



Councilor Nancy Kaplan, Chair, Ward 4
Councilor Mary Kehoe, Ward 6
Councilor Karen Paul, Ward 6

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Minutes to the Parks, Arts, and Culture Committee 3/16/11 in Room 12, City Hall

Councilors attending: Nancy Kaplan (NK), chair, Karen Paul (KP), Mary Kehoe (MK)
Staff attending: Jennifer Stauber, Parks Planner, Mari Steinbach, Director of Parks and Rec, Kirsten Merriman-Shapiro, David G. White, White and Burke Real Estate Investment Advisors, Jenny Davis, Larry Kupferman (note taker)

Chair Kaplan convened the meeting at 6:30 pm.

1) KP moved to accept the agenda and the draft minutes of 12-1-10; so moved 3-0.

2) Public Forum: there were no members of the public to speak at public forum.

3) Mari Steinbach reported to the committee various parks dept summer endeavors:

- Information center with Lake Champlain Chamber of Commerce; brochure and advertising revenue;
- Parks and Rec soda contract now out to bid for a new 1-5 yr term
- Waterfront vending: Kids Day, July 3rd, winter festival; an RFP soliciting ideas and anticipated increased revenues;
- Bike path task force committee update; working with CCMPO to update the 2002 Bike Path feasibility study in order to prepare a new document for capital funding requirements;
- The department will convene a maintenance and use policy group to discuss such topics as Segway use, winter recreation requests (skiing, running) and etiquette procedures and signage;
- Hydration stations: plans for 1 each at the Marketplace, City Hall park with fundraising needed for each at \$8K;
- City hall park steering committee and grant writing;
- Farmers market-another expansion request around the fountain;
- Renewals of contracts for Splash Café and the Spirit of Ethan Allen III.

4) Mari Steinbach updated the committee on the Burlington Kids (after school) Program; the commission met with the 3 after school site coordinators for their responses to the transition plan; there are 380 kids in the program. A transfer of position is in place now to transition the existing staff. NK comments that the amount of public input into the matter is noteworthy.

5) Skate Park update by Mari Steinbach and Kirsten Merriman-Shapiro:

KMS presented a slide show that was presented to the Parks Commission. KP asked about the fundraising goal and how much has been raised so far. Kirsten described the efforts to have a naming opportunity and the need to determine the asking amount among various tiers of giving requests still being developed.

6) Moran Development update-verbal:

Kirsten reported that the waterfront north project—the parking and roadway, bike path portion of the overall project—was moving along with this summer still in the plans for starting; there are lots of pieces to coordinate with all of the summer activities in this area of the waterfront. Discussions with Dept of Environmental Conservation (DCE) are underway in terms of the Brownfields issues around excavation and soil storage.

David G. White discussed the progress of the development agreements: somewhat slower right now both tenants being cautious: the Sailing Center had board members changing and a committee established now to work with David on its development agreement. The “sequential complexities” of the various components makes the probability that work won’t start on renovation til 2012.