

Armatage Neighborhood Association 2011 Annual Report

1. *Accomplishments:* What were your organization's major accomplishments in 2011?

ANA Annual Meeting – March 8

In 2011, the ANA invited Mayor Rybak to speak at the annual meeting. Many residents turned out to hear from the mayor and Council Member Betsy Hodges and Brian Elliott on behalf of Congressman Keith Ellison. Before the speakers there was special acknowledgement of the four Armatage Treasures of 2010.

The Armatage Neighborhood Association membership also elected six board members at the ANA Annual Meeting. There were four incumbents: Tom Alagna, Denis Houle, Steve Johnson and Keith Swanson; and two new board members, Kelly Falsani and Betsen Philip.

Community Energy Services – April 5

On April 5, the Armatage Neighborhood Association hosted the Community Energy Services, CES), free educational workshop where homeowners can schedule a customized home energy visit. Almost 80 Armatage homeowners have completed the visit which includes a blower door test which measures for air leaks in the home, as well as the installation of energy and money saving materials.

Armatage365 – Launched May 1

Armatage365 was a project of the Armatage Neighborhood Association that documented the Armatage neighborhood every day for a year. Armatage365 featured the photography of seven Armatage residents, each taking one photo a week for a year within the Armatage neighborhood. This project engaged a whole new group of resident volunteers and increased neighborhood participation and pride. The photos from the year can be seen at: www.armatage365.org.

Welcome Packets – November 2010 - Ongoing

Since May 2011, the ANA has distributed nearly 100 welcome packets in a reusable Armatage tote bag to new residents (retroactive to November 2010). In the packet, new residents will find valuable information about the neighborhood, park and city. The ANA has found this to be a great way to inform new residents about the Armatage Neighborhood Association and opportunities for them to get involved.

Armatage/Kenny Neighborhood Garage Sales – May 28

The neighborhood garage sale is a community building service the ANA and KNA provide to residents. For a small fee, the two neighborhood organizations coordinate the super-sales to give residents the opportunity to sell unwanted items and neighbors to shop in their community. Each year, there are over 50 sales in the two neighborhoods.

Block Leader Outreach – Training June 15

In an effort to increase the number of organized blocks in the Armatage neighborhood, the ANA worked with the MPD Crime Prevention Specialist and hosted a block leader training at Armatage Park. ANA board members distributed hundreds of flyers to unorganized blocks to inform residents of the importance of block groups and the leader training opportunity.

Extended Youthstart Work Program at Armatage Park - July

The Armatage Youthstart Work Program was part of the Armatage Phase II NRP plan. This program was designed to assist youth in developing a sense of responsibility and discipline, while also being of service to the park and community members. Participants would also participate in park, school and neighborhood events. Through this valuable program, over 21 neighborhood youth between the ages of 12-15 have worked at Armatage Park since 2006.

In 2011, the Youthstart Work Program funding was almost gone. In June, the ANA board voted to extend this important program by moving \$7,700 in Phase I program balances to extend the program for a three more years.

Summer Festival – August 15

Although rescheduled from July to August due to extreme heat, the Armatage Summer Festival was once again a great event with over 500 residents in attendance. There was a collector car show, food, ice cream, face painting, games, cake walk, magic show, balloon animals, moonwalk, obstacle course, silent auction, skateboarding contests and live music by The Mediocritones.

2011 Quarterly Crime and Safety Meetings

The ANA hosts quarterly safety meetings immediately before regular monthly meetings. These meetings are well attended by residents who are interested in improving safety in the Armatage neighborhood. Here are the crime statistics for the Armatage neighborhood in 2010-11.

	2011	2010
Homicide	0	0
Rape	0	2
Robbery	3	5
Agg Assault	6	5
Burglary	27	45
Larceny	25	42
Auto Theft	1	6
Arson	0	0
Total	62	105

There was a 40.9% decrease in overall Part 1 crimes in 2011. Although there were a few periods during 2011 where there were brief upticks in burglaries and thefts, there was an overall 40% decrease in burglaries. The rest of the city reported increases in property crimes overall, including burglary. Although violent crime is rarely an issue in Armatage, that too decreased slightly in 2011.

Thanks to the Armatage residents - especially block leaders - and businesses for reporting suspicious activity to 911 and for taking basic crime prevention measures during 2011.

2011 Armatage Treasure

The ANA also sponsors an “Armatage Treasure” program to recognize the accomplishments and contributions of residents and friends of Armatage. In 2011, an Armatage School parent was recognized for her contributions to the garden areas around the school, complete with paths/walkways surrounded by shrubs, trees, and plants that bloom all season long.

Armatage Home Loan Program

In every newsletter, the ANA reminds residents of the availability of the Armatage low interest loan program for home improvements. In 2011, there were two loans with a combined total of \$12,000 from the Armatage program that were used by residents for heating, insulation and windows.

There were also nine loans closed in CEE's Single Family Energy loan that were in the Armatage neighborhood for a total of \$79,551. Three were window projects, two were insulation, and four were heating.

There was also a rental loan closed for \$6,940 and that was used for a heating project.

And last but not least, there were two loans closed for a total of \$20,024 in the Single Family Home Energy program. One was used for windows and the other was for both windows and insulation.

2. *Outreach and Engagement: Reviewing your submission for CPP funds for 2011, what outreach and engagement activities did you carry out? What worked well, and what did not work so well*

Regular outreach and engagement included electronic communication with residents through the 500+ email list, the quarterly newsletter, post card mailings for Annual Meeting and Summer Festival, monthly neighborhood meetings, quarterly safety meetings, Community Energy workshop in April, neighborhood garage sales in May and the Summer Festival in August. The regular communication noticeably increased participation at meetings and events.

In 2011, the ANA implemented a new resident welcoming program. Each month, ANA staff delivered a reusable tote bag with the ANA logo with a "welcome packet" inside that has have a wealth of neighborhood and city information. This program has been very successful in reaching new residents and increasing awareness of the ANA and its activities.

The ANA also worked with the Minneapolis Police Department Crime Prevention Specialist to increase block leader participation. Through board volunteers, the ANA distributed hundreds of flyers on all blocks in Armatage that do not have a block leader. The ANA also hosted a special block leader training at Armatage Park in June. Unfortunately, this outreach was unsuccessful and the training was not attended by any residents. However, National Night Out participation was still high. There were 36 registered block events in the Armatage neighborhood in 2011.

3. *Stakeholder Involvement: Reviewing your submission for CPP funds for 2011, how did you reach out to and involve under-represented communities? Did you find any strategies to be particularly successful?*

Outreach to the under-represented rental community of Armatage was not successful. The block leader training included the rental units of the neighborhood and there were two rental owner workshops sponsored by the Minneapolis Police department that the ANA helped publicize.

A. How many people currently serve on your board? Are there vacancies?

There are currently eleven ANA board members and no vacancies.

B. Approximately how many individuals have participated in committee meetings in the last year?

The ANA does not have any active committees that meet regularly at this time. However, there were over 200 residents and visitors who attended ANA monthly meetings in 2011.

C. Approximately how many individuals have participated in committee meetings in the last year?

Over 50 people attended the 2011 ANA annual meeting.

D. How many households regularly receive your publications (such as newsletters or newspapers)?

The ANA sends out an electronic newsletter quarterly and delivers paper copies to the park, area businesses and the list of 12 residents who requested delivery. The email list for the newsletter and regular communications has 553 members. Participation in other activities of the organization include the 20-30 residents in the annual neighborhood garage sales, the many residents who participated in the Community Energy workshop and the hundreds of residents who joined the fun at the Armatage Summer Festival.

- E. Approximately how many people participate in other activities of the organization?

There are between 5-10 residents who regularly attend neighborhood and safety meetings (in addition to the 11 board members), about 30 garage sale participants, and about 500 residents who volunteer and attend the Armatage Summer Festival.

4. Financial Reports

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Armatage Neighborhood Association Statement of Revenues and Expenses January through December 2011

	Jan - Dec 11
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Donations Received	689.64
Festival Income	
Games & Food	2,299.63
Silent Auction	1,676.00
Sponsors Donations	200.00
Total Festival Income	4,175.63
Garage Sale Revenue	225.12
NRP Income	18,538.19
Sales	25.44
Total Income	23,654.02
Expense	
Annual Meeting Expense	555.23
Computer and Internet Expenses	13.00
Festival Expenses	
Facepainting	162.00
Festival Supplies	383.42
Magician	150.00
Music	150.00
Printing expense	12.25
Refreshments	8.39
Rental equipment	234.00
T-Shirts	381.80
Total Festival Expenses	1,481.86
Garage Sale Expenses	145.82
Insurance Expense	219.00
Mailing expense-ASAP	188.27
Meeting Expenses	40.87
Miscellaneous	21.24
Office Supplies	266.43
Postage	281.09
Printing expense	351.60
Salary Expense	11,081.25
Tax filing fee	25.00
Website expenses	20.00
Welcome packets expense	301.05
Total Expense	14,991.71
Net Ordinary Income	8,662.31
Net Income	8,662.31

In addition to your annual report, please take time to describe your interactions with City departments and other jurisdictions.

1. *Impact*

What interactions occupied a major part of your time? What worked well, what could be improved?

Interactions regarding who to contact at NCR for CPP questions (before NCR staff assignments were made) and COR submission questions occupied the majority of interactions with city departments.

2. *City Communications – effectiveness*

Is the information that you receive from the City understandable and useful?

Yes.

3. *City Communications – timeliness*

Do you receive adequate notice of City activities in your neighborhood? If not, did your organization inform somebody at the City of this? Did the City respond in a positive manner? Please explain.

The neighborhood received timely notice of resident planning applications and for the Armatage street resurfacing project.

However, the neighborhood *did not* receive any notice of the Penn Avenue Street Project. Since this project will affect the entire neighborhood, it is a project that the neighborhood should have received official notice of.

4. *City Departments*

How can City departments improve the way in which they function in your neighborhood?

5. *City Assistance*

How can the Neighborhood and Community Relations Department improve the assistance it provides to your organization as a citizen participation group?

No suggestions at this time.

6. *Other comments?*

None at this time.