



COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

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Minutes to the Parks, Arts, and Culture Committee 8/25/10 in Room 12, City Hall

For the committee: Chair Nancy Kaplan, Karen Paul, Mary Kehoe

Staff present: Mari Steinbach, Kirsten Merriman-Shapiro, Larry Kupferman, Gary Rogers (P&Z)

Others present: Helen Hussley, Linda Deliduka, Sam Graulty, John Bosange

5) Drinking Fountain Update: Initially, Mari Steinbach reported that there are 7 existing water stations along the bike path, plan to install 3 new ones, one at the Manhattan Drive trailhead and is working with Ron Redmond of the Marketplace and Doreen Kraft of City Arts to install water stations with a flair at the corner of Pine and Church and in City Hall Park. Ms. Steinbach noted that signage for directing people to the facilities can be improved and her department is working on that aspect for all public amenities.

Chair Kaplan called the meeting to order at 6:12 pm.

1) The agenda was approved with the following additions:

Citizen concern about the state of the median on Williston Rd. along UVM
Grand opening for the plaza at lower College Street
Moran item includes a pass out and an action item
2 items added to “other” agenda item.

2) Review and Approve minutes of the 7/12/10 meeting:

With regard to the minutes of the SEABA request for City assistance (\$20,000), Ms. Paul requested that the minutes to the 7/14/10 PACC meeting be amended to include her understanding that the CEDO Director suggested to Mr. Feldman that the request be \$20,000; Ms. Paul based her introduction and support of this motion on that understanding.

Mr. Kupferman: while he did not state this at the PACC meeting in question, he did not offer this figure to Mr. Feldman in conversation between the two.

Ms. Kehoe moves to accept the draft minutes with an amendment to the minutes describing Ms. Paul’s recollection and Mr. Kupferman’s statement at this meeting. Ms. Paul seconds and so moved.

Ms. Kaplan suggested that the committee consider using a tape recorder at future meetings.

3) Public Forum:

Ms. Kaplan invited those attending to discuss their particular item of interest during the appropriate agenda discussion.

4) Miller Center Teen Resources:

Mr. Rogers, the Miller Center manager and overall Parks and Rec Dept Athletic Director passed out a form May, 2010 usage report of Miller Center activities with #s of participants.

Ms. Hussley and Deliduka passed out a survey of school aged children which indicated to them that areas of interest –apart from hanging out—include many other activities other than athletics and that high school students prefer to use the Miller Center during the 3-6 pm hours set aside for middle school aged students.

Discussion about the relative merits and de-merits of mixing ages (middle schoolers with high schoolers). Mr. Grauly of the Teen Center passed out a 2010 summer summary of their activities.

Ms. Steinbach requested a more formal proposal from the group who would like to see a more varied activity list at the Miller Center especially activities that can be realized within the P&R budget.

Ms Paul recommended that Ms. Steinbach and the Parks and Rec Dept take 2 or 3 ideas from the survey and figure out what it can do and entertain additional financial resources in the next budget cycle.

5) Citizen concern about the state of the median on Williston Rd. along UVM:

Mr. Bossange expressed concerns of the state of maintenance on the median strip in the middle of Williston Rd. along UVM.

Ms. Kehoe suggested the department consider additional funds in its budget for next year.

Mr. Bossange is willing to gather volunteers to address the design issue and feels the on-going maintenance of the median strip should be included in a more regular work plan.

6) Grand opening for the plaza at lower College Street:

Ms. Steinbach announced that the grand opening of the corner of College and Lake Street (aka “Champlain 400 Plaza”) will be on October 1, 2010. Ms. Merriman-Shapiro mentioned that there will be interpretive plaques and recognition of QUAD sponsors. Ms. Steinbach said a formal process to name the site will take place via the Parks commission on 9/21, Council on 9/27 leading up to 10/1.

7) War of 1812 Update:

Ms. Merriman-Shapiro: the project received a grant award of \$45,000.

Ms. Kaplan would like to see heritage signage beyond the war of 1812 and hopes to convene a group to discuss other city wide-neighborhood specific signage for broader coverage. She thought that a historic or interpretive map could be overlaid on the google map process underway at P&Z and Champlain College.

8) Moran Center Redevelopment Update:

Ms. Merriman-Shapiro handed out an update, the format of which will be used to keep the committee apprised of the Center's development.

Ms. Merriman-Shapiro asked the committee to sponsor a council resolution entitled: "Authorization to submit nomination of the Moran Municipal Generating Station to the National Register of Historic Places."

MK moved, KP seconded to sponsor the resolution. So moved.

9) Other:

a) Ms. Kehoe announced that the YMCA will be announcing a capital campaign to build additional space at their location on College St. to include a new child care center on top of the pool and new addition to the side of the existing building.

b) Ms. Kaplan would like to have a standing committee date and time; committee suggests a Wednesday and Mr. Kupferman will poll the committee as to which one will do for their calendars.

Notes submitted by Larry Kupferman

DRAFT