

Minutes for Kansas City Neighborhood Advisory Council on 11/18/2003

***** Next meeting will be on 12/2/2003 at 3:30pm *****

KCNAC members in attendance: Lynda Callon, Greg Hugeback, Rodney Sampson, Cynthia Canady, Jay Stock, Steve Eklund, and Forestine Beasley. Dennis Carroll and Bruce Pennington were not present.
NCSD staff in attendance: David Reynolds, Les Washington, Renea Nash.
Other attendees: Karen Wright, former PMAC member.

Meeting called to order at 4:10pm. Introductions were made and the agenda distributed.

Les has asked that the KCNAC finalize its structure in order to meet the challenge of several things coming down the pipe soon. Several suggestions were made at the last organizational meeting:

- It has already been decided to form a PMAC subcommittee.
 - Rodney has already volunteered to chair this; the question was raised if anyone else wanted to chair or co-chair this committee. No one else volunteered at this time, so Rodney's name will be turned over to Les.
- Greg asked if some of the subcommittee meetings could occur immediately after the main meeting; Lynda suggested that this should be up to the committee/chair.
- Lynda also mentioned that committee makeup should be watched for holes: geographically, racially, and economically. Someone asked what the makeup of the regions was:
 - Geographic shape of the six regions was laid out in a wall map and handout.
 - Jay and Forestine are in Region 2, as is Dennis Carroll.
 - Greg, Steve, Lynda, and Rodney are all in Region 3.
 - Cynthia is in Region 4.
 - Bruce Pennington is from Region 5.
 - David mentioned that the regions could be labeled NW, NE, CW, etc, to keep from confusing them with the 6 Council Districts.
 - Steve brought up the idea of balancing the regions according to economic or racial makeup.
 - Lynda mentioned that this turned out not to be feasible when they looked at it.
 - Because of the concentration of members in Region 3, Jay suggested that the At-Large representatives could be pulled from there for now, until it can be balanced through attrition.
 - David asked to clarify if the committee wanted the southern dividing line at 75th Street or Gregory/71st Street; the committee said it had been decided at Gregory Blvd. Adjusted.
 - Regions were approved as amended.
- The KCNAC Board will be composed of 15 members, as previously agreed.
- Will new members be added based on the 6 recommended regions?
 - Steve was concerned that if a region goes unfilled, the committee would suffer from being under-populated if they were locked to those regions.
 - Jay made the suggestion to change the language from "Will" to "Should" according to the guidelines used in the Legislature, to reflect that they make every attempt to do so, but they have the freedom to do otherwise if they are unable to solicit sufficient representation from one or more groups.
 - New language approved: New members should be added based on the 6 recommended regions whenever possible.
 - If this is not possible, then additional At Large members can be selected to fill the KCNAC to 15 members.
 - Another option would be to have the KCNAC run "short" for a time.

- The KCNAC Board should be composed of 2 representatives from each of the determined regions whenever possible and 3 At-Large representatives.
- How will the 3 At-Large representatives be defined?
 - The Council does not want to be tied to geographical distribution for those members, *i.e.* one from the north, one from the center, one from the south. They want to be able to select the best people for the job.
 - Approved language: At-Large vacancies shall be selected by the sitting Committee.
- When and under what circumstances can the Executive Committee act for the committee?
 - Everyone present agreed to table this until they start hashing out Policy & Procedures.
- Will there be a standing subcommittee dealing with waste management issues? Les feels it is important, and it is mentioned in the RecycleFirst guidelines.
 - Jay mentioned that he might be willing to chair that committee. Forestine suggested that the entire subcommittee should be involved with EM, not just the chair. Jay agreed that he would not let everyone else off the hook just because he was the chair.
 - There is already a Liquor Ordinance committee, and Dennis Carroll is part of it. However it has industry representation and cannot be effectively rolled under the KCNAC, which is “blatantly pro-neighborhood” in Steve’s words.
 - There was discussion of a liquor ordinance or Regulated Industries subcommittee, but upon conferring with Les, it was decided to have liquor ordinances go before the full Council for consideration when they come up, since it is only once or twice a year.
 - Steve brought up that a group can get trapped by being too fancy with standing subcommittees in the bylaws, and not being able to fill them or having the issue shift out from under them.
 - It was suggested that the bylaws allow for *ad hoc* committees as the need arises.
 - Lynda again suggested that they poll the members who were not present to see if anyone else wanted to chair/co-chair a committee.
 - Steve expressed that “shared responsibility is no responsibility”, regarding co-chairs.
 - Most seemed against the idea of co-chairs.
 - Will mail or contact other people for membership in committees as well.
- Should the subcommittee send a letter out asking for representation on a particular subcommittee where there is low or no representation?
 - Jay suggested tabling this for further consideration; for instance, he would prefer to have those people who have already worked with RecycleFirst on his subcommittee, rather than putting it out to the general public.
 - Steve suggested that subcommittees be able to solicit members from wherever they can best find members.
 - Rodney said this sounded like a policy issue, up to the individual subcommittee.
 - Tabled.
- Lynda asked about getting copies of other cities’ policies and procedures.
 - David and Renea will get those to the group by the next meeting.
- Les asked again about elections; he is not requiring that it be done today, so much as in the next few months due to things that will be coming onto KCNAC’s plate, and the need to establish legitimacy.
 - Lynda recalled a conversation about the appointed KCNAC members would have an internal election to elect the officers: President, Vice-President, and maybe a Secretary, with possibly other positions to a total of 5.
 - Jay mentioned that the Standing Committee Chairs are on the Executive Board at NNI. This would conveniently bring the total up to 5.

Les mentioned that NCS D has their Strategic Plan together for the Manager, and would like to bring it before the KCNAC as well.

- Jay mentioned that the City is going to have to increase the budget for Neighborhoods and neighborhood support;
- Les agreed and stressed that he will need KCNAC's help to get this done.
- KCNAC wants to know about all of the budget hearings, public meetings, etc that have to do with this, so they can be more informed than last year.

Renea asked about filling the KCNAC to the full 15 members; isn't that when they will have elections?

- The current idea is that the current 9 members (named in ordinance) will select their Executive Board by Consensus, and then have elections to fill out the Council.
- Lynda suggested that the council meet in two weeks to hash out the structure, and have the internal officer selection.
- Jay asked that CCS staff contact all participants by phone, mail, and email (when possible); this should include the 9 people named in the resolution, and let them know that they will be holding the selection of officers next time.

Next meeting will be at 3:30pm on December 2nd, 2003, in Room W-5 (118) of the Robert J. Mohart (formerly Linwood) Multipurpose FOCUS Center.