Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting Two

Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board
East of the River Park Master Plan

11/28/2017 6:00 – 8:00pm
Waite Park


Approximately eight members of the general public attended the meeting.

Staff, consultants, and speakers present:
Carrie Christensen, (MPRB), Radious Guess (MPRB), Siciid Ali, (MPRB) John Slack, (Perkins + Will Consultant), Mo Convery (Perkins + Will Consultant)

Youth Design Team:
Zoe Hollomon (MRPB), Joanna Sylvain (YDT), Saudi Mohamud (YDT), Entisar Bedasso (YDT), Ellie Traxler-Menz (YDT), Mary Scott (YDT)

1. Opening: 6:20 pm
The second Community Advisory Committee (referred to in this document as CAC #2) was called to order on 6:20pm by Cordelia Pearson, the Community Advisory Committee Chair, in song.

Carrie Christensen briefly reviewed of the CAC Objectives, the purpose of the service plan, and confirmed that they are currently in the vision and discovery phase of the project.

2. Introductions: 6:25 pm
The CAC members were all asked to introduce themselves, share which neighborhood/association they were from, and one group or interest they feel a part of. Themes included:

- Community activism
- Accessibility
- Urban agriculture
- Equity
- Bicyclists
- Athletics
- Community Gardens
- Coaches and sports
- All age supports (children to older children to senior citizens)

Community Member Kenny Jones spoke for the need for a new gym for the Waite recreation center. He explained the high use of the current facility and inability of the current building to meet the needs of the sports leagues, community, and adjacent school.
3. **Review of CAC Group Agreement: 6:45 pm**
   Cordelia Pearson, the Community Advisory Committee Chair, reviewed the CAC group agreement. The group agreement includes:
   1. Step up, step back
   2. Speak from your own experience
   3. Keep things to the point, be conscious of time, and stay focused
   4. Value diverse perspectives
   5. One mic: Be present, one conversation, respect the speaker, actively listen
   6. Cells phones on silent, step away for calls
   7. Be respectful and compassionate
   8. Stay open to new ideas
   9. Assume good intentions
   10. Try to respect someone’s opinion even if you don’t agree with them

4. **MPRB Racial Equity Info Session 6:46 pm**
   **Presenter: Radious Guess (MPRB)**
   a) Reviewed the MPRB Definition of Racial Equity
      When race is no longer a predictor of access to parks and recreation, health, well-being, and quality of life.
   b) CAC Expectations
      • Increase knowledge of the Racial Equity Action Plan;
      • Increase awareness of personal biases and experience with racial equity;
      • Build specific personal and professional skills around race equity; and
      • Expand knowledge and competence to work more effectively in a racially diverse and culturally proficient environment.
   c) Review of MPRB internal racial equity trainings and strategies
   d) Review of MPRB implementation of racial equity action plan

5. **Racial Equity and Awareness Activities : 7pm**
   a) Name 5- Leader: Radious Guess
      • Meeting attendees were asked to participate in the Name 5 activity. Radious prompted the participants to individually list 5 “prominent Americans” from several particular demographic, racial, and ethnic groups. Participants had one minute to write down individuals within this group. None of the participants was able to name 5 individuals for each group.
      • Discussion: The purpose of the activity was not to show personal bias but rather to illustrate how certain groups are better represented in history/media and are acknowledged for their contributions or prominence. Radious prompted the participants to think about how to identify gaps in one’s own knowledge base and ways to engage with the stories and histories of communities often excluded.
   b) Spectrums- Leader: Zoe Hollomon
      • Meeting attendees were asked to agree, disagree, or remain in the middle about a particular experience or personal view. ex. *Do you often find yourself in a space*
where you are the only person of your race, age, gender identity? Zoe then prompted the respondents to explain their answers.

- Discussion: Racial equity is an ongoing conversation and process of understanding our perspectives and those of others around us.

6. Stakeholders Brainstorm 7:40pm  
   **Leader: Carrie Christensen and Siciid Ali**  
   a) Carrie reviewed who are the existing stakeholders for this project  
      i. Internal MPRB, External City Groups, CAC, and communities  
   b) Siciid reviewed recent and upcoming community engagement events  
   c) Stakeholder Brainstorming  
   d) Carrie and Siciid asked attendees to identify potential stakeholders. A front board was created to post potential stakeholders by the potential influence or power that they have. See images of postings.

7. Public Comment Open Time: No public comments

8. Closing Remarks  
   - Next steps  
   - The next CAC (#3) will be Monday, December 18 at Colombia Park Golf Course Manor. The focus will be on park visioning.  
   - The 4th CAC will be in January/February. Date TBD.  
   - There will be a tour of the parks within the project's scope this spring during the review of initial concepts.  
   - Attendees were asked to complete meeting evaluation forms.

Out of Scope

The next Minneapolis Comprehensive Plan Community Meeting

Saturday, Dec. 2  
10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.  
Van Cleve Park Gym  
901 15th Ave. SE  
Co-hosted by SE Como, Waite Park, and Marcy-Holmes neighborhoods

9. Adjourn

*Handouts: Updated CAC Roster, MPRB Equity Appointment Tool, Evaluation forms*