



Kingfield Neighborhood Association Board Meeting
10/12/22, 7-9pm
Judson Church 4101 Harriet

Meeting Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85874774208?pwd=bW1kNEFtZmFiMjBnTVVYWmNmUC9RUT09>

Board Packet Link: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1zAok4M-pNxRsfWaJaJuB0Za59vhwJUmn>

Members in attendance: *Katie Blanchard, Regina Burstein, Becky Dankowski, Alice Johnson, Josh Martin, Brighton McCormick, Scott Mueller, David Robbins, Dave Searl, Todd Shipman, BJ Titus, and Sarah Tschida*

Members absent: *Travis Norvell*

Others in attendance: *Sarah Linnes-Robinson and Uriah Fine*

Meeting Chair: *Katie Blanchard*

Meeting Secretary: *Josh Martin*

Confirmed quorum: *Quorum was met at 7:00 PM*

Community Forum

No community members were present.

Consent Agenda

David Robbins moved to approve the consent agenda

Dave Searl seconded the motion

All approved

Neighborhood Diversity Survey with NCR Representative

Uriah Fine, Neighborhood Support Specialist, introduced himself and provided an overview of the Neighborhood Diversity Survey. The survey is anonymous and aggregated at the community level, so Kingfield will be part of the report for the Southwest community. Questions are derived from the US Census to allow for comparison to census data for the overall community population. Board members present completed the survey. Some board members asked questions regarding NCR and neighborhood funding.

Sarah Tschida: How does NCR engage with the City Council and Mayor to advocate for neighborhood funds?

Uriah Fine: Our director advocates for funding for neighborhood organizations and works with the council and Mayor. But the best people to reach out to the council and Mayor would be constituents.

Tschida: Do you ever bring neighborhood organization board members or staff? What can we do to be more effective?

Fine: For the first 30 years of neighborhood organizations, funding for neighborhood orgs came from tax increment financing from the Downtown area. The funding now comes from the General Fund. The fact we are continuing to

fund at the level we are is a big win. Neighborhood orgs receive less than 1% of the overall budget. We are also funding community-based organizations that have not historically been integrated into neighborhood organizations. Would suggest not pitting those organizations against each other, but instead working together for advocacy for greater funding.

BJ Titus: Do you have a timeline for hiring a permanent director?

Fine: Definitely by the end of the year, hopefully by the end of the month.

Katie Blanchard: You mentioned there were over 700 people on boards. Is that high or low compared to historical trends?

Fine: We can hopefully get that data from this survey.

Staff Update

Executive Director Sarah Linnes-Robinson provided a staff update regarding various items.

Park Board Dedication: Will talk about this at the retreat.

K-Mart Engagement: The city's process has officially started. Survey went out two weeks ago and already has over 1,300 responses. First open house is October 25 at Abyssinia Cultural Center. Advise people who are interested to stay engaged and attend these events even if they have already completed the survey. Anyone can complete the survey, but the survey asks about the respondent's connection to the neighborhood. Could talk to community members about this at the Polling Party.

Simpson Housing: The extended stay shelter is moving to the Lyndale neighborhood. Concerns have been expressed by immediate neighbors. Encourage members to support Simpson Housing. Simpson is working hard to engage with the community. Shelter is guaranteed for 90+ days for people staying at the shelter. This location is intended to be used for several years. Lyndale Neighborhood Organization is working with Simpson to ensure there is a strong relationship with the community. Board members expressed the importance of supporting projects of this type and reframing the discussion around such projects.

Pollinator Project: Able to fund 15 projects in each neighborhood. Looking for ways for people to participate even if they were not selected for the Pollinator Grant. Working on developing the five community site gardens. Talking about an event at Butter Bakery with an "art show" regarding the gardens.

Vision Zero: There will be a happy hour at the Lowbrow on November 7 at 3 PM to talk about Vision Zero tests in the neighborhood. Asking neighbors to offer opinions on what is and isn't working with the project.

Equitable Engagement Application: The Outreach Committee is making adjustments to the application and will submit their revised draft to SLR prior to the application deadline.

Merger Update

Director David Robbins provided an update regarding the merger work group. The work group has narrowed options down to either a partnership (all three organizations exist, new partnership board controls the finances and staff) or a merger or consolidation (one new organization is formed and the separate neighborhood organizations no longer exist as legal entities). Have not yet determined many of the finer details of the structure. Members of the work group are in general agreement of the need for one of these structures, but are presenting both options to the boards of each organization for consideration. Mentioned the need to discuss with the community to provide information and get input. Will discuss this subject in much greater detail at the retreat.

990 Review and Approval to Submit

Shows a profit for KFNA due to funds from Lyndale and reimbursements for Executive Director time.

David Robbins moved to approve the 990 Form
Dave Searl seconded the motion
Scott Mueller abstained
All other members approved

Fundraising and Goals

Director Todd Shipman presented regarding fundraising and noted the committee is working on a trifold regarding the organization and to make a fundraising ask. Sent specifications to the designer today. Will be included in the December fundraising letter. Brainstorming on a "Destination Kingfield" painting for the future. Today's photo will be included in the fundraising letter. Discussing fundraising asks from local businesses. General agreement of discussing the possibility of a merger in the fundraising letter. Discussed a GoFundMe to raise funds for the "Destination Kingfield" mural. Fundraising goal is \$7,000.

Volunteer Board Asks for Empty Bowls Leadership and Polling Party Staffing

Looking for at least one board member to be involved with the planning team. Will likely be held on Thursday, February 9. Potential concerns about sourcing enough bowls for the event. Becky Dankowski, David Robbins, Dave Searl, and Todd Shipman volunteered to be involved. All board members are expected to sign up for a volunteer shift for the event itself, if at all possible. Looking for a "Super Voucher" for Precinct 8-3 (north of 40th).

Need as many volunteers as possible, from the board and community, to assist with staffing the Polling Party, especially in the afternoon and evening. Also need donations of baked goods. Can buy firewood at Nicollet Ace for the event, and Ace will provide delivery. Will have a "QR Code Tic Tac Toe" for community members to sign up for events. Will be a good opportunity to discuss the merger with community members. There will be an elections return party at Tap Society as a fundraiser for the organization.

The Outreach Committee has doorknocked 50% of the rental units in the neighborhood. The goal is to doorknock 100% of the rental units in the neighborhood by the end of the year in order to promote the Polling Party, election, and voter registration.

Board Retreat Preview

The board retreat is Sunday, October 30 at the KFNA Office from 1:30-5:30 PM. Key topics will include the organization's finances, the merger, and fundraising. There will be food and drink. An agenda will be emailed in advance of the retreat.

Meeting Close

The meeting was adjourned at 9:01 PM.