

Jenny's notes, 11/19/10

Ward 1

Skateboarding Park needs upgrades. The current facility is extremely old, unsafe in some areas and an eyesore in a high-profile part of the city/waterfront bike path.

Waterfront Bike Polo, in-line rink is being displaced when improvements to rec path, parking are made as a result of Moran redevelopment. The group of skaters and bike polo players is growing and use the rink several times a week. They want a similar facility: close to bike path, with lights.

Riverside Ave. use to have a "pocket park" where the current Dunkin' Donuts is located. Since W1 is parkless, it would be nice to find other locations where pocket parks could be created. Prospect and Archibald is one such location – currently a mess, could be cleaned-up and made more enjoyable/useable.

Green Up Day – above trac of land is a great GUD project. Could we create more Ward-specific projects for GUD this year?

Cross Country skiing: Can we create/groom trails/locations in our parks? Currently, the Intervale is the only in-city system of groomed x-xtry trails.

Burlington Kids: collaboration between schools and parks – what is the status? What will happen to this program?

Pomeroy Park – trash cans? Trash is all over the park because of the limited number of cans.

Park stickers – only one per family is issues even though most families have more than one car – we need more.

Memorial Auditorium , Leddy Ice Arena – what are capital improvement upgrade plans for these two facilities?

Boathouse/Splash expansion – how will that impact boaters? If Splash expands, will that decrease public use of boathouse? Would not like to reduce public access to this facility for the sake of business.

Parking at Oakledge - Where is the best place for parking kiosk? Would the city make more \$\$ if this were restructured?

Branch Out Burlington – annual meeting 12/9 – watch FPF for more info.

WARDS 2/3

* Breadth of Parks and Rec responsibilities is impressive and surprising. Thank you for your work and for the comprehensive presentation.

Dog parks: Compared to our vast roster of other parks services and amenities, our vision for dogs is limited. Please consider stronger/wider places/uses for dogs. Waterfront Dog Park is not accessible in the winter.

Bike Path - Master plan is needed – commuter routes need to be improved.

Data Collection – how do we measure use of the numerous Parks and Recreation services, programs, amenities? It is becoming more and more important to be able to track how our resources are being used so decisions can be made on data and not opinion. It is also important that dollars are spent to support what locals want, not just what tourists want.

Dog Expansion: “opposite” opinion: How will this be paid for? Let’s try not to creep into the Parks Budget when user fees might be appropriate.

Peace circle in Battery Park needs renovations. It is looking old and tired.

Bike Path can be a commuter route, but there also needs to have room for walkers. Currently, it can be hazardous to walkers (speeding bikes)

Folk Festival in Burlington – nice to have it locally (moved from Ferrisburg this summer).

Volunteerism is a strength of Burlington – public sector cannot seem to support all that needs attention in Burlington – volunteers step in a fill in critical gaps. Volunteer strength is actually a sign of a sick society because it reflects a weak public sector.

Bike Polo/In-line rink needs to be replaced when the current waterfront rink is taken out due to Moran redevelopment. Groups using this facility is growing and active and wants a similar venue – close to bike path with lights.

When possible in parks, please use motion-sensitive lights to reduce light pollution.

Wards 4/7

1. Resolution unanimous: asking Parks Com to video tape their meetings, cablecast on Ch17, open transparent gov, informed residents
2. Resolution unanimous: asking Parks Dept to proceed ASAP with finish work in northeast corner of Miller Center, using \$40K grant awarded specifically for this purpose.

What is Parks relationship with the Winooski Valley Parks?

W4/7 is the home of six community garden sites
(Gardens will be added to the maps before they are loaded onto the Parks website)

Where are we with the fit-up on the Miller Center?

1. What are the procedures for finishing the space at the Miller Center and for selecting a tenant, as outlined for the Parks commission?
2. When will prospective tenants meet with the architects prior to bidding the project, as stated to the Parks Commission?
3. Request that Parks Dept keep all tenants who have interest in leasing Miller Center space equally informed, and consider priorities of the community, as reported by Community Advisory Committee report, and NPA
4. Include prospective tenants in discussion with architect about basic finish of space

What are the annual expenses for the bike path?

Will be bike path ever be plowed in the winter?

How successful was the Leddy Park gate this summer?

There is a problem in Appletree Point Park with the drainage on the ball park. Also, the woodchips on the playground are laid too lightly and they get washed away when it rains.

Dogs are a priority – we want a livable city for dogs – we want a plan for extended use areas for dogs in existing park lands – places for them to run off-leash and a place where they can swim.

Roller rink/bike polo/in-line skaters will need a new location once the current space along the waterfront is torn down with the Moran renovations approaching. There are currently more than 50 bike polo players who meet regularly and the roster of in-line skaters and roller rinkers is also growing.

What are the plans to upgrade Lakeview Cemetery?

Skateboarding Park spokesperson advocated for the extreme need for the park to be updated. The current park is old and falling apart.

Penny for Parks – what happens to \$100K carryover each year?

Ward 5

Idea for ice use at Leddy: Curling!

Skateboarding park is getting old and needs a renovation. This a sport that many young people who don't do other team sports can connect with – it supports a group of youth that are not support through other programs/sports.

Facilities maintenance should be split and shared by each city dept.

We need a dog park/dog area in the south end.

Take city hall maintenance out of the Parks budget

If the marina expands, please remember to keep Lake Champlain clean – concerned about water quality with more boats in the area.

Move parking off of Flynn Ave, outside of Oakledge Park – it has become a parking lot!

Beach weeds need to be cleaned off the beaches more frequently

Why is Parks and Recreation saddled with the expense of maintenance of city bldgs?

Senior holiday dinner is not large enough. When it was at Ethan Allen club, 200 people could attend. Now only 100 can attend. There is a demand that is not met.

Bike Path is too narrow in places – dangerous to all users in those locations.

Cemeteries – why is city subsidizing? Why not charge higher fees?

Memorial Auditorium – If we spend \$\$ on needed upgrades, would we make that back?

Waterfront – there is SO MUCH UNMET POTENTIAL! A full-service, larger marina would bring in more \$\$

Do not spray chemicals in Parks – ever.

Children’s Day in May – disappointed by the addition of rides to this year’s event. Many could not afford the rides and they also added to a very hectic, loud atmosphere. More crafts and a more quiet event is preferable. The food was also expensive. Would it be possible for local orgs to set up booths and sell more affordable, healthy snacks as fundraisers? – keeping our dollars local.

Bike path needs to be wider. San Diego has really nice, wide rec paths.

Parks offers a lot of organized sports – not everyone likes to recreate that way. We need more opportunities for individual sports. Disc golf would have met this need/gap.

Ward 6

Boathouse and waterfront area has a lot of potential to make the city more \$\$ - competitions, visitors, boat slips would all bring in revenues.

Sell Memorial Auditorium – it is a money loser. Or get someone in there who can pay taxes on it – bring money to the city.

Super Block area has potential – relocate firehouse and make that part of the city more functional.

The waterfront has a lot of nicely-developed areas. There are some “in between” areas that are not so pretty. How can we better-connect these areas to create a more comprehensive, attractive waterfront? Super fund site, parking lot east of Echo are eyesores/wasted space.

Oakledge – the neighbors hate all of the cars parking along Flynn Ave. There are spaces inside of Oakledge that are not used. Can you coordinate with DPW on this? Fix this issue.

South End Dog Park – south end residents drive to Starr Farm park – not a healthy carbon footprint. Waterfront Dog park not safe (underutilized), not easy to access.

Waterfront Bike Polo/in-line rink needs to be relocated. It is being taken out with the renovations to Moran plant. There is a growing number of users of this facility – need a comparable home – access to bike path, lights.

Questions/statements for Legacy from W6: Water quality – prescription medication polluting our water system and our lake.

How is Municipal Development Plan related to Legacy?

