

MINUTES

Park, Arts and Culture Committee Meeting

Wednesday, December 18, 2012
5:30-6:45 p.m. Room 17, City Hall

Participants

Committee Members: Councilor Karen Paul, Ward 6 (KP)
Councilor Bryan Aubin, Ward 4 (BA)
Councilor Vince Brennan, Ward 3 (VB)

Staff: Jen Francis, Parks Planner, Parks & Recreation (JF)
Jesse Bridges, Director, Parks & Recreation (JB)
Nate Wildfire, CEDO (NW)
Peter Owens, Director, CEDO (PO)

Others: None

1) Approval of agenda & 11/28/12 draft minutes

- Meeting came to order at 5:44 p.m. (Brennan second)
- Agenda approved as is (Brennan second)
- Request to approve November minutes at January meeting (Brennan motion/Paul second)

2) Public Forum

- No members of the public were present

3) Moran Project Update (Owens)

- Recap of Artspace bullets
- Bigger questions that need to be asked as part of larger strategy
- What can we do now with Moran?
 - Small ad hoc working group established to think about activate low-cost opportunities
 - Feb 2: ties into Winterfest/Penguin Plunge and existing skating rink
 - Members include Peter Owens, Jesse Bridges, Nancy Bove, Diana Colangelo, Ted Adler
 - Pop-up activities: skating, fun, kids = daytime / art, music, food = evening
 - Private fundraising/sponsorship opportunities
 - Use minimal city funds: Parks staff time, Police time
 - Costs can be billed back once funding is available
- VB: Existing lighting?

- JB: Exists & illuminated into the evening... working with the existing infrastructure, plug-ins for small lights. Family friendly & kid-focused. Some tree removal will occur to clear view. Groundhog?
- BA: Here we call groundhogs “woodchucks”

4) Waterfront Access North Project Update (Owens)

- Meeting with RSG & DPW today
- Some discussion on phasing project, particularly in regards to parking, dependent on future use of Moran
- Bike Path moving to west side of Lake Street
- On track for March-April bid process; the bike path will be built first

5) Security Lights on the Bike Path (Bridges)

- Discussion with UVM regarding their systems
 - Roughly \$4500 each
 - Line of site critical
- Discussion with CEDO & PD
 - Balance between blue light system and environmental design
 - Conduit could potentially be installed as part of WAN
- VB: Deterrent device
- JB: Maintenance is a valid consideration
- KP: Can the ½ cent Bike Path maintenance fee cover maintenance of blue lights?
 - JB: Blue lights not in original maintenance budget

6) Act 250 Update (Bridges)

- In reference to the Mayor’s Act 250 update at the 12/17 CC meeting: PACC did not provide unanimous, formal approval, rather PACC was briefed and updated by DPR
 - KP: Amendment does not take the residents opinion into consideration
 - VB: Many of my constituents are up in arms
- Pre-conference hearing was this morning
 - No matter what happens through this process we (City & residents) must work together in this process
 - The City’s position is to remove the restrictions that the State imposes on the City for Waterfront Park and allow the city (people of Burlington, P&R Commission, City) to be the ones that come up with the frame work
 - About restoring local control
 - Events Advisory Committee is in place and may see revisions
 - Possible need for more than 2 meetings annually
 - Possible need for additional committee members
 - Some individuals claiming Party Status (Peter Delaney, Run Vermont)
 - KP: Strike down times?
 - JB: Not discussed, 11 p.m. shut down time was discussed
 - Decibel limits have not been changed
 - City seeking year-round access to the park for events
 - VB: We want the Waterfront to be vibrant and it seems like the PACC should play a role in helping bring these two parties together; sometimes public forum does not allow for 2-way discussion & this can be off-putting
 - BA: NPA can be a good place for dialogue
 - JB: The NPAs often do not accurately represent the spectrum of the community; trying to have conversations to support public forum/meeting opportunities

- Amendment filed within 60 days
- Period for seeking party status has been extended
- Date on hearing has yet to be set, possibly January or February
 - Suggested hold on hearing until next fall to have a summer to test events
- VB: Taking away the State opportunities, asking people to take their right away without a concrete process for citizens in place
 - JB: That process is the Event Advisory Committee, along with the monthly Parks & Recreation Commission meetings. There is an existing infrastructure
 - VB: Formalize the pieces that are already in place and communicate that
 - KP: We have to be fair, everyone should be treated the same

7) FY13 PFP Implementation Plan Update (Francis)

- BOF meeting: Boathouse - kick-off meeting today, construction to start in January
 - Combination of funding sources
- Eight projects completed/expenditures to date: \$200,737
- Leddy softball field update: Phase 1 perimeter drainage work has been completed
- Parks Master Plan RFQ to be issued 12/19
- BA: City Hall Park
 - JB: Project has shifted into Parks court, current conversations on next steps
 - Request with CIP to cover cost of bid docs approx \$2m
 - Meetings with Farmer's Market, BCA, partnerships
 - Will require private support
 - Working towards getting Parks Foundation up & running
- KP: Likes condensed one-page summary

8) Other items

- None

9) Confirmation of next meeting date

- Tuesday, January 15, 5:30 – 6:45 p.m.
- Large Conference Room, Pine Street

10) Adjournment

- Adjourned at 7:07 p.m. (Paul/Aubin second)