

**Organizational Capacity Building Committee**  
**Thursday, March 9th, 2016 - 3pm**  
**Northside Community Housing**  
Facilitator Agenda



**Members Present:**

- Keaira Anderson (co-chair)
- Angela Pinex (co-chair)
- Michael Powers
- Brandon Sterling
- Jessica Eiland
- Monda Majid
- John McCluskey
- Jean Gardner
- Claire Wolff

**CBN Staff Present:**

- Jenny Connelly-Bowen
- Gary Newcomer

**I. Welcome - 5 min (3:00)**

**II. Updates - 15 min (3:05)**

- a. Community Engagement Action Group**
- b. All-Member Meeting - March 30th**
- c. Mayoral Forum**
- d. 5th Annual Awards Reception**

- The Community Engagement Action Group continues to meet on a monthly basis. As you may recall, the 3 goals of the group are to: 1) share best practices, 2) catalogue assets, and 3) build collaboration around community engagement. This month, the group released its winter research newsletter and narrowed in on our intended audience as a group: community engagement practitioners. Additionally, we will be documenting Rise's efforts to incorporate racial equity into community engagement.

- CBN is hosting its spring all-member meeting on March 30th from noon-2p. The meeting will be held at the International Institute and include opportunities to contribute to CBN's strategic planning effort for 2017, weigh in on current initiatives, and stay up-to-date on macro-level issues facing community engagement. The International Institute will also present about their CDFI and CDC. Please RSVP on Eventbrite.
- The Mayoral Forum co-hosted by CBN was a success. Over 700 people attended and tens of thousands tuned in on the livestream and rebroadcasts by Public Radio and Nine Network the following week. Candidates touched on important topics for community development such as funding the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, transportation alternatives, inclusionary zoning, planning for tax incentives, and affordable housing creation.
- The 5th Annual Awards Reception on April 27th is coming up fast! We are still asking for nominations for the event, particularly for the categories of lifetime achievement (Outstanding Achievement), Faith-Based, and Resident. Please use the member discount code CBNmember if purchasing tickets. \$15 discounts will also be available for engaged residents using either the code CBNmember or SLACO. CBN staff will share additional information via email.

### **III. Ladder of Capacity Building 2017 - 30 min (3:20)**

- a. Update on topic - Managing Formal Partnerships,**
  - b. Review Outline & Partnership w/ Thread STL**
  - c. What works? What doesn't?**
  - d. What partnerships are you working to build?**
- As you may recall, CBN members identified Managing Partnerships and Board Effectiveness as two areas for which members wanted support in 2017. This came from the Org Assessment Survey results, input at the Fall All-Member meeting and org capacity committee, and one-on-one contact with CBN members. Given limited capacity, CBN could only design a ladder of capacity around one topic. As such, CBN staff solicited feedback from CBN members and determined that a ladder of capacity building focused on Managing Formal Partnerships would be preferred by most members. CBN staff passed out an initial draft of what this ladder could potentially look like

for comments. CBN staff are shooting for a late summer timeline for initiating the ladder. Thread STL has been identified as a potential partner, but would play a secondary role to CBN in the process.

- The Committee agreed that managing partnerships was an ideal topic for an ongoing ladder of capacity building. Access to sustainable funding was identified by the committee as an important component of the ladder not currently addressed in the drafted proposal. Sustainable funding could take the form of building knowledge or connections with area foundations, support creating a funding plan, or mini-grants offered through the process.
- Some members wished to use the ladder as an opportunity to identify new partners or strengthen existing partnerships. Regardless, the Committee identified the learning process as necessary to help Board members of participating organizations understand the scope involve in building partnerships. While some on the Committee preferred a focus on long-term partnerships and others preferred support for short term partnerships, a consensus was built around the idea that the ladder's goal should be on "small wins" that could lead to deeper partnerships in the future. As such, CBN will revamp its current structure of the ladder to tend closer toward collaboration on concrete initiatives rather than managing already-established and formal partnerships. One final recommendation by the committee was to limit the length of the ladder to 12 months at most. CBN staff will continue reaching out to CBN members and the Committee to identify whether the Ladder should provide support around long-term or short-term partnerships.

#### **IV. Mini-Ladder on Board Effectiveness - 20 min (3:50)**

##### **a. Update**

##### **b. What challenges do you face?**

- CBN staff shared a proposal on Board Effectiveness and gave an update on a potential training opportunity for members. Since the last meeting, CBN staff have solicited feedback about interest around trainings on Board Effectiveness. While not as popular a topic as Managing Partnerships, a few organizations saw a crucial benefit in having a training on Board Effectiveness. Given staff limitations, John McClusky offered to help us put on a mini-ladder with free consulting hours for CBN members. This training would be a 4-stage program for both staff and board leaders of member

organizations dedicated to the topic of board development, with curated support for participating organizations. The training would be offered to a limited number of CBN members who could commit the time and participation of some of their respective board members.

- The Committee was very positive about the possibility of Board Effectiveness trainings in its current form. CBN staff will send out all-member emails and reach out to other members to identify how many organizations would like to participate.

**V. Campfire Partnership - 10 min (4:10)**

- One priority of the CBN Board is to better promote the great work and stories coming out of your neighborhoods and CBN members in unique ways. We were approached by Campfire to partner on a storytelling event based around the topic of neighborhoods. CBN staff gave an overview about the Campfire partnership opportunity and passed out a proposal.
- The Campfire event would be a free one-day workshop at KDHX's Folk School space on July 23rd for residents in your boundaries to tell the stories of how their neighborhoods have impacted their lives. At the end of the day, they will have a chance to tell these stories in front of an audience and be recorded for broadcast in a podcast that you and CBN can share. The event is also a collaboration with Grand Center Inc as they will host the event in Straus Park. CBN will continue to update the Committee as we get closer to the date.

**VI. Professional Services Support Program - 10 min (4:20)**

- a. Update on Sponsorship**
- b. Next Steps?**

- The Committee was unable to fully discuss the Professional Services Support Program due to time limitations.

**VII. Conclude - 4:30**

- Thank you to everyone who made the meeting. The next Organizational Capacity Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 11th from 3-4:30p.