

## **Community Participation Program 2014 Annual Report**

Neighborhood Organization: Kenwood Isles Area Association

Contact person: Michael Bono

Date of Board Approval: July 6, 2015

### ***1. Stakeholder Involvement***

Reviewing your CPP activities in 2014, Please provide information about:

- What outreach and engagement activities did you carry out in 2014?
  - KIAA published and mailed a Spring Annual Meeting notice and Fall KIAA newsletter to over 550 residents.
  - KIAA continued support of its web site located at <http://kenwoodminneapolis.org>. The KIAA website revision is updated with announcements and e-newsletters.
  - As part of its community integration activities, KIAA held its Annual Meeting outdoors in the neighborhood business center. Child care and activities were provided by BeArtrageous. Bockley Gallery provided additional space in the event of inclement weather.
  - Residents were encouraged to sign up for NextDoor Kenwood - an online neighborhood news site for residents – to receive email news from KIAA.
  - Community involvement: KIAA placed an ad in Hill and Lake Press thanking past KIAA board members for their service to the neighborhood.
  - KIAA met with Peter Wagenius, Policy Director for Mayor Hodges, to discuss LRT in the neighborhood.
  - KIAA supported neighborhood activities through a donation to “Thrill Kenwood” to cover costs of the DJ/Sound Equipment and art activity stations for the community Halloween Party.
  - KIAA supported the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board neighborhood activities through donations for outdoor summer movies and “Shakespeare in the Park” plays in Kenwood Park.
  - KIAA contracted with Preservation Design Works to assist KIAA with its role as a “consulting party” in the Section 106 review of the SWLRT.
  - KIAA supported the Kenwood Elementary School by contributing funds and helping to sponsor the Kenwood PTA Carnival.
  - KIAA 2014 CPP application was filed with the City of Minneapolis NCR.
  - KIAA provided financial support to the joint neighborhood Ice Skating Party on Lake of the Isles.
  - KIAA provided funding for increased police presence at East Cedar Lake Beach (Hidden Beach).
  - KIAA hired a consultant to help disseminate information to the Kenwood neighborhood through e-newsletters, mailed newsletters, and e-blasts.

- How did you reach out to and involve under-represented communities in 2014?
  - Kenwood has a small underrepresented community. We use print and electronic communications to reach all neighborhood residents and businesses.
- Did you find any strategies to be particularly successful? Why?
  - KIAA increased participation of the community at its Annual Meeting by holding the meeting outdoors in the business community. The neighborhood meeting attracted over 160 adults and children.
- What did not work so well? Why?
  - KIAA, despite its regular e-blasts and printed newsletters, has been unable to get a wider neighborhood participation on the Board and getting feedback on neighborhood issues.
  - KIAA's efforts to reduce the illegal and violent activity at East Cedar Lake Beach by providing funding for increased police presence was met with limited success. The consensus of the MPRB and the City of Minneapolis police is that the culture of the beach area needs to change in order to effect any significant change.
- How many people did you reach through direct contact (door knocking, meetings, one-on-ones, etc.)?
  - East Cedar Lake Beach Task Force meeting – 60 residents
  - Southwest Light Rail Transit Town Hall Meeting – 30 residents
  - Annual Meeting – approximately 120 adults and 60 children.
- How many individuals volunteered in organization activities volunteered in organization activities?
  - Approximately 5 volunteers in addition to the KIAA Board members.
- How many individuals participated in your organization's activities?
  - Approximately 85 residents and community stakeholders attended the KIAA monthly meetings.
- How many people receive your print publications?
  - Approximately 550 residents receive the printed KIAA newsletter.
- How many people receive your electronic communications?
  - Approximately 300 residents receive the KIAA e-newsletter.

## 2. *2014 Highlights*

Please describe one or two major highlights, and if possible, please include digital photos or illustrations:

- What was the issue or opportunity the neighborhood was facing?
  - The illegal and violent activity at East Cedar Lake Beach during the summer months.
- Who was impacted?
  - The KIAA neighbors on 21<sup>st</sup> street from the beach to Kenwood Parkway and the 6 square block area east of East Cedar Lake Beach.
- What steps did you take to address the issue or opportunity?
  - Establish a neighborhood task force to address the neighbors' concerns
- What was the outcome?
  - Recommendations of the Task Force were presented to the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board to determine what short term strategies and actions could be set up in time for the summer of 2015.

### 3. *2014 Accomplishments*

Please provide information about your other accomplishments in 2014:

- What were your organization's major accomplishments?
  - KIAA encouraged rain garden participation in the Metro Bloom "Neighborhood of Gardens" program by applying for grants for ten rain gardens in cooperation with Conservation Corps and Minnehaha Watershed District.
  - KIAA was awarded with the American Planning Association (APA) plaque designating the Kenwood neighborhood as one of the top 10 Greatest Neighborhoods in the United States in 2013 under the organization's Great Places in America program.
  
- How were individuals in your community directly impacted by your work?
  - Twenty residents have applied for the Metro Bloom rain gardens.

**4. *Housing***

What percentage of time did your organization spend on housing-related activities?

- Approximately 10%, mainly reviewing neighborhood variance requests.

**5. *Financial Reports***

Please provide an income and expense report for your organization for the year. (Please include all funding sources).

- See attached pages.

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

1. ***Impact***

What interactions with City departments occupied a major part of your time? What worked well? What could be improved?

- Managing the CPP Program. Responses were provided in a timely manner.

On a scale of 1 to, with 1 being poor and 5 being excellent, how would you rate your overall experience with your interactions with the City? 4

2. ***City Communications – effectiveness***

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

- Yes.

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being poor and 5 being excellent, how would you rate overall communications from the City? 4.5

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.

- KIAA receives adequate notice of City activities in the KIAA neighborhood.

On a scale of 1 to, with 1 being poor and 5 being excellent, how would you rate the timeliness of communications from the City? 4

4. ***City Departments***

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

- The City Departments provide good support for the neighborhood.

5. ***City Assistance***

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

- The Neighborhood and Community Relations Department provides very good assistance to KIAA. Their responses are knowledgeable and timely.

On a scale of 1 to, with 1 being poor and 5 being excellent, how would you rate the assistance provided to your neighborhood by NCR? 4

6. ***Other comments?*** None