

Victory Neighborhood Meeting Notes

11/30/15

Debbie Nelson, Victory Neighborhood Executive Director

Alicia Uzarek, FMR

Maya Christensen, HECUA-FMR

North Mpls Riverfront Development History, Existing Conditions, Expected Happenings

- Alicia gave overview of riverfront happenings and ATF
- Debbie mentioned that Victory had been partnered in some capacity with FMR when FMR was starting out and had basic knowledge of FMR's efforts

Victory Neighborhood Insights/Overview

- The neighborhood is very interested in the UHT development
- Problem with ATF plan → changed from original plan, residents/board want more green space and residential, NOT commercial and industrial
- "We need jobs" is the common narrative, but Debbie asks how likely it is that any jobs created will actually go to/benefit people in the neighborhoods
- Not a job problem, a skilled worker problem
 - Develop workers to be able to take the jobs that are already there
 - Cookie Cart as an example of this
- "Get over the idea that jobs are going to benefit us" -Debbie
- Need the amenities they have on the other side of downtown
- Want: replace industry with green space or housing
- "It's sad you have to be afraid of going to the river" –Debbie when speaking to industrial areas near river
- Need to connect people to the river, need to make the connections known and available to get the neighborhoods there
- Engage people → Make it IMPORTANT
- Want connections back into the neighborhood
 - across the highway
 - signage, way finding → MNDOT regulation says you can't have signage along a highway unless the venue can provide parking for x number of people (?) so North Mississippi Regional Park is not advertised on the highway. Lind Bohanon tried to get such signs.
 - transit
 - landbridges
- Nobody knows about North Mississippi Regional Park or that we have a national park right there
- Important to engage ALL the people

ATF and AFCAC

- Seats open
- business seats
- Enviro rep?

Communications

- NNC→ FMR (Alicia) come to meetings?
 - Thurs Dec 10, 9:00-11:00am
- Quarterly newsletter→ next edition is January and then April
- Bi-weekly e-newsletter→ Debbie sends it out
- Monthly meeting→ FMR present info to residents
 - Alicia would preferably come to March or April meeting
 - Debbie welcomed that idea and recommended lots of visuals, pictures, get residents informed and aware and part of the process
- Camden news→ can ask to submit article
 - editor= Laurel Harret, (612) 521-3060
- They have a website
- Have a Facebook and Twitter page

Partnership

- Debbie mentioned that they had communications (in the past) with Kathleen Boe from MRP about a **bus tour** of the river to “raise awareness of the river”
 - funding fell through
 - grant from the watershed district?
 - would be interested in working to get this going this at a time that works for the community, a summer weekend or evening - NOT at 3 in the afternoon on a weekday
 - go to the river, explain what’s there, make it more comfortable to go there
- Want a comprehensive history of the river and N mpls and the development
 - research
 - Why it developed the way it did (N vs S Mpls development)
 - access
 - Lind Bohanon has lots of pictures of the old working river
- They are doing neighborhood-wide water quality education and BMP work
 - door hangers
 - yard signs
 - potentially partner with Kate re: stenciling
- FMR come present at neighborhood meeting
 - Bring lots of visuals, nature, inform residents about what is happening
- FMR come to NNC meeting
 - reach many neighborhoods and organizations/businesses at once