

Community Participation Program

Application

Approved by Windom Community Council on Thursday, July 12th 2012



Windom Community Council - (WCC)

5843 Wentworth Ave. S. Minneapolis, MN. 55419

www.windomcommunity.org

Federal EIN: 41-1791271

Board President - Pat Soulak

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Windom's Vision Statement

Windom seeks to be recognized, locally and beyond, as an attractive, active, supportive and involved neighborhood that takes pride in its cultural diversity and rich history.

We are a community of people who strive to provide a safe, clean, educational and prosperous haven for all our residents and businesses.

Funding Activities

1. Eligibility.

The Windom Community Council is currently funded through CPP and rolled funds from NRP.

2. Community Participation Efforts.

The Windom Community Council will continue outreach activities by utilizing resources we currently have available to communicate with residents. WCC will communicate with residents and other stakeholders by creating outreach efforts including soliciting feedback through our website, facebook page, monthly board meetings, Windom newsletter, and our annual community meeting and social hour. The WCC also values community gatherings and events as a way to share information on a face-to-face basis. At each of our annual events a Windom Community Council table will be represented by a board member to answer any questions or listen to any concerns, ideas and feedback residents have to what the goals and priorities are of the Windom neighborhood.

The WCC will continue to work closely with neighborhood businesses by keeping them well informed and engaged in any planning activities in the coming years. One of the ways to do this is to keep an updated business email list with all current information to send out personal invitations to monthly meetings.

Surveys will be conducted to engage residents and other stakeholders in developing a Neighborhood Priority Plan during the Winter of 2013.

3. Building Organizational Capacity.

- **Communications** – Windom Community News will provide timely articles with information on the Community Participation Program that will include how residents may engage, volunteer and gain important information. The website will also be updated with all timely information on the goals and priorities of Windom’s neighborhood planning. The Windom Neighborhood facebook page will act as a forum for discussions while encouraging feedback from residents.
- **WCC & NEHBA** – The Windom Community Council has a goal to increase the Windom businesses to joining the Nicollet East Harriet Business Association and work together to acquire Business District Leaders to help with the communications of strategic planning within the city’s programs.
- **Annual Events** – These events celebrate our community by bringing together residents, businesses and community organizations together to help meet our vision statement. The WCC annual events include:

Tots Rock! provides families with a safe, all-inclusive opportunity to socialize with neighbors while spending time together. Tots Rock is a dance party for children, ages 6 months to 7 years of age. In addition to dancing to a live DJ, bubbles blow near the dance floor, temporary tattoos and blow up guitars, there is a “chill” room with books, a craft and coloring station, and bean bags/cushions for lounging. The variety of activities is intended to keep children engaged and entertained while giving parents the opportunity to enjoy their children in a new environment as well as meet other parents in the community. The main intention of this event is to build a sense of community for families in our neighborhoods with young children and to introduce more community members to local resources and businesses. This spring event is in partnership with the Windom South Community center and the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board.

Around the World In Windom Neighborhood Festival celebrates neighbors, business and community – a great time to network and see all that is good - right here in Windom. In partnership with the Minneapolis Parks & Recreation Board & Windom South Community Center as well as the Windom Spanish Immersion School this festival provides a day of live music, food, family fun activities that showcase our rich diversity in cultures. It is also a chance for residents to connect with the various businesses and neighborhood organizations that set up booths to share their information and services to the community.

Holiday Stop & Shop in Windom kicks off the holiday spirit while celebrating Small Business Saturday which is a national movement started in 2010. First there was Black Friday, then Cyber Monday. November 27, 2010 was the first ever Small Business Saturday. Small Business Saturday is the day we celebrate the Shop Small movement to drive shoppers to local merchants across the U.S. Windom supports this effort with this fun holiday shopping event throughout the Windom business district and in partnership with NEHBA. This event invites residents to shop Windom businesses while participating in great deals, fun activities, free giveaways and a chance to win a gift certificate at one of the participating businesses. Santa usually makes an appearance at this event to take photos with children and the neighborhood school's musical talents provide entertainment while many Windom businesses offer hands on workshops or special activities throughout the day.

- **Annual Windom Community Council Meeting** – This social hour and informative meeting held at the Museum of Russian Art is advertised through a postcard mailing, listed in our newsletter, on our website and in the Southwest Journal. These meetings provide an open forum for local community and businesses to bring ideas forward and to speak about concerns in the community.
- **Windom South Community Center & Windom Spanish Dual Immersion School** – The Windom Community Council will continue to partner with the Windom South Community Center and Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board as well as the Windom Spanish Dual Immersion School. WCC plans to partner with these two organizations in planning, promoting and implementing community classes, workshops and events that are open to all residents and provide recreation, civic activities and topics of interest for all ages.

4. Building Neighborhood Relationships

- The Windom Community Council has been very successful in the last few years in our outreach to engage neighborhood businesses in community events and by building good relationships we can continue to communicate concerns and ways to address issues as they arise. Partnering with NEHBA (Nicollet East Harriet Business Association) has been a great asset in helping with façade improvement grants and offering monthly meetings that present speakers to talk to business owners on topics that are relevant to their concerns.
- Our primary printed communication is our Windom Community Newsletter which provides information on upcoming community events, updated construction announcements, neighborhood school news, safety updates and reports, new business profiles, Community Center programs, and seasonal articles contributed by residents. Advertising in the Windom Newsletter helps support and sustain this valued neighborhood resource. This newsletter is mailed to all residents and hand delivered to Windom businesses and community organizations which increases its viewings.

- Information is also provided to the community through our WCC website at: www.windomcommunity.org
- The Windom Community Council also administrates a facebook page, *Windom Neighborhood*. Community events and important neighborhood information is posted on this page. Residents and businesses also use this as a tool to promote their services, communicate with each other and continue to keep connected through this social network site.
- Residents are invited to our monthly board meetings the third Thursday of each month at the Windom School in the Community Shared room. These meetings provide monthly updated information on upcoming events, school & community center news, businesses, community planning, safety and treasurer's report.
- Postcards are mailed to residents to inform them about the Bi Annual social hour and meeting as well as the Fall Festival. An event flier for the Holiday Stop & Shop is inserted in the Southwest Journal to the surrounding neighborhoods including Kenny, Tangletown, and Lynnhurst.

5. Involvement of under-engaged stakeholders.

- Windom houses four large apartment complexes with many renters. In the year 2012/2013 we will work towards having better communications with property management of these rental complexes to inform residents of upcoming community events in their common places such as community bulletin boards.
- The Windom neighborhood is home to many Hispanic families and to one of the city's Spanish Immersion Elementary Schools. WCC collaborates with the Windom Spanish Dual Immersion School to translate event fliers that are bilingual and can go home with Spanish speaking families. The WCC will continue to engage these families by providing events that encompass their culture through the arts. The Windom Community Council will also seek to recruit bilingual community members to host and lead bi monthly book, craft and cooking clubs to meet at the Windom South Community Center.
- The Windom neighborhood also takes pride in having seniors that are active and involved. The WCC engages seniors by inviting them to volunteer at our annual festival and volunteer appreciation dinner. We plan to survey the senior community of Windom to find out what other interest activities they would like to see offered. In collaboration with Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board and the Senior Nutrition Program through Volunteers of America a very successful senior dining program has been established at the Windom Community Center in which seniors enjoy social time together to share meals, play card games, and discuss relevant health and well-being information. This senior program takes place Monday-Thursday starting at noon.

6. Housing Activities

The Windom Community Council will continue to partner with The Center for Energy and Environment on administering our revolving home loans. The WCC will also continue to promote the Community Energy Services program that provides homeowners information and services on how to save energy and money throughout the year.

WCC spends 15% of staff and volunteer time on housing related activities.

7. **Unused Funds** The Windom Community Council anticipates that we will have \$31,599.82 of unused CPP funds that we would like to carry over to the upcoming cycle to assist in funding the NPP.

8. Budget

Staff Expenses	\$ \$21,000.00
Employee Benefits	\$
Professional Services	\$5,000.00
Occupancy	\$1,000.00
Communications/Outreach	\$14,000.00
Supplies and Materials	\$2,000.00
Festivals and events	\$7,000.00
Development	\$5,000.00
Fundraising	\$2,000.00
Other Services	\$380.00
Neighborhood Priorities	\$16,623.82
TOTAL:	\$74,003.82