



## Cedar Riverside Business Association

### Newsletter For March, 2007

#### Abbreviated Meeting Minutes 02/15/07

##### Approval of the January minutes with the following correction:

"... (LRT station) currently is placed on the U campus near Blegan Hall..."

##### Safety Committee Update

WBCC meetings are the 1st Tuesday at 7:00 in the evening to encourage more neighborhood participation at the Brian Coyle Center. Creation of a block club and block patrols. Currently, there is a virtual block club run through the Minneapolis Police department. Community Impact Statements are still a priority.

##### NRP Update

NRP Home (up to 4 units) improvement loan programs will be available with a deferred loan program and a revolving loan program. \$182,000.00 was approved by the WBCC board. Applications will be due in April or May '07. These loans are available to residents and apply to purchases made in Seward and Marcy-Holmes. A vendor for the loans has been chosen. An application lottery will be held with a deadline sometime in April. split between first time buyers and home improvements.

##### LRT Business Advisory Council, Karri Plowman

The Central Corridor Partnership ([www.centralcorridorpartnership.org](http://www.centralcorridorpartnership.org)), a business-led coalition that was founded to promote the funding and development of an improved transit system in the Central Corridor, has more than 200 Twin Cities businesses that are supportive of the proposed Central Corridor LRT line. Through this Partnership, the business communities of St. Paul, the Midway and Minneapolis speak with one voice about building the Central Corridor light rail line. The Partnership recognizes that investing in this corridor is crucial for business growth and continued prosperity in our region. Goals:

- Advocate for the funding and development of the Central Corridor light rail line.
- Advocate for a long-term regional funding source for transportation and transit.
- Provide a collective voice for the Saint Paul, Midway and Minneapolis business communities regarding the development of the Central Corridor light rail project. The Business Advisory Council is now being appointed and will deal with construction mitigation, business mitigation, parking and design. Community input is provided to the LRT Management Committee. Applications are now being accepted for one year terms. Members must not miss 2 consecutive meetings. Currently, Sharon Johnson from Midwest Mountaineering is applying. The

Community Advisory Council is also meeting (on which 4 neighborhood residents are involved).

The Metropolitan Council will be responsible for design and construction of the line, working closely with the Minnesota Department of Transportation, Ramsey County, Hennepin County, St. Paul, Minneapolis and the University of Minnesota. Appointed by the Met council was the Central Corridor Management Committee oversees the process. At this time an RFP has been released for preliminary engineering. For LRT Central Corridor Update- for information go to [www.metrocouncil.org](http://www.metrocouncil.org).

The Central Corridor Action Advisory committee has the opportunity to provide input for the location of west Bank LRT station. CRBA maintains station placement needs to be on Cedar (currently its placed at Blegan Hall on the University of Minnesota). We need to start the dialog to get the issue raised that the acceptable station will be on Cedar Avenue.

##### Blue Goose, Family Tree Refinance, Tim Mungavan Overview

Tim Mungavan of the West Bank CDC discussed the refinancing/resale/restructuring of the Blue Goose, Family Tree Co-ops. The goal was to get financing to make needed repairs. The Coop consists of a total of 38 units, Blue Goose (30 units) and Family Tree (8 units). The project is structured for Tax Credit Financing and offering Tax Exempt Revenue Bonds. No project based Section 8 will be available, although, residents can still hold Section 8 vouchers.

The Lease Hold Co-op is designed to take advantage of Tax Credit financing and at the same time provide tenants an active role in property management. Investment owners lease management of the project to a co-op board. Proceeds from the resale/restructuring will be put back into project and the project sold to new investors/owners.

A discussion was held to understand the process of the new financing. The West Bank CDC's goal being to continue to provide affordable housing in the neighborhood. The project financing has already passed through the City of Minneapolis.

##### Election Committee

The election Committee is now being formed for the yearly elections at the May CRBA meeting. A slate will be developed. This will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

##### Councilman Cam Gordon's Office

He will be speaking at a Minnesota Pipeline sponsored by the Minneapolis Urban

League, calling for the repeal of the "Lurking" ordinance on March 7th, 6-8pm at the Urban League, 2100 Plymouth Ave N. He is also working on a new agreement between the City and the West Bank School of Music.

For more Council information see: <http://secondward.blogspot.com>. This is the public policy forum of Minneapolis Second Ward (Green) City Council Member Cam Gordon and his staff. The space is used to talk about some of what Cam's working on, explain his positions, and share a little of what life in City Hall is like.

##### CRBA Newsletter

The CRBA newsletter has now become available only in electronic format. If a member does not have access to the internet they may request to receive a condensed version via standard mail. Please send your email address to: [veti@veti.com](mailto:veti@veti.com) to be added to the list. Or for a hard copy version sent to you write: CRBA, P.O. Box 141552, Minneapolis, MN 55414

##### Meeting Adjourned

##### CRBA Annual Membership - \$120.00

It's time to send in your membership dues to the Cedar Riverside Business Association! Membership dues are annual and provide a valuable return to you and your community. We recommend an annual contribution of \$120.00 but would appreciate and recognize whatever amount you can afford. Send your check made out to the Cedar-Riverside Business Association to our office at 1505 Washington Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55454.

##### Thanks for your generous contributions to CRBA in 2006...

Associated Bank, Durable Images, Inc., Cedar Riverside Properties, Barbara Lyke, Hansel Hall / Crimiel Communications, Nomad World Pub, Love Power Ministries, Victoria Heller, Triple Rock, Peter Dodge/Global Village, KFAI, West Bank CDC, University of Minnesota, Imperial Parking, Dudley Riggs/Inter Urban, Inc., LOTTSA Tax and Accounting Services, Inc., Theatre In The Round, Freewheel Bikes, Trinity Lutheran Congregation, and The Red Sea.

##### CRBA Meetings:

Meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month at 4:00pm at Augsburg College in the Century room of the Christensen building.