City of Las Vegas

NEIGHBORHOOD PARTNERS FUND BOARD
CITY HALL, 495 S. MAIN STREET
CITY CLERKS 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
CITY OF LAS VEGAS INTERNET ADDRESS: www.lasvegasnevada.gov

MINUTES

June 20, 2016
2:00 PM

ITEMS LISTED ON THE AGENDA MAY BE TAKEN OUT OF THE ORDER PRESENTED; TWO OR MORE AGENDA ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION MAY BE COMBINED; AND ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA MAY BE REMOVED OR RELATED DISCUSSION MAY BE DELAYED AT ANY TIME. BACKUP MATERIAL FOR THIS AGENDA MAY BE OBTAINED FROM LUANN D. HOLMES, CITY CLERK, AT THE CITY CLERKS OFFICE AT 495 SOUTH MAIN STREET, 2ND FLOOR OR ON THE CITYS WEBPAGE AT www.lasvegasnevada.gov.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Minutes:
CHAIR HOLMES called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.

Present: CHAIR HOLMES and MEMBERS BORYSEWICH, TOUSSAINT, POWELL, KIRK, SKILBRED, KRAMAR (excused at 4:31 p.m.), KILPONEN, KNUDSEN, NORERO, MITCHELL (arrived at 2:08 p.m.) and CHRISTENSEN

Excused: MEMBER SCHULTZ

Also Present: TERI PONTICELLO, Assistant City Attorney, MARIA CASTILLO-COUCH, Senior Neighborhood Outreach Specialist, and ARLENE COLEMAN, Assistant Deputy City Clerk

2. ANNOUNCEMENT RE: COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN MEETING LAW

Minutes:
ANNOUNCEMENT MADE: This meeting has been properly noticed and posted at the following locations: City Hall Plaza, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor; Clark County Government Center, 500 South Grand Central Parkway; Grant Sawyer Building, 555 East Washington Avenue; City of Las Vegas Development Services Center, 333 North Rancho Drive

3. PUBLIC COMMENT DURING THIS PORTION OF THE AGENDA MUST BE LIMITED TO MATTERS ON THE AGENDA FOR ACTION. IF YOU WISH TO BE HEARD, GIVE YOUR NAME FOR THE RECORD. THE AMOUNT OF DISCUSSION, AS WELL AS THE AMOUNT OF TIME ANY SINGLE SPEAKER IS ALLOWED, MAY BE LIMITED

Minutes:
None.

4. Review of evaluation scores on the Neighborhood Partners Fund Board Grant Program applications

Minutes:
MARIA CASTILLO-COUCH, Senior Neighborhood Outreach Specialist, referred to the scoring sheet the Members had received and explained the scoring process. She pointed out that although some applicants scored as high as 100, they did not qualify for other reasons and are not a part of the program.

After some discussion regarding the difficulty Members had in reviewing the sheet, a break was taken to allow staff time to condense the report by categories and make it more legible for review.

After the break, MS. CASTILLO-COUCH apologized for the difficulty in reading the sheet and confirmed for MEMBER BORYSEWICH that the scoring totaled over the $55,000 funding amount limit in an excess of $7,000. MEMBER BORYSEWICH commended MS. CASTILLO-COUCH on doing a good job with the process.

After some discussion about the ZoomGrant application, MEMBER NORERO and other Members informed staff that they could only see their individual scoring and not all of the Members recommendations during the scoring process. After hearing some suggestions to curtail the spreadsheet, MS. CASTILLO-COUCH advised the Members that staff will follow-up accordingly and condense the scoring sheet for next years process to make it more legible.

5. Discussion for possible action and recommendation of funding for Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Neighborhood Partners Fund Board projects

Motion made by VICKY SKILBRED to Approve funding in the following recommended amounts: Stupak Neighborhood Success Teams/PALS - $5,000; Rancho Apartments - $4,100; West Huntridge Neighborhood Association - $3,000; El Camino Community Association - $1,500; Moulin Earl Mobile Home Park - $3,000; Scotch 80s - $1,000; Crossroads I Homeowners Association - $1,500; Five Points Business Association - $3,000 - Crestwood Neighborhood Association - $2,500; Whisper Creek - $1,200; Aviana Homeowners Association - $3,000; Smoke Ranch Villas Homeowners - $3,000; Crossroads III Homeowners Association - $2,000; Mariposa Community Association - $2,000; Glen Heather Estates - $2,000; Charleston Village Homeowners Association - $2,000; Desert Shores Community Association - $1,500; West Huntridge Neighborhood Association - $1,800; Cultural Corridor Coalition - $2,000; Four Winds - $1,200; Durango Estates - $2,200; Canyon Mist Estates - $1,900; Aventura Homeowners Association - $1,600; Tuscany Hills - $1,900; La Mancha Summerlin - $1,100

Passed For: 12; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 1
GREG TOUSSAINT, SHERESE HOLMES, AJ POWELL, LANCE KIRK, VICKY SKILBRED, BETH BORYSEWICH, CHRISTINE KRAMAR, ANNE KILPONEN, BRIAN KNUDSEN, MARIA NORERO, JOE MITCHELL, SALLY CHRISTENSEN; Against-(None); Abstain-(None); Did Not Vote-(None); Excused-(LARRY SCHULTZ)

NOTE: MEMBERS TOUSSAINT and BORYSEWICH disclosed that they reside in the Desert Shores community, and MEMBER TOUSSAINT sits on the associations board. Both members abstained relative to the associations request for funds.

NOTE: MEMBER KIRK disclosed that he is the President of the West Huntridge Neighborhood Association; therefore, he abstained relative to the associations request for funds.

Minutes:
MEMBER BORYSEWICH referred to the handout passed out by staff and suggested the Board review the recommendations and perhaps adjust some to compensate for the $7,000 difference previously referred to by MARIA CASTILLO-COUCH, Senior Neighborhood Outreach Specialist.

Stupak Neighborhood Success Teams/PALS MEMBER BORYSEWICH stated that this neighborhood has a vital program for the children and recommended funding the total amount requested, in an effort to keep the children off the streets and give them a positive outlook on life, to which MEMBER TOUSSAINT agreed with.

MEMBER KNUDSEN commented that the project for the Rulon Earl Mobile Home Park separated people whereas this project brought individuals together.

MEMBER SKILBRED was concerned that this applicant has received funding from this Board year after year and did not want to see it become an annual mechanism for funding. There are a lot of great programs available, and the applicant had indicated that they could do the project if awarded $4,500. She also recalled that last year, the Board took some funding from others to fund them.

Additional Members believed the applicant could work with a slightly lesser amount of funding and still complete their efforts with the project.

Rancho Park Apartments MEMBER BORYSEWICH was aware of the park apartment location and the need for assistance. She was concerned about having sufficient security to avoid computer theft.

MEMBERS MITCHELL and KNUDSEN commended the group on their efforts and partnerships with multiple organizations and recommended awarding the full amount requested because the group shows great synergy.

MEMBER CHRISTENSEN believed the request warranted some assistance with funding but a lesser amount, given the fact that some other applicants have valid needs as well.

MEMBER BORYSEWICH was aware that there was some information provided to the applicant about the school district possibly donating some computers, so lesser funding would not hamper their efforts. If so, she questioned what the applicant would do with any funds awarded to them by this Board.

West Huntridge Neighborhood Association MEMBER POWELL stated this project affects the whole city; with very little amenities/activities within the park, it creates a problem. In his younger years, he visited the park and knows that it has been a real issue. To know that the group wants to do something positive to the area is good. MEMBER KNUDSEN agreed and was pleased that the whole image of the park has transformed, and the total amount requested should be awarded.

MEMBER SKILBRED pointed out that the applicant has funding for two of the four movies; so the programming aspect has been cut by one third. MEMBER BORYSEWICH agreed and added they could seek additional funds from other sources.

El Camino Community Association MEMBER BORYSEWICH pointed out that the association already has trees and could get smaller ones. She was unsure if this was a critical project for the neighborhood as well as vegetation.

MEMBER SKILBRED commented that the planting is done by others, but they can plant fewer trees. She was concerned that the land was leased land, so hopefully, the planting will be done along the edges.

MEMBER NORERO suggested recommending a lesser amount in funds because the applicant has stated they could go forward with the project regardless of the amount of funds awarded. MEMBER BORYSEWICH added they could still be productive with a good number of trees if with lesser funding.

Rulon Earl Mobile Home Park MEMBER KNUDSEN commented that he did not score the applicant because it is a housing authority project and that company has more responsibility than this Board has relative to funding. In addition, this project will keep people separate from their homes as opposed to bringing them together.

MEMBER BORYSEWICH stated that there are a great number of seniors in this community who do not get out much, and to live in this park, they have to be on food stamps. The air conditioning units are more efficient than funding the project in its totality. MS. CASTILLO-COUCH added that the elderly seniors own their modules and live on very limited income.

MEMBER NORERO commented on being familiar with this group but was concerned that the question raised about their energy bills was not answered during their presentation.

MEMBER BORYSEWICH was not familiar with the seniors in this community but recognized the fact that they came together with a group of younger individuals on this project.

MEMBER KIRK believed the request was for swamp coolers, which are more costly than air conditioning units. MEMBER SKILBRED knew that similar units could be purchased; she commended the younger individuals on assisting the elderly but was concerned that once these units are purchased, they will be owned by the mobile home owners. MEMBER KILPONEN expressed concerns as those expressed and believed it would be duplicating an existing feature they already have in their homes. With respect to being fair, MEMBER CHRISTENSEN wondered if the older seniors would receive these units, what about the others in the community. She, too, was pleased that the youth were assisting the elderly in cleaning up their yards. MEMBER TOUSSAINT asked about the effectiveness of these devices, to which MEMBER SKILBRED answered these units are not swamp coolers; they are air conditioning units.

Although the Board had compassion for the elderly, they were still concerned about the specific type of units and how they are managed.

Scotch 80s MEMBER NORERO was uncomfortable with the request, as the applicant has already received funds from the Citys Arts Commission. She believed this request was more symbolic. MEMBER KNUDSEN agreed but could support a recommendation with a smaller amount of funding. MEMBER KILPONEN thought that any grant from the Arts Commission was solely for arts and not necessarily the installation or other factors. MEMBER BORYSEWICH could support a $3,500 funding recommendation ; given their location, the applicant could seek out funds from the Jerry Lewis Foundation. In addition, they are impacted by Project Neon and the Medical District; having a sign installed will benefit this community relative to their identity.

MEMBER KNUDSEN indicated monies could potentially be raised as well as possibly some contributions from the neighbors.

Crossroads I Homeowners Association After some Members stated their recommendations, they decided on a funding recommendation in the amount of $1,500.

Five Points Business Association MEMBER BORYSEWICH explained that she was not comfortable with awarding funds to a group to then give to an artist to paint the school wall. She supported a recommendation of $1,000 and believed that they have good artists within the school who could paint the wall.

MEMBER NORERO pointed out that there are multiple agencies supporting this group, who is asking for help to assist in reducing crime; she saw this as an opportunity to award efforts already made as well as the groups partnerships. It is more than just a mural but rather supporting the residential neighborhoods and business communities.

MEMBER CHRISTENSEN wondered if the group was awarded less than their request, would it be futile since the group has indicated they could not go forward with the project if they do not receive all of the funds requested. MEMBER BORYSEWICH believed $1,000 would be sufficient to paint the wall. MS. CASTILLO-COUCH clarified that the group indicated they would use whatever funds awarded even if it was lesser than the requested amount.

MEMBER KNUDSEN recommended awarding the applicant the full amount requested, as it is a group of concerned citizens who want to better their community. In his experience, it is difficult to find someone to do a mural for free; having funds set aside is absolutely critical. This group consists of business owners in the area, so it shows a lot of promise and is a good opportunity to show them coming together. Although MEMBER TOUSSAINT recognized the community and agreed with MEMBER KNUDSEN, he did not think there was sufficient grant monies available to fund them entirely and recommended $2,800. MEMBER SKILBRED agreed with MEMBERS KNUDSEN and TOUSSAINT, as she believed this is the one project that brings an entire community together. She supported a recommendation of $3,000 since the applicant indicated they would still go forward with the project and the funds would push them to look at other sources or fundraising efforts within their community. MS. CASTILLO-COUCH read the applicants email confirming they would do what they can in order to keep the project going forward.

MEMBER NORERO commented that this project is almost meant to abate graffiti and just painting the wall is not enough, as a mural is needed. MEMBER TOUSSAINT agreed but believed that a recommendation of $2,800 was a good compromise.

Crestwood Neighborhood Association Recognizing the existing damage, CHAIR HOLMES and MEMBERS TOUSSAINT, CHRISTENSEN and KNUDSEN all supported a recommendation of funding in the amount of $1,000; however, MEMBER BORYSEWICH recommended $900 since this is a block party that is done yearly. There are other applicants whose projects deal with a more intense need and/or safety concerns, to which MEMBER NORERO agreed.

Whisper Creek MEMBER NORERO pointed out that this applicant did not have any dollars in matching funds, zero dollars in kind contributions as well as no cash and supported the recommendation to fund in the amount of $1,000.
Aviana Homeowners Association After hearing some of the Members recommendations on funding amounts, MEMBER KNUDSEN preferred a lesser recommendation because he did not believe the project would enhance community nor did it relate to safety issues.

MEMBER BORYSEWICH commented that the homeowners association has water running under their community and causing damage to the walls and entrance into the association. A high amount in funding would be appropriate, as they need to eliminate the water issues and damage to their homes. She also asked if it was possible to direct the applicant to get in touch with city representatives to place a dip in curbing to let the water flow. MS. CASTILLO-COUCH understood that they did reach out to the city; however, the city cannot assist as it does not meet city requirements. MEMBER NORERO recalled the group having conversations with JERRY WALKER, Operations and Maintenance Manager, and the biggest issue was drainage is not cleared of debris and if cleared, it would alleviate a larger issue. Possibly, this grant could help them with that issue and eventually deal with the water damage. She scored the applicant lower, given that this issue has only affected four homes.

MEMBER TOUSSAINT was concerned that the homeowners association could be in trouble, given the fact that the request is for a large amount of funds and if they do not receive a minimum of $3,000 then they cannot do the project. It is difficult to assess what amount of funds will work for them at this time.

MEMBER KIRK recalled the applicant stating they have had difficulty with the wall for many years and was not certain as to how to solve their issues but recommended funding in the amount of $1,000.

MEMBER SKILBRED was concerned that these issues do affect their community, as it is standing water and affects those within and outside of the community. Given the existing amount of debris and continued flooding, there will continue to be damage. The back of curb belongs to the homeowners association, which still leads to an issue as it moves out to the street. This community has been hit hard with flooding, although there are some detention basins out there now. There is only one entrance, so this issue affects every home in the subdivision; she recommended funding in the amount of $3,000, to which MEMBER TOUSSAINT agreed with.

Smoke Ranch Villas Homeowners Association MEMBER BORYSEWICH expressed concern for the lighting, in which the group would be installing them on the homes. MEMBER MITCHELL recognized the need for lighting as a safety precaution and felt good that they were doing the work and the savings involved. In addition, they have showed vigilance in completing about 15 projects, and MEMBER TOUSSAINT added that they were contributing to over 70 percent of the costs.

Crossroads III Homeowners Association MEMBER BORYSEWICH felt that her recommended amount, $1,800, was sufficient for the groups request, although she believed that they could still do the project without the grant funding.

Mariposa Community Association MEMBER TOUSSAINT pointed out that the applicant was absorbing 72 percent of their costs. MEMBER BORYSEWICH noted that the difference between the recommended funding amount and the applicants reserves is $1,415; although their reserves may end up being depleted, monies can be moved around to compensate.

Glen Heather Estates MEMBER KILPONEN referred to the Scotch 80s and pointed out that this association has been impacted by Project Neon as well. Approximately, 15 homes have been removed from this community; they have a number of issues and are trying to make the neighborhood look a little nicer.

MEMBER BORYSEWICH supported awarding funds for painting. MEMBER SKILBRED believed the corridor needed to be enhanced and agreed that painting the strip of wall would be a big improvement. However, she recalled this group receiving a previous grant from this Board, but it took the group over a year to complete their project. She pointed out that the group has indicated that if the total amount requested is not awarded, they will not be able to complete the project or will have problems doing so.

MEMBER SKILBRED recalled asking for a report on previous year's project to have a better feel for when projects are being completed and on considering granting/not granting funding for some of these projects.
ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY PONTICELLO believed it was last year that staff had difficulty contacting one applicant in time to get feedback on their project, so an alternate motion/vote was done on that applicant. MS. CASTILLO-COUCH concurred and added that subsequent to the Boards final recommendations, staff confirmed with the applicant that they could still complete their project.

MEMBER SKILBRED supported funding this group but with the caveat that if staff verifies that they cannot do their project with the amount of funds awarded, then those funds will be reallocated.

MEMBER TOUSSAINT questioned where the awarded funds go if a group cannot do their project; MS. CASTILLO-COUCH answered that the money is returned to the General Fund. MEMBER TOUSSAINT questioned if staff could estimate how much was not spent in the previous year, to which ALMA ESTRADA, Community Program Technician, explained that last year, only one group did not spend all of their funds.

Charleston Village Homeowners Association MEMBER CHRISTENSEN pointed out that there is a safety issue, so the Board agreed on recommending $1,900 in grant funds.

Desert Shores Community Association MEMBER MITCHELL supported this request, as it is a good idea to have a party and bring the community together. MEMBER CHRISTENSEN agreed that there is a sense of community.

Huntridge Neighborhood Association MEMBER NORERO clarified for MEMBER BORYSEWICH that this group desires to plant trees not hand out brochures for advertising purposes, which was another group.

MEMBER SKILBRED pointed out that this is the groups fifth year in a row that they have asked for funds. Given the Boards limitation in funds, she did not think it would be fair to award again when there are others who have a greater need. In response, MEMBER TOUSSAINT replied that the Board could be setting a trend if a group is awarded lesser funds this year simply because they have received funds in the previous year. MEMBER MITCHELLS opinion was that given the concern, then maybe a tier could be done for first timers and repetitive groups. He agreed that this group has repeated requests, but this project is good and will beautify the community. MEMBER KIRK agreed with MEMBER MITCHELL in that the group has appeared in previous years but the projects have differed. They are not a homeowners association and do not make money, so they are actively seeking funds. MEMBER NORERO added that the trees will be situated in the front of four homes in a strategic area, so the people will get a different impression of the community and reduce crime. Also, this is a walking community so more people will enjoy the trees than just the actual homeowners.

Cultural Corridor Coalition MEMBER BORYSEWICH commented that there is existing amenities downtown, such as the Mob Museum, that has existing advertising and budgets; she believed this project was somewhat of duplication.

MEMBER POWELL believed there was one area in the middle of town that everyone enjoyed and has experienced driving through the Arts Corridor where it is like a huge block party. In past years, this applicant has asked for funding for different projects, and there is a whole area that would continue to suffer if not for the Arts District component.

ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY PONTICELLO confirmed for MEMBER TOUSSAINT that the Smith Center for Performing Arts is not part of the Cultural Corridor. MEMBER POWELL added that before the Smith Center, there was not much in the area other than the Las Vegas Strip, and this area has not become a spotlight for Las Vegas.

MEMBER KILPONEN believed that in this day and age, outreach can be done for minimal costs such as through social media. The requested funds are substantial to attribute to basically advertising when other outlets can be used. MEMBERS CHRISTENSEN and NORERO agreed and added that the group can get more creative with advertising bucks; people are getting more interested in the downtown area, and the group could spend their dollars wiser by utilizing other outlets like Facebook.

MEMBER MITCHELL commented on how this is another time whereby the Board is seeing the psychology of how areas like Huntridge Circle and the Cultural Corridor are perceived. He agreed that the amount requested is larger than some, but the focus is on helping those who are low income and have a real need. He believed some funds should be granted, noting that the Cultural Corridor has a greater need than some areas and is in a different world than some, such as the Scotch 80s. MEMBER POWELL referred to some articles and pointed out that even with the advancements in technology, there is still a whole world who is in the stone age. The amount requested is substantial but believed that it was the only way to reach those individuals who do not have access.

MEMBER TOUSSAINT recalled the applicant spending funds on something different; not that the cause is not important, but he questioned how important these funds are to the Cultural Corridor. MS. CASTILLO-COUCH explained that they finished their mural and painted the house. MS. ESTRADA added that they wanted to do the same project again but could not find a location. The group is good at reporting their hours and using the funds for the purpose indicated.

MEMBER BORYSEWICH reiterated that to advertise for things, such as the Mob Museum, will be a duplication. MS. CASTILLO-COUCH understood that the applicants advertising attracts people to come to the downtown area and walk this corridor, so advertising is to increase the publics understanding and have an opportunity to see the different events.

Four Winds Homeowners Association MEMBER BORYSEWICH pointed out that the request is $4,500 yet approximately $20,000 in donations was received. She did not understand their reason for the request given the amount of funds they currently received. MEMBER NORERO mentioned this is another applicant that received additional funds. MEMBER TOUSSAINT commented that this is a homeowners association capital improvement project, whereby they have funds and was not sure if this would benefit the community. MEMBERS KIRK and SKILBRED agreed as well as MEMBER MITCHELL, who added that the applicant could seek out funding from neighbors for their own project.

Durango Estates MEMBER NORERO stated that this applicant stood out to her because this grant has potential to incentivize other groups. They are a new group and could be empowered to continue working on projects including beautifying their own homes. MEMBER CHRISTENSEN added that they had signage issues, in that the signs were pointing in the wrong directions. She thought this project was good to clarify those issues.

Canyon Mist Estates MEMBER BORYSEWICH stated that the pictures did not reveal there was a need for replacements and did not think the request was a valid need. MEMBER NORERO noted that the recommended funds for Durango Estates was the same and was for beautification purposes. MEMBER TOUSSAINT pointed out that the applicant was funding a large amount of their own funds as well.

Aventura Homeowners Association MEMBER NORERO mentioned that this is the third request for the same project. MEMBER SKILBRED added that they are installing lights but not in the same location. They would like to complete this third phase of the project and looking to do a fourth phase as well. She thought their projects are great, and lighting is a safety issue for crime deterrent. However, she did not want this Board to become their annual/semi-annual funding source. Available funding the Board has is getting tighter, and she wants new applicants to come forward and assist other agencies with funding who may not have asked in previous years. MEMBER TOUSSAINT stated that some applicants request funding each year because they were not awarded the total amount requested in previous years.

Tuscany Hills MEMBER BORYSEWICH confirmed with MS. CASTILLO-COUCH that the applicant had $3,500 in reserves, to which the Member believed those funds should be for replacing, repairs or maintenance. MEMBER TOUSSAINT did not believe the amount, if any, awarded should be impacted by any reserves they may have. To clarify, MEMBER BORYSEWICH explained that it was her understanding that the applicant thought they could not use their reserves for this project.

La Mancha Summerlin MEMBER SKILBRED disclosed that JOHN BEAR, Councilman Beers liaison, sits on La Mancha Summerlins board, but they have not discussed this request. She felt comfortable with participating.

MEMBERS SKILBRED and BORYSEWICH believed the amount requested was somewhat pricey for the project they desired. MEMBER SKILBRED supported funding the padded folding chairs. She discussed with MEMBER TOUSSAINT that the neighborhood is a small gated, walkable community; this is their fourth grant, and they need to redo their meeting room. MEMBER BORYSEWICH thought the furniture could be purchased elsewhere and not from Wayfair Furniture, which is pricey. MEMBER CHRISTENSEN added that they could be creative and seek funding from the community.

MS. CASTILLO-COUCH informed the Board that there was an additional $3,000 available for funding; thereafter, the Board made adjustments relative to their recommended funding amounts.

6. Discussion for possible action regarding the amended Neighborhood Partners Fund Board By-Laws

Motion made by BRIAN KNUDSEN to Approve the amended Neighborhood Partners Fund Board By-Laws as submitted by Maria Castillo-Couch at the June 6, 2016 Board meeting

Passed For: 12; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 1
GREG TOUSSAINT, SHERESE HOLMES, AJ POWELL, LANCE KIRK, VICKY SKILBRED, BETH BORYSEWICH, CHRISTINE KRAMAR, ANN KILPONEN, BRIAN KNUDSEN, MARIA NORERO, JOE MITCHELL, SALLY CHRISTENSEN; Against-(None); Abstain-(None); Did Not Vote-(None); Excused-(LARRY SCHULTZ)

Minutes:
TERI PONTICELLO, Assistant City Attorney, explained that MARIA CASTILLO-COUCH, Senior Neighborhood Outreach Specialist, had previously brought to this Boards attention its bylaws and the proposed changes, specifically dealing with clarification on approval of meeting minutes. Staff did not find such proposed changes to be substantive; in order to amend the bylaws, the Board must be notified 20 days prior to such meeting and an approval by the Board of those proposed amendments must be achieved.

MS. CASTILLO-COUCH noted that staff received one comment from MEMBER LARRY SCHULTZ, to which ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY PONTICELLO explained that his comment was regarding the purpose of this Board and a charter not created by the City of Las Vegas City Council. In addition, MEMBER SCHULTZ desired to have a special meeting, but in ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY PONTICELLOS opinion, she did not believe a special meeting was necessary. If a meeting is desired, that information can be relayed to MS. CASTILLO-COUCH, who can then arrange for such meeting.

MEMBER TOUSSAINT had not seen MEMBER SCHULTZS suggestion but did review the bylaws. He suggested the Board puts its suggestions in writing and place an item on the next meeting agenda for consideration of those suggestions. ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY PONTICELLO reiterated that she did not believe MEMBER SCHULTZS suggestions were necessary changes to the bylaws.

MEMBER SKILBRED reviewed the bylaws prior to this meeting and appreciated MEMBER SCHULTZS care of reviewing the bylaws and making recommendations; however, she believed such recommendations were minor and did not think his proposed amendments were necessary.

The Board decided upon accepting the amended Bylaws, which were previously handed out to the Board and submitted by MS. CASTILLO-COUCH at the June 6, 2016 Board meeting.

ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY PONTICELLO referred to State law and its requirement concerning meeting minutes. She noted that meeting minutes must be approved within 45 days of such meeting or the next meeting. Since this board meets only a few times each year, minutes are completed then approved at its meeting in the subsequent year.

7. Discussion for possible action on recommendations to amend the application process or documents used for the annual Neighborhood Partners Fund Program cycle

Minutes:
MARIA CASTILLO-COUCH, Senior Neighborhood Outreach Specialist, informed the Board that she will follow-up with Zoom Grants on modifications of the application and asked if there was additional input from the Board.

MEMBER BORYSEWICH suggested items that are already funded in the budget should not be included on the spreadsheet. MS. CASTILLO-COUCH was unsure if those applicants who have received funding were fully funded but believed they were upfront with their requests. There are many small neighborhoods as well as older ones in the downtown area that do not have homeowners associations. Although this grant program is universal, it was difficult to attract applicants/groups from Wards 2 and 4 for many years but that has since changed, and staff is open to continued discussions with the Board relative to notions on making the Board more comfortable with this funding and its purpose for everyone.

MEMBER NORERO thought it may be useful to know what has been funded for capital improvements within the last few years; without a financial auditor, the Board is not privy to this information. She suggested adding the Average Recommended and Committee Score columns to the spreadsheet, to which MEMBER BORYSEWICH agreed. MEMBER TOUSSAINT agreed as well and also suggested removing the minimum scores but retain the committee scores.

MEMBER SKILBRED recommended prioritizing by Average Recommendation, as there were approximately three members who could not get in to the system to vote/enter their scores resulting in an inaccurate number/score. MEMBER NORERO noted that she was able to enter her recommended dollar amounts.

MEMBER BORYSEWICH asked that members have access to the scoring sheet; however, TERI PONTICELLO, Assistant City Attorney, pointed out allowing board members to review the scoring while the process is ongoing would not be appropriate and may be a violation to the Open Meeting Law.

MS. CASTILLO-COUCH confirmed with the board members that the Admin Score, Total Score and Adjust columns were not needed, just the Committee Score column. She acknowledged that staff would make changes to the spreadsheet in accordance with their recommendations and thanked them for their time and input.

8. CITIZENS PARTICIPATION: PUBLIC COMMENT DURING THIS PORTION OF THE AGENDA MUST BE LIMITED TO MATTERS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE BOARD. NO SUBJECT MAY BE ACTED UPON BY THE BOARD UNLESS THAT SUBJECT IS ON THE AGENDA AND IS SCHEDULED FOR ACTION. IF YOU WISH TO BE HEARD, GIVE YOUR NAME FOR THE RECORD. THE AMOUNT OF DISCUSSION ON ANY SINGLE SUBJECT, AS WELL AS THE AMOUNT OF TIME ANY SINGLE SPEAKER IS ALLOWED, MAY BE LIMITED

Minutes:
MEMBER TOUSSAINT noted that as a committee, each Member has been appointed by the City Council. It was his belief that the Committee was underfunded given the number of applications received, and some applicants have been shortchanged. He recalled in past years, the Committee has received less than 20 applications and this year, there were almost 30; he believed this number will continue to increase. MEMBER TOUSSAINT and MARIA CASTILLO-COUCH, Senior Neighborhood Outreach Specialist, recalled the amount of grant funds made available to the Committee has also decreased from $75,000 to $55,000. MEMBER TOUSSAINT would like to see an increase in grant funds and urged the Committee to speak with the City Councilmembers about this matter.

MEMBER SKILBRED recalled an applicant from last year who informed the Committee at that time that they could not complete their project, due to the contractor going out of business; as a result, those monies were returned to the General Fund. She believed another applicant, Glen Heather Estates Neighborhood Association, was rewarded funds and purchased their signage but had difficulty getting it installed for two years. She also remembered a decision the Committee made last year and was successful: if a project could not go forward, then those funds would be reallocated to other projects. Given the limited amount of funds the Committee has to disperse, it is not able to fully fund projects; it would be nice to have the ability to reallocate funds to another project when one does not come to fruition. During the grant review process, MEMBER SKILBRED would like staff to craft a report periodically to the Committee that entails any delays or difficulties that applicants experience while working on their projects. MEMBER TOUSSAINT clarified with MEMBER SKILBRED that the applicant, GH, she previously mentioned about was not able to go forward with their project, but the monies awarded to them were ultimately used for a greater portion of their project.

TERI PONTICELLO, Assistant City Attorney, reminded the Committee that any discussion under this item is considered comments only and not for deliberation; action cannot be taken at this meeting.

Referring to MEMBER SKILBRED'S comments, MEMBER KILPONEN shared an alternate consideration in that if the Committee is not able to fully fund an applicant's project, then additional time could be given to the applicant to fundraise and possibly make up the difference.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Minutes:
The meeting recessed from 2:18 p.m. to 2:22 p.m. and adjourned at 4:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Arlene Coleman, Assistant Deputy City Clerk

____
Maria Castillo-Couch, Sr. Neighborhood Outreach Specialist

Facilities are provided throughout City Hall for the convenience of persons with disabilities. Reasonable efforts will be made to assist and accommodate persons with disabilities or impairments. If you need an accommodation to attend and participate in this meeting, please call the City Clerks office at 702-229-6311 and advise of your need at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting. Dial 7-1-1 for Relay Nevada.

THIS MEETING HAS BEEN PROPERLY NOTICED AND POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor
Clark County Government Center, 500 South Grand Central Parkway
Grant Sawyer Building, 555 East Washington Avenue
City of Las Vegas Development Services Center, 333 North Rancho Drive