

mtDNA meeting October 15, 2015

Present: Heidi Sherk
Emily Patterson
Tina Martinez
Brian Kurznel
Jennifer Ewa
Jennifer Riley-Chetwynd
Alyssa Von Lehman Lopez
Stephanie Stowell
Jim Peterson
Susan Daggett
Missy Davis
Kelly Perez

Regrets: Brian Aucone, Jen Henderson, Scott Sampson, Tim Wohlgenant

Children & Nature Network Leadership Academy – Emily

A lot of overlap with GOCO, purpose is to help cities connect kids to nature. Could be a good model for how the Inspire communities could work. Networking and sharing opportunity. Brainstormed barriers and solutions for connecting kids to nature, then applied those ideas to their own cities. Takeaways for us? Great resource moving forward, encouraging that mtDNA is doing something innovative and important. National League of Cities.

GOCO proposal

- Grants subteam is meeting Monday at 10:30. We need to get a draft to GOCO for their review by 10/22. So everyone needs to provide their feedback on the narrative by 9 am Monday morning. Alyssa will send out instructions and deadline.
- Request is limited to \$75,000. We need to provide approx. \$18,000 in cash for the cost share. Given that the committee is made up of the big players, they will want us to come in with more than the bare minimum in cash match – the organizations will need to contribute as well.
- Missy will incorporate Nancy Walsh's comments from the DMNS Community Voices Initiative team as appropriate into Question 1
- Is a conservation plan missing? Weave into Question 1 – functions
- Question 2: trying to be specific enough, yet general. As you review you should pay attention to presence of conservation in this section and whether it should be emphasized more.
- TPL to provide some more refined costs for Phases 1 and 2 after they speak with their staff members who do this kind of work.

BUDGET

Executive Committee orgs each need to provide a letter of commitment detailing their cash commitments but we don't know the exact amount needed until we figure out the budget.

Idea was thrown out there that the amount that each org pays in will depend on operating budgets? Missy is following up with an email intended to capture each organization's ability to commit – this will fold into a MOU of sorts that is for internal purposes only.

Separate from that, for the GOCO cost share we will draft a collective letter on behalf of the alliance that we will commit to raising or otherwise providing the amount needed to make our budget whole (ideally we would be raising this from Gates, but individual org's financial commitments might come into play here). Missy will draft the collective letter (?)

Grants team will come up with a draft budget at their Monday meeting.

Hiring a coordinator with GOCO monies was discussed in earlier meetings. Need to make room in the budget for this. Is this a role Civic Canopy can play?

CIVIC CANOPY

- Proposal is to help us get our ducks in a row. Getting the framework integrated into how we do our work.
- Group feels like we want to get into the doing. Assumed that Civic Canopy would be helping us with community engagement/outreach, not talking more around this table with the existing folks. Felt that Discovery meant learning from the community and that we needed to do this part first, not getting us ready but helping us start to do the work.
- But, we need the 5 conditions of CI in place before we can begin to build a strategic plan. There is a need to align the group with the CI framework before we go out and work with the public. CC can play that role in our GOCO process, but that would be a separate proposal.
- Should we have another conversation with Civic Canopy to clarify our needs? Make recommendations to change the proposal? Get more info from them to help us understand their role further along in the process?

Maybe we should propose less training and more time with sleeves rolled up going through the 5 conditions. Current proposal is very process focused. We are looking for a little more product in the proposal to understand value.

Next steps:

- Alyssa to talk to Scott as point of contact to Civic Canopy. Bring Civic Canopy back in to talk to the group after GOCO is submitted.
- Alyssa send out most recent narrative and deadline
- Heidi, Missy, and Jennifer Riley will take on Gates LOI to be submitted by end of October. This will be based largely on the 2-pager.
- Missy to follow up with an email regarding institutional commitments
- Missy (?) to draft an alliance letter of commitment.