Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting #3

Cedar-Riverside Recreation Centers Predesign

11/19/19 5:30 – 8:00pm
Brian Coyle Community Center
[Oromo and Somali interpretation provided via headset]

CAC members present: Abdirizak Bihi (Chair), Abdi Gurhan, Aburazak (Sisco) Omar, Amina Hanafi

CAC members absent: Amber Wiebe, Jamie Schumacher, Adam Ugas, Ali Saleh, Bosteya Jama, Furtune Del, Patrick Slaven, Yusra Arab, Teri Kwant, Abdul Sero, Fardowsa Osman Egal, Khadra Fiqi, Kwangja Kwon

CAC Alternate members present: Ahmed Mussa

Members of the Public: Approximately 20 members of the general public were present

Staff, consultants, and speakers present: Susan Olmsted, David Diamond and two other staff (Perkins+Will); Gemechu Getachew (Oromo interpreter); Name Unknown (Somali interpreter); Daniel Elias, Siciid Ali, Paul Jaegar, and Abdirahman Mukhtar (MPRB), Amanda Novak (YMCA); Karen Durant (Augsburg University)

1. Welcome
   The third Community Advisory Committee (CAC) was called to order by Abdirizak Bihi, the CAC Chair, who welcomed everyone present. He reminded the CAC members that their job is to facilitate conversation about what they want to see the for the future of Brian Coyle Community Center and/or also a new YMCA at the parking lot of Augsburg College. He expressed appreciation for those in attendance, especially the young people, who are important to this project.

2. Project Overview [Link to PPT Presentation]
   Daniel Elias (MPRB project manager) said the meeting would begin with a couple of exercises. He thanked the project partners: Pillsbury United Communities (who runs the Brian Coyle Community Center), Augsburg University, the YMCA and Fairview Health Services. This project is looking at two recreation centers. One to replace the Coyle Center and another on the Augsburg University campus. The YMCA is a partner but a full-fledged YMCA will not be built.

   He reminded everyone that interpretation headphones are available at this and every future CAC meeting, then reviewed the agenda. He referenced the project page on MPRB’s website [PPT 10] and an online survey. This project is the first step of MPRB’s vision to build two new recreation centers in Cedar-Riverside. It is a long process; we are currently in the middle of the predesign phase. If State bond dollars are allocated to the project, we will be able to design, build and open a recreation center by 2024 or 2025. The topic for this meeting is programs and activities. We want to know what priorities you have for a new recreation center.
3. **Introductions**
   [There were no introductions at this meeting.]

4. **Individual Exercise – Community Engagement Tool**
   Paper copies of the online survey were distributed to CAC members and attendees. Daniel asked everyone to complete the exercise, filling out the front side by circling their top five activities and programs that they would like to see in a new recreation center. A fill-in-the-blank space was provided so they could write in anything not included in the exercise. They were then asked to complete the second side based on what someone they know would select as their top five activities or programs, adding that person’s relationship (spouse, family member, friend) at the top of the page. They were also invited to complete the section on the survey identifying barriers to accessing recreation facilities.

   **Survey Feedback:**
   - [Name?] – Did you contact the mothers in the community?
     - Daniel – Yes. Two of our CAC members are on both the NRP and part of the Mothers Group. We met with Bosteya and Furtune and that led to one of the things that we ask our CAC to do, which is to expand the community engagement reach that MPRB cannot do on its own. We are engaging with our CAC members and asking them to take this survey out to those various groups and then bring them back to us.

5. **Group Exercise – “Program-in-a-Box”**
   CAC members, staff and attendees gathered around four tables. They were asked to envision a new recreation center and working as a group to show their program and activity preferences by placing colored dots on specific areas of the worksheet. At the end of the group exercise a representative from each table reported back to the group on some of the highlights of their discussions.

6. **CAC Q/A**
   [There were no questions from CAC members.]

7. **Public Comments**
   Members of the General Public were invited to ask questions or provide comments.

   Question: When is this going to happen?
   - Daniel: Referencing the project schedule [PPT 11], there will be three more CAC meetings. This predesign project will last until May or June of 2020. The funding we have for the project is only for the predesign phase. We do not have the money to design and construct the facilities yet. The thoughtful predesign process will be submitted to the State of Minnesota. If the project is funded we would move on to the design and construction phase, which would take us almost all the way to 2024 at the earliest. This is an early but necessary phase to get state money.

8. **Wrap-up & Next Steps**
   The Lot A RFP was released by the City of Minneapolis. A pre-proposal meeting for developers was held. Proposals are due on January 10, 2020. The development objective of Lot A and Lot A1 (one owned by the City, the other owned by the County) included a strong preference for the inclusion of 40,000 to 65,000 square feet of community space and associated parking, with a
possible co-location of an MPRB recreation center on the development property. While it is not a requirement, proposers who show space dedicated to recreation centers and community center space will receive more points in the scoring of the proposals that are submitted.

Karen – Question: Since the RFP for Lot A has already gone out, how does this group get the information that we are gathering to the proposers that will potentially develop Lot A?
Daniel: MPRB is in conversations with the City around that. At this point the City is waiting for proposals to come in from developers. It will be up to developers to engage or not engage MPRB in submitting their proposals. MPRB staff attended the developer pre-proposal meeting; developers did not attend that meeting. If any of them reach out to MPRB staff they will freely communicate with them the status of our project and the information we have and are ready to share. It is a case of waiting for a developer to contact us.

Daniel stated that they are looking for help getting the surveys out to a broader community, and reminded CAC members to take Community Engagement in a Box handouts. He reminded them that the Design Team staff are in the community room on December 17 if anyone has questions or wants to participate in the design exercise. The next CAC meeting is January 21, 2020.

9. Adjourn
The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Handouts: Agenda, CAC project binders, Community Engagement Meeting-in-a-Box