

Southside Green Zone Task Force

January 23rd, 2018 5:00-8:00PM

Open Arms of Minnesota, 2500 Bloomington Ave

Meeting attendees:

Working Group Members Present: Abé Levine, Aiden Yano, Brian Smith, Christina White, José Luis Villaseñor, Karen Clark, Nimo Mohamed, Patrick Hanlon, Steve Schacht, Thamyr Golafaie, Tyler Sit

City Staff: Kelly Muellman, Isabelle Ballet, Juli Leerssen

Facilitators: Etonde Awaah, Laura LaCroix-Dalluhn

Guests: Eric Muschler, Lena Jones, Steve Waderich, Kristen McHenry, Ned Brooks, Alisa Hoven, Witt Siasco, Cassandra Meyer, Maryan Abdinur

Working Group Members Unable to Attend: Jerilyn Jackson, Michael Goze, Michelle Chavez

Meeting Objectives:

1. Review & affirm (or amend) resources identified & prioritization.
2. Establish work plan format.
3. Understand the power mapping process and how it will support work plan development.
4. Identify learning needs related to developing recommendations on prioritized environmental areas.
5. Update Task Force members on broader community engagement efforts.

5:23 Opening Circle

Recap & Agenda

Review Prioritization & Resource Mapping

Emphasized that from the green zone recommendations equity and anti-displacement was a non-negotiable factor. Because of its intersectionality with all of the other recommendations it should be incorporated into the work that we do. We may also individually name it and call it out in the work plan.

- Group understood the order in which we will be looking at recommendations- 1. Air, Water and Soil Quality, 2. Healthy Food Access, 3. Health and Energy in Housing. If we have time we will continue down the list as prioritized by the group. Task Force members emphasized that Green Jobs should be rebranded as Green *and* Local Jobs to emphasize the benefit going to community residents.
- Items missing from the December Resource Mapping:
 - o Health Food Access: Abbott farmers' market (Thursdays), Midtown Global Market farmers' market (Tuesdays, supported by Backyard Initiative)
 - o Miscellaneous: Abbott and Allina charitable contributions (to organizations such as Project for Pride in Living); "CHAT" (Community Health Action Teams); [Neighborhood Health Connection grants](#) (due February 21; can fund community garden and other health-promoting community-based activities)

Outlining Work Plan

- The work plan should include equity and gentrification impact (add column)
- Reiterated that the group does not have to create action plans for all the goals, however it is important that for each action item the role of the city is clearly established.
- There was a concern from the group around the phrasing of,
“not all of the items will necessarily be City-led or owned activities (e.g. projects led by community based organizations and individuals, lobbying/advocacy, removing specific land uses/businesses, etc.) but it is important to identify what the City’s role is in any Work Plan action item.”
- Even though an activity is not City “owned” there will have to be approval given by the City which will ultimately influence and possibly change community voice.
- Task Force member also pushed back on allowing the “political will/feasibility” column to limit ideas. Instead, focus on expanding scope of political will.

7:00 PM Break

Setting the Stage for Developing our Work Plan

Group one – Led by Patrick Hanlon focused on Air, Water and Soil Quality Recommendations 1, 2, 4, 5, 6,

Group two – Led by Kelly Muellman focused on Air, Water and Soil Quality Recommendations 3, 7, 8, 9, 10

Questions for discussion:

- The groups looked at are these recommendations/ resources/ dreams and items that we want to consider including in the work plan?
- What institutions/ entities have the most influence over this recommendation?
- What else do you need in order to create action items related to this resource/ recommendation?

See notes from conversation included in the [attached Draft Work Plan](#).

Community Engagement Update – Alisa (Hope Community) and Marian (Land Stewardship Project)

- Since Green Zone Task Force meetings are held once a month the community engagement team has created an alternative community space to help address work that task force and community members want to discuss further.
- The alternative community space is currently expected to be held the Thursday before the Green Zone Task Force Meetings every month.
- The community engagement team also hopes to have additional events pop up that are hosted by community organizations/partners.
- Green Zone 101 is an additional space that could be useful to help build peoples base knowledge around the issues that are being discussed, since technical language can get confusing and we all bring different expertise to the table.
- The community engagement team is looking for 2 to 3 task force members to be sustainers of the alternative community meeting and help shape other events that might be developed.

7:45 PM Closing Circle and Evaluation

8:00 PM Adjourn

Next meeting: Tuesday, February 20th 5:00-8:00PM

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