

Cleveland Neighborhood Meeting Notes

11/16/15

Ariah Fine, Executive Director

Tania, Public Ally

Alicia Uzarek, FMR

Maya Christensen, HECUA-FMR

North Minneapolis Riverfront Development History, Existing Conditions & Expected Happenings (in the next decade or two)

- Alicia gave background of riverfront happenings in ATF.

FMR's History in North Minneapolis

- Alicia gave a brief overview of FMR's history working in North Mpls.

Ariah & Tania's Thoughts on What New Parkland Should Include/Embody

- Ariah used Wirth Park as an example of what they do not want to see. The community does not frequent the park and there are few connections from the neighborhood to the park.
- They would like the park to attract youth.
- The entire process of building the parks and surrounding developments should ensure that community members are hired – especially minorities and youth.
- There should be hiring goals for the UHT
- Have a rollerskating in one of the domes
- They would like to see ped and bike connections
- Transit connections including a connecting/circulator bus that goes in a circle around/through North Minneapolis
- Highway crossings – green them, put in a nicer fence, make it not seem like you are crossing a highway
- Get youth on the river, not just to the river
- Inclusivity
- Any surveying that is done should provide the opportunity to sign-up to get more information and hear a follow-up from what
- They wanted to hear more about the decision making process for all of the development to be sure they put their resources in the right place/had representation where it matters.

Communications

- Cleveland Neighborhood has a quarterly print newsletter
- They usually write something for the Camden Newspaper which is published once a month.
- They have an e-newsletter
- They also do a bunch of door-knocking, phone calling and their "Street Forum" (the iPad project)
- They have a website

Partnership

- Aariah told us about a program he runs with Step-Up interns to gather community input where the users are. He has the interns create a 1-2 minute video about the issue (e.g. transportation options) and then go out to where the users are (e.g. transit stops), show users the video on an iPad, and then flip the iPad around to record the user's reaction to the video and get their ideas. The interns then take all of the new videos and put together a final video product of community members' thoughts on the issue at hand. This was his response to my hint that we may have funding to have community groups do some outreach work. He'd love to do something river related with his Step-Up interns this year.
- Aariah is great to work with and I'd definitely recommend working with him, if possible.

Insight into Northside Neighborhood Politics

- Aariah did mention that there are some tricky politics at play with Cleveland (non-river adjacent neighborhood) taking on outreach in river adjacent neighborhoods. So, he's glad we'll be working to communicate with all neighborhoods.
- Lind Bohanon is actively involved in NNC
- McKinley is fledgling
- Hawthorn is kind of involved in NNC
- Webber-Camden is Roberta England
- NRRC is also fledgling a bit. Will is the only staff person.

Other notes

- Bring a neighborhood map to these meetings and if possible, overlay neighborhood boundaries on our McKnight map.