



CITY OF BURLINGTON, VERMONT
CITY COUNCIL PARKS, ARTS & CULTURE COMMITTEE
c/o Community & Economic Development Office
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Councilor Karen Paul, Chair, Ward 6
Councilor Ed Adrian, Ward 1
Councilor Paul Decelles, Ward 7

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Minutes to the PACC meeting on 2/16/12

Committee members present: Councilors Paul (chair) (KP), Adrian (EA), Decelles (PD)

Staff present:

Ron Redmond (RR), Mari Steinbach (MS), Steve Goodkind (SG), Jen Francis (JF), Kirsten Merriman-Shapiro (KMS)

Others:

Jim Lockridge, Greg Roy

Councilor Paul convenes the meeting at 7:40 pm

1a) Agenda:

EA requests that agenda item #7 be removed from the agenda and PD requests discussion of waterfront venter information from Mari Steinbach.

PD moves to approve he amended agenda, EA seconds and so move 3-0.

1b) draft Minutes from 12/21/11:

PD moves approval of the minutes, EA seconds and so moved 3-0.

2) Public Forum:

Jim Lockridge thanked the committee for taking up the matter of downtown bulletin boards; KP invites Jim to participate in the committee discussion.

5) Bulletin Boards

EA: asks Jim Lockridge about where things are going regarding his thoughts on the bulletin board matter.

Jim Lockridge: several locations are not longer available: Church St Kiosk, City Hall Park, the one located in front of Manhattan Pizza (most recently); he is seeking central locations for local artists to post their flyers as a resource to them and an outlet for their expression; if one goes away, it should be replaced.

EA: where in City Hall Park?

SG: recent improvements for Lower Church street required a change order to restore the bulletin board on the east side of the corner, but not on the west side in front of Manhattan Pizza. If this second one were to be replaced, he would not use the former design.

PD: how many in the downtown area now?

SG: 5 counting City Hall Park on Main Street, Main and Church, Main and Winooski, Winooski and College, and on Pearl Street. The Millennium sculpture on City Hall Park on College took the place 10 years ago of a bulletin board.

Lockridge: the existing bulletin boards are not on Church Street.

RR: a number of kiosks have been designed since 2003 but the Marketplace has not had the capital funds to build and install them in more than one location (the corner of Church and College). If Council wished additional kiosks, RR would like financial assistance through the city capital fund to do so.

Lockridge: the marketplace kiosks are not public bulletin boards; they are controlled by the Marketplace office and he would like to see a publicly available bulletin board on Church St.

KP: The committee now knows why there are missing bulletin boards—as requested by council resolution and asks if 6 is sufficient (including the Church St. kiosk).

Lockridge: doesn't think so, and wishes to have visibility by being on the Marketplace itself. The aesthetics is an issue and important to all, reflecting a diverse community; he wishes to participate and share in the success of the Marketplace.

ACTION:

EA moves to refer the issue of bulletin boards on the Marketplace to the Marketplace Commission suggesting that the Commission decide where it is most feasible to place one. PD seconds. So moved 3-0.

KMS: the site selection is important- if one were to be replaced at Manhattan Pizza, then there would be one each at the corners of Lower Church and Main and another kitty corner by City Hall Park; is there a better location?

Lockridge: thinks Manhattan Pizza side of Main St. is preferable and suggests also the alley way to the Church St. garage, and Bank and Church.

SG: it may be a problem to install a board adjacent to any of the side streets due to site lines for pedestrians and motorists. DPW is responsible for maintaining and cleaning the boards—does so once a week by removing posters etc.

Lockridge: why clean them off once per week? A layered approach may work as well.

RR: invites Lockridge to the next Marketplace Commission meeting to bring his ideas and suggestions.

KMS: suggests posting rules such as the bulletin boards in Telluride CO—especially not covering up others already posted.

EA: asks about placing another board in City Hall Park.

MS: City Hall Park master plan and rehab plans are underway now and placing a board can be considered in those discussions; nothing is planned in next years department budget.

ACTION:

EA moves to refer the matter of a bulletin board placement to the City Hall Park task force meeting on 3/7; PD seconds.

PD: is there a way to have private underwriting sponsor additional bulletin boards?

MS: will take the question (placement and sponsorship) to the City Hall Park design effort.

KP agrees that the visioning process is important to recognize and the motion carries 3-0.

3) Moran Center- updated financial report and permits:

KP : on updated financial report:, there is a difference on the line reporting expenses to Burak, Anderson and Melloni and questions why there is a difference on the line describing the permit fees:

KMS: the first entry is a mistake and will be corrected to reflect legal fees paid thru 12/31/11; the second relates to when permits are paid, particularly the zoning permit and is accurately reflected in payments thru 12/31/11.

KP notes that the contract for White and Burke is \$233,000 thru 12/31/11 and asks if there is the need to increase it?

KMS: due to the permit questions, we are in a holding pattern now, so the White and Burke contract is sufficient for the time being.

There were no other questions on the financial update or the permit matters.

6)PACC mission per Councilor Paul:

will be sent to the committee before the March meeting.

4) Parks and Recreation Dept update: Miller Center, penny for parks, summer planning

a) Miller Center update by Jen Francis:

There are 2 components to the Miller Center project

The interior design, lease terms, architectural drawings are all in place for the construction of the day care center within the 2400 sq ft remaining to be rehabbed; requests for proposals from contractors are due. The exterior parking on the west side of the building requires 22 additional spaces due to the overall zoning permit. There is a MOU with schools, and another meeting with the CRNB to discuss how to pay for and construct these additional spaces.

Funding: there is \$35K left from the original funds available but the estimates for doing this work is higher than that plus the expense for building the additional parking needs to be determined.

b) Penny for Parks:

MS: the penny for parks budgeting process for FY 13 will include a better scoring system for proposed expenditures; the Commission will be informed as to the process, proposals and outcomes based on the scoring process. A website for penny for parks is under construction and staff plan to evaluate penny for parks progress/projects and outcomes on a quarterly basis.

KP: asks about Boat House issues.

JF: describes making decisions about replacing the kitchen, the floor or addressing why the boat house is listing –all of which are more than what is budgeted for repairs.

c) summer plans:

KP: asks about proposed cut to the Parks and Rec budget and the question of hiring fewer seasonal staff.

MS: thinks she is referring to plan to make the Assistant Waterfront Director a regular employee resulting in fewer seasonal staff needed around the boat house. This plan needs approval of the administration as well as go through the HR process with BoF and Council approval as well.

MS: other summer plans include a cash control protocol so that all transactions are linked to the data system (rec track) and that 2 committees are in place to address waterfront park events selection and management and a skatepark operations group.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm. The next meeting is March 22nd at 5:30.

Notes submitted by Larry Kupferman