

Con Edison Task Force
Thursday, October 28, 2010 - 7:00pm
Village East Community Room
170 Avenue C (btwn E 10th & E 11th Sts)

Other Members: none
Public Officials/Reps: none
Public Session Topics: no speakers

Members Present at First Vote

Carol Kostik, Chair [x]
Anne Johnson []
Pat DeAngelis [x]
Susan Steinberg [x]

1. Preliminary review of proposals received for Con Ed Settlement Fund. Three proposals were received and discussed by the Task Force members. In accordance with the established review process, strengths and weaknesses were discussed and a list was developed for each proposal of questions and additional information needed to complete evaluation at the November meeting. Proposers are requested to provide the information to the CB3 office by Monday, November 8th. Representatives from LESEC and RWF/AFSZ were at the meeting; CPA and Solar One were not represented.

Questions and information request for each proposal are as follows:

- A. **Lower East Side Ecology Center.** This proposal, for a total of \$175,000, had three main components: (1) continuation and expansion of the previously-funded Eco-Biz program to the full CB3 area; (2) funding for a proposed new street tree stewardship program to involve local youth; and (3) purchase of a new, bio-diesel van to support work of the Ecology Center. For item (1), the Task Force requested better information on the roles of the various staff identified in the budget and how the amount of time budgeted for was commensurate with the work on the program (it seemed rather heavily staffed). A question was asked whether Eco-Biz is a good investment in the long run since it has been hard to get off the ground and grow. For item (2), LESEC was asked to provide information about where the trees would be planted and to give much more detail on how the trees would actually be helped to survive (water, protection, etc.) For (3), the question was raised whether it is appropriate to use the Con Ed funds for general support of a local organization or how the van pertained to the projects being proposed. LESEC was asked to provide more information/specifications on the van and explain why it was being requested from the Settlement Fund and not other sources. Additionally, apart from the above items, LESEC was asked to provide its most recent audited financial statements and organization budget.
- B. **Chinese Progressive Association/Real World Foundation/Asthma Free School Zone.** The proposal seeks \$14,994 for RWF/AFSZ to measure air quality at sites in

Chinatown in conjunction with an air quality initiative by CPA. The Task Force found that there was not sufficient information about the CPA air quality project to determine how the funded work would be carried out or used by CPA. In addition to more information about the CPA project, information was requested as to (1) the purpose, design, distribution and validity of the survey being used; what the air quality sampling plan was (locations, time periods) and how CPA would arrange for this; clarification of the staffing and budget including the two persons who would work on this for six weeks for a total of \$600; and the basis for RWF staff costs (time or lump sum).

- C. **Solar One.** This proposal requests \$150,000 to implement a “Green Design Lab” (GDL) curriculum in eight schools in CB6 during the 2011-2012 academic year. The following information needs were identified: who developed curriculum; where and how is the curriculum being used now by Solar One and what is its exact role; what is the track record of GDL and Solar One with GDL and how measured; what references for actual (not prospective) use can they provide; how does this funding request relate to the City funding of GDL, and is the City funding multi-year, why do you need this money on top of the City funding, should some costs be picked up by City (eg, substitute teachers); how will the educational staff costs be shared between the work you have started this year and the new schools you propose to work with if you have this new funding; what is Solar One track record in the job training mentioned in proposal -- is there a document you can send or refer us to. Also, reference was made in the application to work with the ST/PCV Tenants Association. Specific information is sought on what that work was and when it occurred.

MOTION: At its _____ monthly meeting, Community Board #3 passed the following motion:

SEND TO:

CC TO:

VOTE: 0 YES 0 NO 0 ABS 0 PNV

NO VOTE NECESSARY [x] (mark with X if no vote is necessary)

Members Present at Last Vote:

Carol Kostik, Chair [x]

Anne Johnson []

Pat DeAngelis [x]

Susan Steinberg [x]