

Edina Neighborhood Identification Steering Committee
Edina City Hall – Community Room
Wednesday, October 24, 2012 – 6:30 PM

Members Present: Brozic, Carlson, Dornblaser, Ericksen, Miller, Moore, Persha and Chair Melton

Staff Present: Karen Kurt, Assistant City Manager; Susan Howl, Executive Assistant; and Ari Klugman, Administration Intern

I. MOTION by Member Dornblaser to approve the NISC minutes of October 10, 2012, was seconded by Member Brozic.

Ayes: Brozic, Carlson, Dornblaser, Ericksen, Melton, Miller, Moore, and Persha

MOTION CARRIED.

II. Review City's Draft Documents

Assistant Manager Kurt reported that City staff has been researching policies and framework regarding policies and by-laws for the establishment and maintenance of recognized neighborhoods and civic neighborhood associations, utilizing review and input from the Task Force and feedback from staff. The City Attorney has yet to be consulted. The terms "Code" versus "Policy" merited discussion. "Code" refers to the law, government structure, boards and commission, misdemeanors, how the City operates and would involve more work to make changes. A "Policy" is more flexible and adaptable.

Task Force comments:

- We are not ready to endorse a code.
- A code is legal, enforceable and complex to change. We should be cautious about putting things into a code.
- A code gives the City more staying power. It is not too early to address code for neighborhoods.

The Task Force reviewed the draft City Code Section 198-Recognized Neighborhoods and Civic Neighborhood Associations.

- Add the word "recognized" before "Civic Neighborhood Association(s).
- Delete the word "other" within the Neighbors paragraph of 198.01.
- Delete "defined" in the first sentence under 198.02 Purpose.
- Change the first "neighborhood" to "boundary" in the second sentence under 198.02 Purpose.
- Change the first sentence under 198.03 A. to the following: "Recognized civic neighborhood associations will be a part of the City's decision-making process but will not . . ."
- Under 198.07, add the following words to the end of the last sentence: "when votes are not being taken."
- Under 198.07 Funding, can the City pick up bank expenses? Costs will be encountered.
- What about insurance coverage for board members?
- The cost of defense is a big issue—i.e. indemnification. A grievance policy and process need to be addressed at the lower level first and entertained within the by-laws.
- By-laws should contain the following regarding board members: election, term and removal of members and officers.
- By-laws should contain an appeals policy.

The Task Force reviewed the draft Civic Neighborhood Association (CNA) Policy.

- Typo noted in the first sentence: change "on" to "of."
- Under City Staff Liaison and its first bullet, change the word "residents" to "neighbors."

- Under City Staff Liaison and its sixth bullet, correct "utilization" to become "utilize."
- Under the last bullet within City Staff Liaison, replace "new" with "and revise."
- Under Communication Support, change "and" in the last sentence to "as."
- Within the last paragraph of Communication Support, delete "reserves the right to" in the second sentence and add "will."
- The last sentence within City Speakers was noted and questioned.
- The last sentence within Meeting Space was noted and questioned.
- Under "recognized" Civic Neighborhood Association Name Changes, the City Council should be listed as the source of approval of name changes.
- Under "recognized" Civic Neighborhood Association Boundary Changes, a technical process should be developed. Consider adding a window of time before changes can be made. There needs to be a motivation for people to work things out.
- Incentives should be created for neighborhoods to join the larger areas. What do they gain from joining?
- How will the City deal with established groups?
- How do established organizations make the transition?

The Task Force reviewed the draft By-laws, and suggestions/edits were passed to Assistant Manager Kurt.

The Task Force reviewed the draft "recognized" Civic Neighborhood Association Recognition Form.

- The sentence after the first "box" was changed to read: "Check this box if you are newly organized and seeking recognition from the City".
- The beginning of the sentence after the second "box" was changed to read: "Check this box if you are a recognized neighborhood civic association . . ."
- Identify who is holding the meetings under "Basic Information."
- Why is it necessary to submit by-laws again if they have not been changed?

III. Discuss Work Session Presentation

The PowerPoint presentation was reviewed:

- Assistant Manager Kurt will work to trim back the PowerPoint.
- Re-work the agenda.
- Take out the Bloomington slide.
- Remove "What Would Be Required."
- Update the "process" slide.
- Remove the quadrant map overview.
- Provide maps and reviews of each quadrant.
- Focus on quadrant assignments.
- The Task Force was encouraged to be prepared to talk about turn out and citizen engagement at the three public meetings.

IV. Quadrant Comments

Contingent upon Member Persha's investigation and follow-up within the Presidents neighborhood within the Northwest Quadrant, the following motion was made:

MOTION by Member Miller to change the name "Presidents" to "Alden Park" was seconded by Chair Melton.

Ayes: Brozic, Carlson, Dornblaser, Ericksen, Melton, Miller, Moore, and Persha

MOTION CARRIED.

Within the Northwest Quadrant, there has been angst from the Londonderry neighborhood regarding the proposed name.

At the Council Work Session on December 4th, Member Moore will be prepared to highlight the process and the detailed map changes during the time that the Task Force was living out its charge.

V. Adjournment

There being no further business, the NISC meeting of October 24, 2012, was adjourned at 8:30 PM.