

Minutes

Prospect Park East River Road NRP - 2 Steering Committee Meeting of April 18, 2005 at Luxton Park

The meeting was called to order by Dick Poppele, co-chair of the Steering Committee, at 7:35 pm in the multi-purpose room at Luxton Park Community Center. There were 7 adults present. (See attached sign in sheet and item 6). It was noted that the Somali women decided not to come to this meeting because its purpose was primarily to finalize neighborhood meeting details for April 20 - they would not be playing a large roll in running that meeting due to language.

All agreed that the item of business for this meeting was to talk over and finalize details for the neighborhood meeting.

The group expected a turnout less than 200. The decision was made to start the meeting in the small room where the Committee regularly meets and move to the gym if turnout was high and a larger room proved necessary. People would be asked to carry their own chairs. This room could hold up to 100.

Two small tables would be set up outside this room for registration. People would sign in with their names and addresses. They would be given their voting dots at that time – a page of 6 each of 4 colors, with a separate strip of 4 stapled on. There would be no replacements given if people lost their dots.

Dick said he would be presiding. He went over the proposed agenda point by point. Dean Lund volunteered to summarize Phase 2. Betts Zerby said she would summarize Phase 1. Dick said there would probably be questions – he would try to keep the meeting on track so it wouldn't get too long.

Steve Cross said he would go through the city requirements. He pointed out that administrative funding is required and would come off the top. – to pay for copies, mailings, staff time, etc. As fiscal agent, PPERRIA would actually handle the budget details. Some administrative funding must be attributed to housing and some to other. It was noted that \$15,000 was just reallocated from Phase 1 for administration. Phase 2 startup funds of about \$14,000 have also been put in administration.

Ann Munt is sick and someone else may have to summarize the SWIM program.

Dick explained the voting process that would be used. Kari said she would explain the process at the meeting.

There was discussion on how to present the housing options. Kari Simonson suggested a change in order in the agenda, to put the general housing program introduction just before the question/answer section. All agreed, since this was the section that would likely generate the most questions.

Kari Simonson Asked for clarification on whether the Steering Committee needed to come up with an Action Plan before the next neighborhood meeting. If not, what is that meeting for?

Discussion: It was pointed out that if the SWIM and Historic District programs both have a lot of support, there would be about \$150,000 left for other housing initiatives. Loans of up to \$5000 would be possible. Other alternatives, such as spending all the money to fix up the two worst properties in the neighborhood,

were also discussed. More information will be necessary before deciding the details on grants or loans, exterior or interior improvements, etc.

It was decided to ask Amina Mohamed (Somali translator) to come a little early so the voting process could be made clear to her. Also, perhaps she could translate the agenda ahead of time.

The Steering Committee would be asked to stay after the meeting to count the dots in each section. This is necessary to accurately verify the results. It was noted that if not counted immediately, dots could fall off, or someone could question the results.

The next Steering Committee meeting will be May 2 to discuss the voting results and begin work on an action plan.

Discussion: The dotmocracy results would be advisory, but not binding. A question was asked as to what extend the Committee would stick with the results. It depends on the turnout. The Steering Committee will write drafts of each section of the action plan. ~~The community will meet to discuss it.~~ An action plan with various alternatives could be developed. It was decided to continue this discussion after the neighborhood meeting, since these decisions depend on the turnout at that meeting.

Betts wanted assurance by this group that the Steering Committee would follow the sentiments of the neighborhood. Kari asked for the same. All agreed however there was concern over how accurately neighborhood sentiment could be gauged, especially if the turnout is small.

The minutes from the April 4 meeting were approved with no objections. It was decided to ask Andy Mickel to put the Steering Committee meeting minutes on the PPERRIA website. .

The meeting was adjourned.

The meeting attendees were:

Dick Poppele
Steve Cross
Joe Ring
Betts Zerby
Dean Lund
Joyce Barta
Kari Simonson