



The Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program

VOTER'S GUIDE

**For Neighborhood Representative Seats
on the 2006 NRP Policy Board**

Candidate Information and Questionnaire Responses

Compiled by the League of Women Voters of Minneapolis and the Minneapolis NRP

As part of the election process, NRP Policy Board candidates were asked to respond to the following questions in 100 words or less:

1. How have your life/work experiences prepared you to be a neighborhood representative?
2. What do you consider to be the strengths and weaknesses of the NRP?
3. How have you participated in your neighborhood organization and its NRP Process?
4. How do you plan to maintain a relationship with the neighborhoods you would represent if elected?
5. Name one thing you would like to work on if elected.
6. Why are you running for a neighborhood representative seat on the Policy Board?
7. Please list any community-based organizations with which you are currently involved.
8. Please list all current paid and unpaid affiliations.

Published candidate responses have been retyped but otherwise remain intentionally unedited by those who compiled this guide.

The Voter's Guide is compiled by the League of Women Voters (LWV) of Minneapolis and the Minneapolis NRP to provide information to City residents about those candidates seeking a Neighborhood Representative seat on the 2006 NRP Policy Board. Candidates are running in one of four categories: At-Large, Protection, Revitalization, or Redirection. Electors selected by each neighborhood organization to vote on behalf of their neighborhood will vote for one representative and one alternate to sit on the NRP Policy Board from their neighborhood category and for an at-large representative and alternate.

The NRP Policy Board Neighborhood Representative candidate forums / election will begin at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, November 17, 2005 on the second floor of the Crown Roller Mill Building, 105 Fifth Avenue South. One candidate forum will be held in each of the four categories. Candidates will introduce themselves and respond to questions submitted by the League of Women Voters of Minneapolis and audience members. Candidate forums are moderated by LWV members and are free and open to the public.

The Crown Roller Mill Building is accessible to persons with disabilities. Parking is available on the street, in surface parking lots and in the Gateway and Depot ramps. However, NRP will NOT reimburse parking fees. To request language interpretation or childcare services during the election events, please call 612-673-5150 at least ten days prior to the election. For more information about the NRP Policy Board election process, call 612-333-6319. For bus information, call the MTCO Bus Line at 612-373-3333.



Neighborhood Revitalization Program
Policy Board Forums & Election

WHEN:

*Thursday, November 17, 2005
6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.*

WHERE:

*Crown Roller Mill Building
105 Fifth Avenue South
Minneapolis*

THE AGENDA

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| 6:30 – 7:00 | Registration/Meet the Candidates Social
Rules Presentation by League of Women Voters |
| 7:00 – 7:15 | At-Large Candidate Forum |
| 7:15 | Revitalization Neighborhoods Candidate Forum & Voting
Protection Neighborhoods Candidate Forum & Voting
Redirection Neighborhoods Candidate Forum & Voting |

Revitalization Neighborhood Representative Candidates

**Greg Baumgartner
Joyce Boettcher
Charles Halverson
John T Jensen
Ryan Marth
Dorothy Titus**

The Revitalization Neighborhood electors will select a representative and alternate from the list of candidates.

REVITALIZATION NEIGHBORHOODS

**Bancroft
Beltrami
Bottineau
Bryant
CARAG
Cedar Riverside-West Bank
Cleveland
Cooper
Corcoran
Ericsson
Field
Folwell
Hiawatha
Holland
Howe
Jordan
Keewaydin
Kingfield
Lind-Bohanon
Logan Park
Longfellow**

**Loring Park
Lowry Hill East
Marcy-Holmes
McKinley
Minnehaha
Morris Park
Northeast Park
Northrup
Powderhorn Park
Regina
Seward
Southeast Como
Standish
Webber-Camden
Wenonah
Windom Park**

Revitalization Neighborhood Candidate

GREG BAUMGARTNER

Photo Not Available

Address: 3526 Colfax Avenue North (55412)

Occupation: Database Manager / Analyst

Neighborhood: McKinley

Years in Neighborhood: 20

Years in Minneapolis: 20

Phone: 612-518-0408 (cell) Evenings

E-mail: Vigilent1@gmail.com

How have your life experiences prepared you to be a neighborhood representative?

I have always been a problem solver, examining the ways different issues that come before the neighborhood can be addressed, working to pick out the best solution. I consider how a particular decision will affect my friends and neighbors. Will the solution be a short-term fix or will it have a lasting effect. I prefer finding solutions that will have long-term effect. I use the skills from my profession to look at things openly and analytically, examining the various options, then go to work to make them happen.

What do you consider to be the strengths and weaknesses of the NRP?

Strengths: NRP allows citizens to make the decisions that will affect their neighborhoods in a way they feel will benefit their neighborhood best, rather than relying on others to do it. It gives power back to the citizens, giving them a feeling of pride and accomplishment. NRP staff is also very supportive of the choices the individual neighborhoods make. They provide the resources and training for completion of successful programs/projects.

Weaknesses: I believe NRP could improve in the area of providing technical resources to neighborhoods so they can do their jobs more efficiently. Technology has changed considerably in the 20 years since I became involved in neighborhood activities and NRP hasn't always kept up in this area. Connecting neighborhoods with similar goals and projects could improve as well.

How have you participated in your neighborhood organization and its NRP process?

- Helped plan and run some of the first meetings where the neighborhood determined its priorities.
- Chair of the Crime and Safety Issue group.
- Board member from 1996 to 2004
- Board Chair from 1997 to 2001
- Member of Housing Issue Group from 1997 to 2004
- Block Club Leader
- Worked with my employer to procure computer donations for neighborhood use.
- Developed an after school program to address needs of neighborhood youth.

How do you plan to maintain a relationship with the neighborhoods you would represent if elected?

Develop an email list and send quarterly updates to the neighborhoods on general issues facing them and special notices on issues that may have immediate effect on their Action Plans.

Name one thing you would like to work on if elected?

- Funding issues facing NRP and how we can continue funding the neighborhood programs into the future.

Why are you running for a neighborhood representative seat on the Policy Board?

The NRP has proven to be a very valuable program to the City of Minneapolis. It brings neighbors together to work on problems in their respective neighborhoods and helps foster a sense of community pride as well as accomplishment. I want to see the program continue far into the future. I believe I have a strong voice to represent the neighborhoods at the Policy Board.

Please list any community-based organizations with which you are currently involved.

- Block Club leader
- Member of Camden Garden Club
- Appointee to the City of Minneapolis' Capital Long Range Improvement Committee (CLIC)
- Served on CLIC Executive Committee for 2004

Please list all current paid and unpaid affiliations.

None listed

Revitalization Neighborhood Candidate JOYCE BOETTCHER



Address: 2116 East 36 1/2 Street (55407)
Occupation: Legal Word Processor
Neighborhood: Standish
Years in Neighborhood: 11
Years in Minneapolis: 29
Phone: *not listed*
E-mail: *not listed*

How have your life experiences prepared you to be a neighborhood representative?

I have been involved quite extensively in my own neighborhood association in a variety of capacities, including executive officer. I have also volunteered with other non-profit organizations. I have also been a major volunteer and coordinator for the local festival, Lake Hiawatha Neighborhood Festival.

What do you consider to be the strengths and weaknesses of the NRP?

Strengths: allowing communities and residents have more of a say in what happens in their neighborhoods. Also helps residents develop leadership skills. Provides great support to the neighborhoods.

Weaknesses: feel the major weakness is having to rely on the whim of the state legislature on funding and how that funding is utilized.

How have you participated in your neighborhood organization and its NRP process?

I have served on the SENA board of directors as president for two years. On that same board I have also served as secretary, treasurer and vice president as well as being a director in a non-executive capacity. I have also served on the Parks and Environment Action Group strategizing and developing our NRP projects. I have also served on the steering committee to help create the NRP plan that is finally approved by the neighborhood.

How do you plan to maintain a relationship with the neighborhoods you would represent if elected?

I will continue to be involved in committees with the neighborhood association. (SENA)

Name one thing you would like to work on if elected?

Working to help develop a pilot solar lighting project. I am a strong supporter of renewable energy and solar energy is my favorite type of renewable energy.

Why are you running for a neighborhood representative seat on the Policy Board?

I want to help keep the NRP program a strong and healthy program and to allow it help our neighborhoods continue to be involved in their own planning and development.

Please list any community-based organizations with which you are currently involved.

Standish-Ericsson Neighborhood Association
Community Barter Network
Midtown Public Market Advisory Council
Planning Committee for the Lake Hiawatha Neighborhood Festival.

Please list all current paid and unpaid affiliations.

I currently work for the Robins, Kaplan, Miller & Ciresi L.L.P. law firm. I volunteer as secretary for the Midtown Public Market Advisory Council as well as just volunteered to help create their quarterly newsletter. I volunteer with SENA as chair of the Marketing Committee, member of the Quality of Life Group, member of the NRP Steering Committee and member of the newsletter committee.

Revitalization Neighborhood Candidate **CHARLES HALVERSON**



Address: 4821 Chicago Avenue South (55417)
Occupation: Design Engineer
Neighborhood: Northrop
Years in Neighborhood: 9
Years in Minneapolis: 9
Phone: 612-822-2076 (after 6:00 p.m.)
E-mail: Crh4821@aol.com

How have your life experiences prepared you to be a neighborhood representative?

I have lived in Minneapolis over nine years and enjoy everything my neighborhood and city have to offer. There is always room for improvement however as perfection can only be approached. I would like to be an agent for positive change and feel my experience as a project engineer supervising large teams on complex projects, and the associated problem solving, analytical, and communication skills would be beneficial in forming plans for my neighborhood and Minneapolis. As a Naval Officer, I served as a liaison officer with several foreign navies, and feel comfortable working with all peoples and cultures.

What do you consider to be the strengths and weaknesses of the NRP?

I believe the primary strength of NRP is its' involvement and communication with local neighborhood groups, and support of "neighborhood" plans. I also believe, and have witnessed strong support from the City Council for NRP. This consensus building and support is key to producing desirable, and achievable improvements.

The only weakness I perceive, and this is a shared weakness with the neighborhood groups and the city, is the inability to explain the planning and funding process in terms familiar enough for some residents (participants) to understand. I still have some learning to do in this regard.

How have you participated in your neighborhood organization and its NRP process?

As a member of the 48th and Chicago Dream Team, a team tasked with developing and presenting to the neighborhood options for the potential redevelopment of the 48th and Chicago commercial hub, I worked closely with the Field Regina Northrop Neighborhood Group (FRNNG) as well as the NRP. FRNNG was instrumental in forming the team, NRP funded most of the expense for consultants, and the results of the neighborhood survey was presented to the City Council. This was a very educational experience and I would like to continue my community involvement by serving on the NRP Board.

How do you plan to maintain a relationship with the neighborhoods you would represent if elected?

One of the most important components of a relationship with a neighborhood is frequent and effective communication with the neighborhood groups. This includes phone calls, and attendance at neighborhood meetings to the extent possible. I would also like to utilize group e-mails to communicate information in a more timely manner than neighborhood publications are able to provide ("Close to Home" for instance). And use this opportunity to deliver more "neighborhood specific" information than other forms of communication. If elected, I also feel it would be my responsibility to act as a neighborhood advocate with NRP and the City Council.

Name one thing you would like to work on if elected?

In the execution of my duties as a board member I would strive to ensure that the neighborhood plans are implemented as planned by the neighborhood, and that financial matters be handled with the utmost integrity. I would consider it a failure of the entire board if any member is found to have accepted money for favorable treatment of a project or contractor. Finally, in implementing neighborhood plans, I would strive to ensure that those improvements such as increased lighting, that have a reasonable expectation of deterring crime be prioritized. This benefits us all, not just a specific neighborhood.

Why are you running for a neighborhood representative seat on the Policy Board?

As a person who votes, who has served on a neighborhood group, and who has served on three juries, I believe participation in government by average citizens is critical to proper functioning of our form of government. I would consider a position on the NRP board not only an honor, but also an educational experience that will make me a better voter.

Please list any community-based organizations with which you are currently involved.

Currently volunteer for ARC of Hennepin County

Please list all current paid and unpaid affiliations.

No paid affiliations.

Member of: American Legion, NRA and US Boat

Revitalization Neighborhood Candidate

JOHN T JENSEN



Address: 2733 Girard Avenue South #306 (55408)

Occupation: HIPAA Compliance Program Coordinator

Neighborhood: Lowry Hill East

Years in Neighborhood: 3

Years in Minneapolis: 9

Phone: 612-872-7731 (after 5:00 p.m.)

E-mail: jense100@umn.edu

How have your life experiences prepared you to be a neighborhood representative?

Originally from the central coast of California, I am from a community that not only encouraged me to develop personal opinions and beliefs but also provided me the necessary mentorship tools to ensure that these beliefs were developed in the context of my community. With these experiences, I believe that I have not just been shown the tools for personal success but rather a model that predicates personal success upon the success of the community around me.

What do you consider to be the strengths and weaknesses of the NRP?

Before funds are allocated and programs developed, the NRP model first challenges communities to reexamine themselves so that they can better identify and understand the questions that their complexities pose. As a result, neighborhoods are becoming effective partners with the leadership that represents them.

As communities reexamine themselves, however, more has to be done to ensure that neighborhoods do not believe that their issues are theirs alone to solve. Partnerships amongst with other neighborhoods are intrinsic to our success and neighborhood volunteers should be given tools to understand how to develop these.

How have you participated in your neighborhood organization and its NRP process?

Since 2001, I have been a member of the NRP Steering Committee of the Lowry Hill East Neighborhood Association and currently serve as its chair. We are currently in our Phase I review process and I have been fortunate to have been involved in many of our Phase I projects.

How do you plan to maintain a relationship with the neighborhoods you would represent if elected?

Communication is key to these relationships especially with each neighborhood representative being expected to represent so many diverse groups. Therefore, I believe it important that all communication tools be at our disposal and better developed. Electronic communication in the form of e-mail and web pages can be extremely effective but do not replace human interaction.

Name one thing you would like to work on if elected?

I would like to work on ways to help neighborhoods better identify partnerships with each other.

Why are you running for a neighborhood representative seat on the Policy Board?

These four neighborhood representative positions are critical to the Policy Board and moreover to the future success of NRP. What NRP looks like after 2009 will depend on what we do now, and effective representation to current discussions is vital.

In addition, I believe the opportunity to represent my neighborhoods will help develop me into a better volunteer.

Please list any community-based organizations with which you are currently involved.

Member and Chair, Lowry Hill East Neighborhood Association NRP Steering Committee
Committee Member, Wedge Community Newspaper

Please list all current paid and unpaid affiliations.

President, Wilhite Apartment Owners Association
Organizing Member, Macalester College GLBT Reunion Committee
Alumni Class Agent, The York School, Monterey, California

Revitalization Neighborhood Candidate RYAN MARTH



Address: 3205 East 53rd Street (55417)

Occupation: Attorney

Neighborhood: Keewaydin

Years in Neighborhood: 2.5

Years in Minneapolis: 5

Phone: *not listed*

E-mail: ryan_w_marth@yahoo.com

How have your life experiences prepared you to be a neighborhood representative?

I have a long history of community involvement and activism that makes me a perfect fit for the policy Board. As a member of the Board of Directors of Nokomis East Neighborhood Association, I have assisted in the development of comprehensive plans and therefore understand the challenges that individual neighborhoods face. I also have a history of activism through politics that has taught me how to be an effective advocate for the cause I take on.

What do you consider to be the strengths and weaknesses of the NRP?

The greatest strength of NRP is success at bringing neighbors together to effect positive change in their neighborhoods. Unfortunately, it cannot continue to be such a positive force without adequate funding, therefore, its greatest weakness is the lack of funding for Phase II of NRP.

How have you participated in your neighborhood organization and its NRP process?

Yes, I have served on the Board of Directors of Nokomis East Neighborhood Association, its Economic Development Task Force, and its planning committee for developing a master development plan for the MnDOT properties in the southeast corner of Minneapolis.

How do you plan to maintain a relationship with the neighborhoods you would represent if elected?

I plan to make myself available to all of the neighborhoods I represent so that I can voice their concerns on the Policy Board. I will also communicate developments on the Board to these neighborhoods as they occur.

Name one thing you would like to work on if elected?

I would like to guarantee that NRP has a stable and secure source of funding for the future so that residents have the resources they need to continue to pursue revitalization projects through NRP.

Why are you running for a neighborhood representative seat on the Policy Board?

I love this city and I chose to move into the city partly because of its vibrant neighborhoods. NRP has a vital role in preserving the character and quality of our neighborhoods by promoting resident involvement. I want to be a neighborhood representative so that NRP continues this role into the future and preserves Minneapolis as a city people want to move into and stay.

Please list any community-based organizations with which you are currently involved.

Nokomis East Neighborhood Association

Please list all current paid and unpaid affiliations.

- Robins, Kaplan, Miller & Ciresi, L.L.P. - Attorney
- Nokomis East Neighborhood Assn - Board of Directors
- American Bar Association
- Minnesota State Bar Association
- Federal Bar Association
- SD 62 Democratic Farmer Labor Party

Revitalization Neighborhood Candidate

DOROTHY J TITUS

Photo Not Available

Address: 2715 Penn Avenue North (55411)

Occupation: Counselor

Neighborhood: Jordan

Years in Neighborhood: 3.5

Years in Minneapolis: 3.5

Phone: 612-522-4545

E-mail: DottieT@mn.rr.com

How have your life experiences prepared you to be a neighborhood representative?

My life story includes both affluence and poverty. I understand the struggles people and neighborhoods have. I have a strong sense of fairness and justice. During my 3 ½ years in Minneapolis, I have spent time with an African American mother whose son was a murder victim, with a Hmong family whose child was run over by his school bus and with children who talk of their fear of living here. In my work with JACC, I have worked toward an improved neighborhood on all fronts: crime and safety, housing, youth. I love neighborhood work.

What do you consider to be the strengths and weaknesses of the NRP?

The strength of the NRP is its unrelenting focus on neighborhoods, giving them the power to make important decisions, guiding them, helping them find ways to do what is needed. The NRP is truly focused on grassroots power, a strong tradition in Minnesota. Its primary weakness is, perhaps, its isolation from the rest of governance and the limited time and funding it has left. I would like to work to change that.

How have you participated in your neighborhood organization and its NRP process?

I attended my first board meeting within a few months of moving to Jordan. I was elected to the board in October 2003, served as interim executive director in December 2004 and January 2005 and was hired as executive director in February 2005. Beyond that, I have been the "Cookie Lady" on my block for 3 years, inviting neighborhood children into my home to bake 4-8 dozen cookies almost weekly to take home to their families. For about six months, I did the same at Alternatives, an after school program in Jordan.

How do you plan to maintain a relationship with the neighborhoods you would represent if elected?

I would ask to be included on neighborhood e-mail lists and attend at least some board and/or community meetings in those neighborhoods. Depending on the circumstances, I might attend additional meetings or meet with ED's to ask questions and learn what their needs are, how they view NRP and how NRP can help them.

Name one thing you would like to work on if elected?

Funding for NRP beyond 2009

Why are you running for a neighborhood representative seat on the Policy Board?

I believe that NRP has been an invaluable help to the traditionally disenfranchised, both in terms of help to individuals through revitalization/rehabilitation programs and to neighborhoods in giving them the ability to make their own decisions and providing the funding for them to carry out their priorities. I want to support these efforts and work toward making NRP an ongoing reality beyond 2009. I have a knack for creating partnerships and collaborations that enrich all parties. I would bring this to the NRP and look to creating/healing relationships for the benefit of our neighborhoods.

Please list any community-based organizations with which you are currently involved.

Jordan Area Community Council - ED until 9/30 (resigning)
JACC Housing Committee - will continue this relationship after resignation
Corridor Housing Initiative
Northside Regional Strategy Coalition
Northside Partnership
Northside Home Fund Advisory Board

Please list all current paid and unpaid affiliations.

Jordan Area Community Council (JACC) - Executive Director until 9/30
4th Ward CARE Task Force - participate as JACC ED
4th Ward Master Plan Task Force - led by CM Barbara Johnson
North Minneapolis Intercultural Initiative - (*partnership between Jordan, Hawthorne and Cleveland neighborhoods and the Southeast Asian Community Council*)
American MENSA, Ltd.
Pathwork® Helpers Association of North America
The Pathwork® of Minnesota - self-employed as spiritual/mental health counselor
North American Pathwork® Association
American Counseling Association

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Redirection Neighborhood Representative Candidates

Thomas Bissen

Carol Ann Pass

The Redirection Neighborhood electors will select a representative and alternate from the list of candidates.

REDIRECTION NEIGHBORHOODS

**Central
Elliot Park
Harrison
Hawthorne
Lyndale
Near North
Phillips –Ventura Village
Phillips – EPIC
Phillips – Midtown
Phillips – West
St. Anthony East
Sheridan
Stevens Square-Loring Heights
Whittier
Willard Hay**

Redirection Neighborhood Candidate

THOMAS BISSEN



Address: 2427 Clinton Avenue South #1 (55404)
Occupation: Banker
Neighborhood: Whittier
Years in Neighborhood: 12
Years in Minneapolis: 12
Phone: 612-229-1942
E-mail: tombissen@gmail.com

How have your life experiences prepared you to be a neighborhood representative?

I have an extensive banking & finance background. As a seven year Whittier Alliance board member, I have served as treasurer, RPO Chair, and NRP task force chair. I have been a rental property owner in Whittier for 12 years. As the US Bank branch manager in Northeast Minneapolis, I served as treasurer of the Old St. Anthony Business Association for 5 years.

What do you consider to be the strengths and weaknesses of the NRP?

Its success in citizen participation and revitalization of neighborhoods is a national model of success. A potential weakness is not allowing the neighborhoods the control that has made the program such a success.

How have you participated in your neighborhood organization and its NRP process?

Whittier Board member and NRP task force, Old St. Anthony Business Association

How do you plan to maintain a relationship with the neighborhoods you would represent if elected?

To continue my involvement in the Whittier Alliance and community outreach

Name one thing you would like to work on if elected?

Affordable, owner-occupied housing

Why are you running for a neighborhood representative seat on the Policy Board?

I've seen the success and the positive influence this program has had on Minneapolis neighborhoods and wish to be a part of that continued success.

Please list any community-based organizations with which you are currently involved.

Whittier Alliance
Minneapolis Downtown Council

Please list all current paid and unpaid affiliations.

No paid
Unpaid - Whittier Alliance.

Redirection Neighborhood Candidate

CAROL ANN PASS



Address: 2536 18th Avenue South (55404)

Occupation: Retired Teacher

Neighborhood: East Phillips

Years in Neighborhood: 30

Years in Minneapolis: 30

Phone: 612-280-8418

E-mail: bpas@usinternet.com

How have your life experiences prepared you to be a neighborhood representative?

I have lived in Phillips Neighborhood for 30 years, raised my two sons here (one teaches at North High and the other teaches in St. Paul), been a teacher myself, served on the Phillips NRP Housing Board, helped rebuild a new organization, East Phillips Improvement Coalition (EPIC) when People of Phillips failed, was treasurer of EPIC for 3 years and am now President, chaired the East Phillips Commons development committee, served on the Village In Phillips Board which built the Franklin Station Town homes, served on the Block Club Network, Weed and Seed, fund raised for the Hispanic Baseball League and been an NRP Rep for four years. I have great respect for volunteers and have helped our neighborhood organization through recent difficulties to become a more healthy and much more diverse group with sound policies. All of these experiences have not always been easy or comfortable, but have given me a wealth of experience in issues that touch folk's lives, especially in the redirection neighborhoods.

What do you consider to be the strengths and weaknesses of the NRP?

Strengths: The great strength of NRP is its admin. and implementation funding for the most local level of governance, the neighborhoods, and the freedom allowed them in decision-making in the use of their own funds. This is what has contributed most to neighborhood participation, empowerment and real improvement throughout Minneapolis Neighborhoods. I am convinced and NRP has resoundingly taught me, and many others, that trying to organize participation without the possibility of actually implementing

something is a "fool's errand", but giving ordinary people meaningful control over assets brings volunteers out of the woodwork.

Weaknesses: The uncertain future of funding has created the hardships of burn out and a sense of a lack of city support. There are also weaknesses internal to neighborhood governance that good policies and board training can correct. In addition, I am convinced that some reform measures of the relationship between neighborhoods and their central NRP staff are in order, so that neighborhoods have some say in whether or not that relationship is working and helpful, since only they could actually provide a real evaluation.

How have you participated in your neighborhood organization and its NRP process?

To repeat #1: I served on the Phillips NRP Housing Board for two years, served on the Phillips NRP Implementation Board, helped rebuild a new organization, when People of Phillips failed, was treasurer of EPIC for three years and am now President, chaired the East Phillips Commons development committee, served on the Village In Phillips Board which built the Franklin Station Town homes and brought in millions in affordable housing, served on the Block Club Network, Weed and Seed and been an NRP Rep for four years. I helped create our Housing Rehab Lottery and First Time Homebuyers Grants, NRP dollars using NRP dollars to leverage additional funding. Many residents and businesses thank NRP and credit these efforts with literally saving the livability of East Phillips and our business district on Lake Street. I am very proud that my efforts and those of others have moved homeownership here from about 15% to close to 35%, all of it affordable. Beyond my neighborhood, I have served on the NRP Policy Board for 4 years and on the Board's Focus Minneapolis Working Group. I have been serious in my long-term commitment to maintaining and improving neighborhood empowerment in partnership with city government.

How do you plan to maintain a relationship with the neighborhoods you would represent if elected?

I hope to continue to work on building relationships with folks all over the city and to listen to the strengths, accomplishments, wisdom and particularly the needs of neighborhood folks from all neighborhood types, but particularly the Redirection Neighborhoods. During the various campaigns to retain funding for NRP and determine the character of its organizational future, I have visited many neighborhoods, listened and spoke with many volunteers and staff about concerns. While email is efficient (I hope to do more with it) and face-to-face is more time consuming, it is my preferred mode and now that I know so many folks I hope to do more of that and visit various neighborhood meetings. I hope to help improve connections and collaboration between neighborhoods; especially those of the Near North and Near South Sides so we can better assist and learn from each other.

Name one thing you would like to work on if elected?

Hard to limit this to one thing. Here are several I believe must be worked on:

- Of primary importance is to ensure continued and adequate funding of NRP and neighborhoods. This means to retain remaining County and City Phase I Funds and secure adequate future Phase II funds.

- Equally important, work to safe guard and guarantee independent planning and use of these funds by neighborhoods. This means working to have the central city government commit to embracing a clear partnership, a hand-in-hand relationship between most local and most central organs of governance and working to make that a truly meaningful partnership.
- Work on greater connection and knowledge sharing between neighborhoods, getting together to share strategies for crime control, housing issues, youth programs, etc.
- Build a more unified neighborhood political voice to help these things happen. And strongly represent all of this at the NRP Policy Board.

Why are you running for a neighborhood representative seat on the Policy Board?

I know I will always show up at every meeting and fight for the voice, funding and right to decision-making authority of the "impacted neighborhoods". I have become more effective in the years I have served on the NRP Policy Board and learned how important experience and boldness are for this position. I have also seen for myself and am deeply committed to the value of neighborhood-based "grass roots" planning and redevelopment. The brilliant ideas, the volunteer energy, the focus on the most local issues are critical for a vital city, but are especially critical for the "impacted" neighborhoods. Yet when funding is dispersed, as NRP funding is, there is always a strong temptation to re-centralize it. Retaining a strong funding stream for neighborhood-based program and project identification and implementation has been a multi-year struggle for your NRP representatives. I have consistently been there and been vigilant for that and other important struggles and made carefully researched, unabashed racket on your behalf. There is much more to do.

Please list any community-based organizations with which you are currently involved.

NRP Policy Board, Redirection Neighborhood Representative
 East Phillips Improvement Coalition, current President
 Fund raiser for the Hispanic Baseball League
 Midtown Greenway Coalition
 Bloomington/Cedar/Lake Commercial Association
 Weed and Seed
 Lake Street Council
 Bloomington Avenue Citizens' Patrol, founding member
 Park Avenue Methodist Church

Please list all current paid and unpaid affiliations.

University of Minnesota Alumni Association
 All positions noted in #7 and #8 are unpaid.

Protection Neighborhood Candidates Candidates

Nicholas T Kakos

Jeffrey L Strand

The Protection Neighborhood electors will select a representative and alternate from the list of candidates.

PROTECTION NEIGHBORHOODS

Armatage
Audubon Park
Bryn-Mawr
Cedar-Isles-Dean
Columbia Park
Diamond Lake
Downtown East
Downtown West
East Harriet-Farmstead
East Isles
ECCO
Fulton
Hale
Kenny
Kenwood-Isles

Linden Hills
Lowry Hill
Lynnhurst
Marshall Terrace
Nicollet Island-East Bank
North Loop-Warehouse District
Page
Prospect Park East River Road
St. Anthony West
Shingle Creek
Tangletown
Victory
Waite Park
West Calhoun
Windom

Protection Neighborhood Candidate **NICHOLAS T KAKOS**



Address: 3240 Humboldt Avenue South (55408)
Occupation: Certified Public Accountant
Neighborhood: East Calhoun
Years in Neighborhood: 59
Years in Minneapolis: life
Phone: 612-825-9709 (mornings)
E-mail: *not available*

How have your life experiences prepared you to be a neighborhood representative?

Lifetime experience working as a volunteer leader, organizer or director in church, community, school or youth recreation programs has provided me a strong base of understanding the needs and capability to work effectively with neighborhood organizations. Having served on the NRP Policy Board the past 9 years has enabled me to learn the many ramifications of the program and provide guidance and direction on an equitable basis for all neighborhoods.

What do you consider to be the strengths and weaknesses of the NRP?

The strength of the NRP program is derived from the tremendous volunteer citizen participation enabling neighborhoods to determine their own Action Plans in attaining their community's long-term strategic visionary objectives. From an overall viewpoint, there are no significant program weaknesses. Policy and procedural changes implemented the past few years have streamlined the program and greatly reduced previous concerns of high citizen participation turnover and burn-out.

How have you participated in your neighborhood organization and its NRP process?

Served as Chairman of the East Calhoun NRP Steering Committee for three years directly responsible for development of the neighborhood's Phase I Action Plan. Served several terms on East Calhoun

Organization's Board of Directors, which was responsible for implementation of the Phase One Action Plan. Also served many years as Chairman of ECCO's Zoning Committee.

How do you plan to maintain a relationship with the neighborhoods you would represent if elected?

Experience has shown it is very difficult to maintain direct communication and attend meetings of all 31 Protection Neighborhoods. Currently, all relevant information on issues, policies and necessary information are effectively communicated to the neighborhoods by NRP staff under direction of the Policy Board through its Executive Director. This process has been very effective. Nonetheless, I would make myself available to attend any neighborhood meeting when requested to provide information, counsel, guidance and any assistance when needed.

Name one thing you would like to work on if elected?

The tax revenue changes enacted by the State Legislature in 2001 drastically reduced the total funding available to NRP. Although the Lane Ordinance adopted by the City Council provided a limited source of revenue for NRP, current projections provided by the City indicate a very serious challenge to NRP's funding capability, particularly beyond 2009. Because of my financial experience and knowledge of NRP's intricate financial structure, I would continue to research other sources of possible funding to assure the continuance of the NRP program as a permanent program for the City of Minneapolis.

Why are you running for a neighborhood representative seat on the Policy Board?

My 9 years on the NRP Policy Board, including service as Vice-chairman of the Board, has taught me that the financial structure of NRP is not simple, but complex with many intertwining financial, legal and governmental jurisdictional requirements. With the current financial challenges threatening the viability of NRP, I believe my financial knowledge of NRP, and my experience in analyzing the options available to NRP should be beneficial to the Policy Board in making decisions to assure a permanent NRP program operated on an independent community driven sound, fair and equitable basis.

Please list any community-based organizations with which you are currently involved.

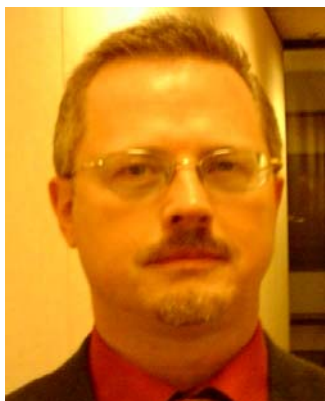
NRP Policy Board, Alternate Protection Neighborhood Representative
Hellenic American Legion Post 129, Finance Officer, Board of Directors
Fifth District American Legion, Executive & Finance Committee
St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church, Insurance & Risk Director
Vorture 45 40+8 Veterans Society, Legislative Chairman
Hellenic American Legion Baseball Team, General Manager

Please list all current paid and unpaid affiliations.

Affiliation with all community-based organizations is on a voluntary non-compensated basis.

Protection Neighborhood Candidate

JEFFREY L STRAND



Address: 5100 Thomas Avenue North (55430)
Occupation: Public Records Supervisor
Neighborhood: Shingle Creek
Years in Neighborhood: 16
Years in Minneapolis: 27
Phone: 612-588-4817 (between 5 -7 p.m.)
E-mail: JEFF-STRAND@mn.rr.com

How have your life experiences prepared you to be a neighborhood representative?

I have worked since the early 1990's as a volunteer neighborhood activist and board member gathering input and formulating neighborhood goals. Interacting with many creative, diverse people working collaboratively to solve problems has been a rich experience. Neighborhood activism is good citizenship—like voting, paying one's taxes, tending to one's home, and caring about community stewardship.

The past 11 years serving on the Minneapolis CLIC with 32 other members appointed from all wards taught me the importance of listening and learning what others need and value. Yet one must have the capability to articulate strong positions for those programs and projects deemed critical.

My prior Policy Board service and experience means you will be getting an effective representative for neighborhoods who will show up for meetings to voice our concerns. Neighborhood representatives need to be tough negotiators, yet willing to compromise with public officials and community interest representatives without sacrificing core principles. I have served as Vice Chair on the Policy Board during 2005.

What do you consider to be the strengths and weaknesses of the NRP?

Among NRP's strengths:

- Grass roots, neighborhood-based planning and visioning work that citizens of the City of Minneapolis undertake
- Strength in action shown through its accomplishments to improve the quality of life in our city by its reinvestment in our people and our infrastructure

Among NRP's weaknesses are:

- Failure of municipal organizations to embrace process changes to integrate neighborhood-based planning and approved Action Plans with budgeting and systems
- Apathy among elected officials unwilling to establish a "Blue Ribbon Commission" to engage community residents on NRP & community engagement beyond 2009
- Lack of a diversified funding stream for NRP along with the severely diminished funding stream for Phase II

How have you participated in your neighborhood organization and its NRP process?

I helped found the Shingle Creek Neighborhood Association (SCNA) in 1992. Residents have elected me to serve on the SCNA board of directors 1992-2006. Board colleagues have elected me to serve as association president since 1997. I have represented the neighborhood's interests at public meetings, at the City Council, the Park Board, the School Board, and a committee of the Minnesota Legislature.

I participated in the following projects and organizations:

- Camden Alliance of Neighborhoods (CAN!)
- Community Board of Directors for CommonBond Communities' Shingle Creek Commons 75-unit senior housing facility
- Humboldt Industrial Park Planning (4-neighborhood planning, visioning and greening process for abutting industrial area)
- Neighbors for Neighborhoods
- Penn Lowry Lyndale Implementation Council
- Humboldt Greenway Citizen Advisory Committee
- Mississippi Corridor Neighborhoods Coalition
- Community ad hoc task force to oppose closing Shingle Creek Elementary

How do you plan to maintain a relationship with the neighborhoods you would represent if elected?

I pledge to remain accessible and to work with neighborhood representatives to be effective representatives for the residents of Minneapolis working through their respective neighborhood organizations.

I pledge to continue work with other like-minded neighborhood activists and "Neighbors for Neighborhoods" to continue the fight to preserve the NRP. I will continue work on development of future funding for the program and to advocacy for NRP continuation beyond 2009.

In 2004, I was among those who suggested that neighborhood organizations and citizens could be better informed in advance of Policy Board meetings by web site publishing of the agenda and meeting minutes in a timely manner. The NRP web site publication of Policy Board agendas and actions is key along with the email notification process to keep folks informed.

The "NRP Link" remains an excellent method to disseminate program and Policy Board information to all neighborhood residents, since neighborhood representatives are not provided with any privileges or budget for communications.

Name one thing you would like to work on if elected?

In 2002, I pushed for updating and making changes to the Policy Board bylaws. It appears those changes will FINALLY be adopted this year. I am disappointed that for legal reasons the neighborhood seats could not be increased from 4 to 5 to equal the community interests. I served on the bylaws committee and support the September 2004 final draft recommendations.

If elected for 2005, I will work hard to ensure that NRP continues to receive appropriate and adequate funding and support for the 2005-2009 period. Adoption of the Lane Amendment secured the city's continued financial commitment to the program, but at a price. I intend to articulate to city officials that they need to support and engage the NRP as the city evaluates and considers reforms for its citizen participation processes.

Policy Board neighborhood representatives must continue to be vigilant as officials or special interests seek to carve out funding from Reserve Funds versus funding priorities derived from specific neighborhood action plans.

Why are you running for a neighborhood representative seat on the Policy Board?

I seek one more term on the Policy Board to make a difference. If elected as the representative to serve on the Policy Board, I will devote the time and energy to attend the board briefings and regular meetings along with the work between meetings. I have the experience to work with elected officials, community interests and other neighborhood representatives to forge solutions in areas on NRP governance in the best interests of our city and its residents working through their neighborhood organizations.

As noted last year, the Management Review Team was in need of reform. This year the Policy Board achieved an important reform with the abolition of the Management Review Team. I believe the revised policy implemented to replace the MRT will streamline the process for neighborhoods to move through Phase II Action Plan review in a timely, fair and respectful process. This action was critical to ensure eligible neighborhoods move into the Phase II of the program.

The NRP Policy Board needs to lead the way as community engagement and citizen participation in Minneapolis is improved or redesigned. Besides the question of future funding for the program, its very continuation beyond 2009 remains in doubt. Since the Policy Board brings together leaders from the local jurisdictions serving Minneapolis-Hennepin County citizens as well as representatives of neighborhood, foundation and other communities of interest—it must lead the way in this process.

Please list any community-based organizations with which you are currently involved.

- Shingle Creek Neighborhood Association, Board Chair
- Shingle Creek Commons Senior Housing Facility Community Board
- Camden Alliance of Neighborhoods (CAN!)
- Neighbors for Neighborhoods (N4N)

Please list all current paid and unpaid affiliations.

Paid: Supervisor, Hennepin County Taxpayers Services Department

Unpaid:

- Shingle Creek Neighborhood Association
- Capital Long-Range Improvement Committee
- City of Minneapolis Industrial Land Use Study Steering Committee
- CommonBond Shingle Creek Commons
- Minneapolis Water Works' Citizen Advisory Committee
- Minneapolis DFL Party (SD58 Director; Ward 4 Coordinator)
- Stonewall DFL
- Served on Public Works Storm Water Utility Citizens Advisory Committee
- Served on Mayor's Advisory Committee on Police Chief Selection
- Minneapolis-Moline Collectors, Inc., club member
- Hart-Parr Oliver Collector's Association, club member
- State Agricultural Heritage Museum, Brookings, SD, member
- Minnesota's Machinery Museum, Hanley Falls, MN, life member
- Pioneer Power, Inc. Threshing Show, Hanley Falls, MN member
- Minnesota Public Radio, member
- Minnesota Historical Society, household member
- Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus, donor
- Camden Community News (intermittent writer)
- MEI (Minnesota Environmental Initiative), donor

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At-Large Neighborhood Representative Candidate

Debbie Evans

***Representing all of the Minneapolis neighborhoods
participating in the NRP***

At-Large Neighborhood Candidate DEBBIE EVANS



Address: 3807 Zenith Avenue South (55410)
Occupation: Marketing Promotions Manager
Neighborhood: Linden Hills
Years in Neighborhood: 17
Years in Minneapolis: 17
Phone: 612-860-2526
E-mail: devans3807@aol.com

How have your life experiences prepared you to be a neighborhood representative?

My service as a Linden Hills Neighborhood Council (LHiNC) board member and former board co-chair, founding member of Neighbors for Neighborhoods, volunteer coordinator of community projects, and an NRP Management Review Team (MRT) Representative helped prepare me for serving on the Policy Board. As the At-Large Neighborhood Representative for the past two years, I have been an energetic, consistent and ever present advocate for neighborhoods. I have strongly supported and worked intensively to ensure that resident participation is part of the decision-making processes of the City and to secure a revenue stream for NRP. I approach my work with energy, enthusiasm and follow through. **I am a representative that you can count on!**

What do you consider to be the strengths and weaknesses of the NRP?

Strengths: Margaret Mead said "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world; indeed it's the only thing that ever has". Resident empowerment is the essence of NRP. Through NRP, residents have made giant strides in improving their neighborhoods and building a sense of community. Neighborhood organizations have used NRP funds to leverage more than a **HALF BILLION ADDITIONAL DOLLARS...\$500,000,000** of investment in our neighborhoods.

Weaknesses: The uncertainty of future funding for NRP has generated volunteer frustration and burnout. **The full potential of NRP will only be realized when elected officials view NRP and neighborhoods as their partners and not as a funding source to balance their budgets.**

How have you participated in your neighborhood organization and its NRP process?

I have co-chaired the LHiNC board and served on all of LHiNC's standing committees, chairing several of them. Since 1997, I have been editor of the *Linden Hills Line*. I helped to implement almost all of LHiNC's NRP strategies, including the 44th St./PATH Project. I am an active member of LHiNC's NRP Phase II Steering Committee and task forces. I have secured extensive matching funds for neighborhood NRP dollars and worked closely with Public Works, the Park Board, the Library Board and the public schools.

I have served on the MRT; as the Protection Neighborhood Alternate on the Policy Board; and, for the past two years, as the At-Large Neighborhood Representative on the Policy Board. This year, I have served on the Task Force on Continuation of NRP. In my three years on the Policy Board, I have had one of the best attendance records. I have attended every Policy Board briefing and missed only one Policy Board meeting (because of the death of my sister). **I take my responsibilities as your representative seriously.**

How do you plan to maintain a relationship with the neighborhoods you would represent if elected?

I am committed to communicating with neighborhoods regarding important Policy Board issues. I will continue to meet and work with neighborhood staff, board members and neighborhood leaders from all neighborhood types. I will continue to inform neighborhoods of important NRP issues and be a source of support for neighborhoods during their Phase I Plan Review and their Phase II planning and implementation processes. I will be readily available to neighborhood volunteers and staff to disseminate and/or exchange information. **I will continue to be a strong advocate for you on the Policy Board.** As I have done for the past two years, I will continue to facilitate and elicit neighborhood responses to elected officials on the very important decisions being made regarding NRP's future and funding for your neighborhood.

Name one thing you would like to work on if elected?

I have had, and will continue to have, two priorities. I will continue to work to:

- **Ensure that NRP funds are directed by neighborhoods and that the needs of the neighborhoods are strongly advocated at the Policy Board level.**
- **ENSURE CONTINUED FUNDING OF NRP AND NEIGHBORHOODS.** This can and must be done.

Why are you running for a neighborhood representative seat on the Policy Board?

There is a lot of work yet to do to support neighborhoods at the Policy Board level. I have a deep respect for neighborhood volunteers. I have been and will continue to be a strong and ever present advocate for neighborhoods and their investment of volunteer time and energy. As a Neighborhood Representative, I will be a constant reminder to the Policy Board that government is here to help meet the needs that residents cannot meet by themselves.

Please list any community-based organizations with which you are currently involved.

NRP Policy Board, At-Large Neighborhood Representative
Linden Hills Neighborhood Council (LHiNC), Board Member & former Co-chair
LHiNC NRP Phase II Steering Committee
LHiNC Communications Committee, Chair
Linden Hills Line Newsletter, Editor
Neighbors for Neighborhoods, Member
Animal Humane Society, Foster Parent

Please list all current paid and unpaid affiliations.

Marketing Promotions Manager, HMT Marketing, Inc.
All of the positions in #7 are unpaid.