



## COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

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Minutes to the Parks, Art and Culture Committee meeting 6/1/10, 5-7 pm at the Parks and Rec Dept/DPW Conference room, Pine St., Burlington

Committee members present: Councilors Kaplan (chair) (NK), Paul (KP), Kehoe (MK)  
Staff present: Mari Steinbach (MS), Anna Thelemarck (AT), Doreen Kraft (DK), Jeff Fornier (School Dept), Kirsten Merriman-Shapiro (KMS)

Others in attendance: Chris Wagner, Burlington Farmers Market, Roy Feldman, SEABA, Lincoln Mead and Ron McGarvey, Friends of Leddy Park

Chair Kaplan called the meeting to order at 5 pm.

### 1) Agenda:

NK proposed to add agenda items to number 5 making 5a) parking passes for councilors and 5b) an update on the after school program matter. KP moves to approve the agenda as amended, NK seconds and so moved.

### 2) Public Forum:

Mr. Feldman, representing the South End Arts and Business Association (SEABA) reminded the committee that the Council resolution directing City Arts to explore the formation of arts districts in the City was to include SEABA in the discussions with a report back to Council on 8/9.

### 3) CEDO/War of 1812.

KMS provided a brochure describing the resources in Burlington related to the War of 1812 and offered to schedule time at a later date to discuss the "Battlefield Protection Grant before Council and Parks Commission.

NK suggested working with the school department to create a curriculum for the 2012 anniversary of the War of 1812.

KP: although not on the agenda, she wishes to acknowledge receipt of minutes from the last PACC meeting, for which she is the only member present at that meeting. She suggests a regularly scheduled meeting for the committee to be able to review the Moran Center development on a monthly basis.

### 4) Parks and Rec Dept: update on the Farmers Market expansion in City Hall Park:

Chris Wagner from the Farmers and Market joined the committee. MS reported to the committee that an agreement with the Farmers Market was reached to allow for seven additional vendors on the path from the fountain toward Main/St. Paul intersection.

Mr. Wagner described that walkway as difficult for the new vendors because of the slope and difficulty for customers to find them. Thus the vendors found more suitable space to the east of the fountain and created a crowded area near the arts market. Evidently, the arts market did not see it as a problem for those weekends, but if made permanent would not allow them to expand as needed.

MS: one concern for the newly arrangement was how it affected the arts market and seeks feedback from the committee.

DK suggested way finding and banners to indicate locations of various market components. She thought the new location was OK for now, but may have to shift as the art market progresses.

Mr. Wagner: the addition of 7 new vendors is a trial period this year, and the Farmers Market would offer refunds to those who cannot find a suitable location for their space, if desired. He provided a map showing the location of each vendor in City Hall Park.

#### 5) Parks and Rec Dept update: smoking areas in parks and RV areas

MS updated the committee on where smoking will be prohibited; the ban took effect 4/21/10 and she provided a map of areas in city parks affected by the ban. The ban on smoking in the camp ground will take affect next year since many people had already reserved spaces for this year before the ban went into affect. Areas are signed except for the 25 foot buffer zone around the smoke free areas. First offence results in a fine of \$100.

#### 5a) Parking passes issued for council members:

MS asked the committee for feedback on a proposal to offer park passes to Council members as offered to city staff much like the issue of parking passes for Councilors. It is suggested that staff be trained in knowing the distinction between the 2 passes, and that if offered, would be for City business only.

#### 5b) Public input for the after school discussion:

NK asks if the recent announcements about the status of the afterschool program mean that it is a done deal.

MS: it is a proposal that needs approval and the budget for the program needs to be approved as well. Now is the time for public process to take place.

#### 6) Parks and Rec Dept: park plan for Leddy Park

MS: wards 4/7 NPA is seeking a Leddy Park master plan but she wishes that a city wide comprehensive city plan be undertaken, with Leddy as part of it. She thinks the effort to understand the role of the whole system is the way to go and sees the issues related to Leddy as management plan issues rather than strategic planning.

MK: proposes to look at similar cities, thinks an aquatic center would be an important idea to consider, and supports the master plan approach.

Mr. Mead and Mr. McGarvey state that unpredicted things happen in the park, without much public input such as the disc golf matter.

NK: suggests the NPA continue discussion of the disc golf with Friends of Leddy Park in order to distinguish management issues from master planning.

7) CEDO: update on Moran development

KMS provided a written update on recent activity with the Moran development.

8) City Arts: City wide marketing plan per council resolution:

DK described a structure, time line and set of expectations: to identify the stakeholders, propose a formal gathering to determine state of arts at this point and to determine the components of an arts district and what can be delivered to council in the time frame required.

Mr. Feldman would like an assessment of the value of the creative economy.

NK asked if the NPA process could be used; DK would like to start with the stakeholders in various neighborhoods and would include NPAs in the process.

Next meeting?

The committee will be contacted about a standing meeting time and day.

KP moved to adjourn, MK seconded and so moved at 7 pm.

Notes submitted by Larry Kupferman