ideas exchanged at Diversity Workshop



Minneapolis residents exchanged ideas on how to get a more diverse population involved in the decision-making processes of their neighborhoods and city during an NRP-sponsored Diversity Workshop on February 25. Please see page 2 for information on upcoming NRP workshops.

## March 2002 Calendar of Events

### 4 NRP Training Series 2002: "Diversity Workshop Part II"

6:30-8:30 p.m., Eastside Neighborhood Services, 1700 Second Street NE. For a complete schedule of upcoming workshops visit the training section of the NRP Web site or call NRP Training Specialist Robert Thompson at 612-673-5149.

### 7 Management Review Team (MRT) meeting (CANCELLED)

### 9 NRP Training Series 2002: "Board Chair Peer Group"

6:30-8:30 p.m., Suite 200, Crown Roller Mill, 105 Fifth Ave. S. For more information see page 2, visit the training section of the NRP Web site or call NRP Training Specialist Robert Thompson at 612-673-5149.

### 18 April Link submission deadline

Call 612-673-5158 or fax your submission to Brett at 612-673-5138.

### 21 NRP Training Series 2002: "Working with the Community"

6:30-8:30 p.m., Suite 200, Crown Roller Mill, 105 Fifth Ave. S. For more information see page 2, visit the training section of the NRP Web site or call NRP Training Specialist Robert Thompson at 612-673-5149.

### 25 NRP Policy Board meeting

4:30 to 6:30 p.m., Room C-2350 Hennepin County Government Center

### 26 NRP Training Series 2002: "Minneapolis Plan and Your Action Plan"

6:30-8:30 p.m. Suite 200, Crown Roller Mill, 105 Fifth Ave. S. For more information see page 2 or call Robert Thompson at 612-673-5149.

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.

