Good Neighbor Fund Kick Off Meeting

2022 Grant Cycle
GNF Kickoff - Agenda

- Introductions
- Good Neighbor Fund Overview
- Past Successes
- Writing a Strong Application - input and tips
- Financial Update and Policy Changes
- 2022 Amount
- 2022 Timeline and Theme
- Open Office Hours for Q&A
- Adjourn
GNF - Background

- Founded in 2007 to mitigate impacts of Stadium construction
- $1.5 M initial investment from Stadium financing
- Held and managed in an endowment by the U of M
- Stadium Area Advisory Group serves as the fund's board
- Grants made available annually from fund earnings
- Additional past support provided by stadium users: Vikings, MNUFC
- 116 Projects 2008-2021
- $784,067.41 in grants
- $70,000 in “in-kind” projects by external partners
GNF - Mission

- To enhance the beauty, serenity, and security of the communities affected by the development and operations of the on-campus Gopher football stadium.
GNF - Eligible Applicants

- 5 Neighborhood Organizations adjacent to campus
- 4 Business Associations
- 5 Local Governments
- Minnesota State Fair
- University of Minnesota

- Each can serve as fiscal agents for other organizations if approved
- All require systems in place to ensure financial accountability
GNF - Application Evaluation Criteria

- Activities are in, and benefit, the stadium area
- Funds “projects” instead of ongoing operations
- Leverages contributions from other sources
- Affects a broader area and/or over longer time periods
- Promotes a consistent identity/approach across the community
- Enhances, not duplicates, current efforts
- Appears feasible with the project resources identified
- Has the means to demonstrate successful results
- Does not have outstanding grants from past years for similar efforts
Past Projects

“Curtiss Playground”
City of Falcon Heights
Minnesota Vikings
Kaboom!
Past Projects

“Prairie Restoration”

St Anthony Park
City of St. Paul
Cap Region Watershed
Past Projects

“Chemistry Explorers”

West Bank Community
Cedar Riverside
Augsburg College
Past Projects

“A Garden To Dye For” Textile Center
Past Projects

“River Bells”
First Congregational Church
MHNA
Local Artists
GNF - Financial Update

- GNF balance: $2,555,867 as of January 1, 2022
- Annual grant amount calculated from fund earnings:
  - Average market value x annual income distribution / 4.
  - The average market value = 60 month rolling average
  - Distribution rate is 4.5% annually. Board of Regents sets the rate.
- GNF/SAAG evaluates funds and announces a goal for planning purposes. The total amount distributed may vary depending on the number and quality of applications, and any other income received.
- This year’s grant availability amount is $80,000
GNF - Financial Policy Change

- If project is under $5,000, one disbursement check will be issued. A final report with invoice of expenditures will be submitted upon project completion.

- If the project is $5,000 or over, then \( \frac{1}{2} \) of the disbursement will be issued within 21 days of the applications approval. The last \( \frac{1}{2} \) will be issued within 21 days of project completion.
GNF - Timeline

- January 21st - Application Period Opens
- Open Office Hours - 3/15/22, 1:00-2:00pm
- Open Office Hours - 4/1/22, 2:00-3:00pm
- April 29th - Applications due
- May - GNF Evaluation and Grading
- June 15th - Organizations will be notified
- July 14th - First Disbursement Check will be Issued
- Second Disbursement upon completion if project is over $5,000
Our theme for 2022 will be:

“Let's put the Neighbor Back in the Good Neighbor Fund!”

After a few difficult years dealing with COVID, we would like to see ideas that help connect the community and support neighbors. We trust that you know your communities the best and will come up with amazing ideas.
GNF - Open Office Hours

We will be offering Virtual Open Office Hours to answer any questions.

- Open Office Hours - 3/15/22, 1:00-2:00pm
- Open Office Hours - 4/1/22, 2:00-3:00pm

Zoom link on website day of the event: z.umn.edu/good-neighbor-fund
Good Neighbor Fund

Website: z.umn.edu/good-neighbor-fund
Email: gnfund@umn.edu
Phone: 612-624-7324