

NEPNA Meeting Minutes

4.14.2022

Community Solar Gardens:

Katie led the conversation around the meeting with Beltrami Neighborhood Council (BNC), Logan Park Neighborhood Association (LPNA), and Minneapolis Climate Action (MCA). MCA discussed the funding system and that neighbors would help find community partners to sponsor the initial pay-in for the solar gardens. Residents could then buy a subscription for the energy and anyone who has Xcel Energy can benefit from this program. Once you pay for a subscription, you then receive credit towards your energy bills for the amount in which the solar garden brings in energy. People often see much or all of their Xcel energy bills covered and make back more than the amount they pay for the subscription. This subscription can move with the person as long as there are in the seven county metro and they can transfer their subscription to someone else if they would want.

If MCA and neighborhoods are successful in receiving the Partnership grant with the City, MCA will do much of the door knocking and could target the work towards EEF demographics. MCA submitted application and we should hear back within the next couple of months.

Shared Resource Fund Application:

Katie discussed ongoing work with St. Anthony East Neighborhood Association, BNC, and LPNA to determine if a merger or umbrella organization is the best option. Discussed status of Shared Resource Grant with the City which was approved and hiring a consult, Amy Arcand, with that funding. Meetings with Amy will be begin shortly with the steering committee. Luna agreed to assist in the larger group meetings where there are 2 reps from each organization.

Equitable Engagement Planning:

Neighbors discussed hosting a spring event to pair environmental committee work with EEF work. Lydia and September led the discussion as committee leaders and group planned out logics for environmental event that will provide resources to renters and people with low incomes to advertise resources in the community and ways to save money. The environmental committee will take the lead on planning and everyone is welcome to join the conversation.

The Board unanimously approved a \$1500 budget for the event.