

Minutes for CAMConnect Board Meeting

July 21, 2005 2:00 pm until 4:00 pm

Present:

Jennifer Greenberg, Bill Whitlow, Greg Allen, Chris DiCarlo, Josue Figueroa, Kathy Daniels, Kevin Hickey, Lauren Hall, Jerry Harris, Jeff Brenner, Jean Mouch, Derek Ziegler

1) Minutes:

Jean Mouch called the meeting to order. The April Board Minutes were approved with one addition, namely that all the Decisions by email vote were passed.

2) Acting Executive Director Update

(see web posted July 21st) The update gives a clear presentation of the activities since the last board meeting. Included with the discussion of the update, Derek provided two reports: "Redevelopment: Camden Facts" and the "Camden Churches Organized for People: Survey on Camden's Recovery July 2005."

Discussion:

The CCOP report did receive press coverage which mentioned the role of CAMConnect. On the inside of the cover is a disclaimer about CAMConnect's role. One complaint about the process was given to CAMConnect. CCOP allegedly included a cover letter at the time of distributing the surveys, which could influence the filling out of the survey. Derek did not know that a cover letter would be used and will follow up with the CCOP organizers (*DZ note – CCOP assured me that no cover letter was used with the surveys*).

Decision: CAMConnect needs to have a pre-survey criteria form to make it clear about our role, and the technical advice we give in a situation like the survey with CCOP. Three points of clarification would be the type of survey: is it for the membership or is it a community survey? Another point is about the sample size and process of drawing the sample. CCOP completed over 900 surveys of their constituency groups. The third point is having a recommendation about the process of conducting the survey to avoid bias.

3) Data Review Process

CAMConnect's report on "Municipal Budget and Taxes Report" has presented the Executive Committee and Board with a situation of having found an error in one of our website posted reports. Coming to the final week of the budget process two persons called, one was Charles Lyons, a CAMConnect Board member from the City administration and another was from the Camden Redevelopment Agency, about an error in the report. Derek pulled the report from the website, wrote a written response about how the document had been reviewed pre-publication, and corrected the information. To quote Derek's update: "I believe that we took the necessary steps to validate the data and information in this report...that when discussion of proposed government actions" is part of one of our reports "that we exercise caution and allow for considerable flexibility in how decisions are implemented" with regard to reports. Jean commented that since the concern was about information obtained through OPRA and had a dated source about how the city would be working with another finance group it would be good to call the City administration and check to see if there had been any update in the process with the outside entity.

Decision: Executive Committee to review the Data Committee Protocol and present an amended version to the next Board meeting for approval. (*DZ note – Not yet completed*)

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4.) Program Manager to Executive Director Transition

Jeff Brenner presented the job description of the CAMConnect Executive Director with the following parts: Function, Duties, Requirements, Salary Range, and Executive Director Performance Objectives. The Performance Objectives are listed for the period July 1, 2005 until June 30, 2006 and are in a list of priorities.

Discussion: The Salary Range was increased to read \$50,000 to \$65,000. Minor other clarifications were made in the Performance Objectives. One point was that the Preparation of a Fund Development Strategy for CAMConnect would be specifically stated. A number of the objectives would be part of such a strategy.

Jeff explained about the design of Staff Evaluation at Cooper Hospital, and these performance objectives can become part of the yearly review process.

Decision: With the corrections, the job description and performance objectives for the Role of the Executive Director were approved.

Decision: The Board approved completing the transition and Derek Ziegler will be our Executive Director of CAMConnect.

5.) CAMConnect budget for 2005 update

In April, the 2005 budget had been provisionally approved until the discussion and decision on the role of Executive Director could be completed. The second concern was that the Outreach Committee work would need increased funds to carry out the proposed work with local neighborhood groups in Camden.

Decision: The Revised CAMConnect budget for 2005 was approved.

6.) CAMConnect Calendar for next two quarters:

Executive Committee meetings are first Thursday of the month at Empowerment Zone which has moved its offices to the BridgeView building.

Next Meeting: August 4th 10-Noon

CAMConnect Board meeting will be the election meeting

October 27, 2005

Catholic Charities

10:00 am until Noon

Members Meeting – TBA

Data Sharing Event

Topic would be the Health and Quality of Life Surveys from Summer 2005

Suggested Date: December

7.) Other Business

Jean had prepared an update of the Four Strategic Directions of CAMConnect as based on the January Retreat 2005. It is for your information as Board Members, and tracks the activities from the perspective of the Chairperson of the Board.