



CITY OF BURLINGTON, VERMONT
CITY COUNCIL PARKS, ARTS & CULTURE COMMITTEE
c/o Community & Economic Development Office
City Hall, Room 32 • 149 Church Street • Burlington, VT 05401
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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 7/20/11 Parks, Arts, and Culture Committee meeting

Attending for the committee: Chair Karen Paul (KP), Councilor Paul Decelles (PD)
Staff attending: Kirsten Merriman Shapiro (KMS), Mari Steinbach (MS), Larry Kupferman, notetaker

Chair Paul convened the meeting at 5:35 pm.

1) Approval of the agenda and draft minutes of 6-15-11 committee meeting:

PD moved to amend the agenda by removing #5 (BCA-budget questions per Councilor Adrian) since Councilor Adrian was not present. KP seconded and so moved. The Chair requested that questions concerning the BCA budget be sent in advance to BCA Director Doreen Kraft in advance of the August meeting.

PD moved to approve the minutes from the committee's 6-15-11 meeting; KP requested that the agenda item "Mission of the committee" be discussed at the August meeting; so moved.

2) Public Forum: no one from the public in attendance.

3) Moran Center development update:

KMS verbally reported to the committee that there are no major changes to the development agreements to report but that the re-drafted concepts prepared by David G. White are being considered by the 2 tenants. She reported that 2 contract amendments would be presented to the Board of Finance to make the next incremental increases to both the contracts for Freeman, French Freeman (up to an additional \$69,485) and White and Burke Real Estate Investment Advisors (up to an additional 56,500).

PD: questions the sources of funding, the time table for negotiations, and would like to see the conceptual ideas; suggests that perhaps it is time to re-issue the Council and Blue Ribbon Committee documents.

KP: the sources and uses budget should be updated to include the new contract amounts –once approved.

PD: how much will this increase to the White and Burke get us? And what is the source of funds?

KMS: this amount is estimated to get us through the new year with a focus on development agreements and the structure of the NMTC financing plan. The source of funds is the current grant resources we have in place.

PD: What is the timeframe for the New Markets availability?

KMS: it is timely now that we plan to access New Markets in the next round of funding which will begin in the next federal fiscal year.

KMS: regarding Waterfront North, the state recently awarded a downtown grant of \$17,960 and a transportation grant of \$30,000 towards stormwater. The Army Corp wetlands permit will be submitted shortly, along with a Corrective Action Plan for handling soils excavated during construction. There are also 3 grants applications pending: \$400K from Federal Highways, \$80K from CCMPO for sidewalks, and \$10K towards the skatepark. We are working with Rich Goodwin to access Waterfront TIF resources as well.

KP requests that the minutes reflect these details.

PD: requests that David G. White attend the next meeting.

4) Waterfront Vendors per Councilor Decelles:

PD : remembers a discussion at the Parks Commission regarding vendors at the waterfront particularly between Perkins Pier and the Moran. He asks if we are missing out on revenues and suggests that Ron Redmond and Mimi Gutchell from the Marketplace come to the next meeting to offer their ideas about how to manage vendors.

MS: vending opportunities are sought but the Commission objected in the past referencing a conflict with the Harbor Management Plan. Staff agrees that opportunities are being missed. The commission wants to maintain a non-commercial approach although a vendor policy could apply to City Hal Park as well as other P&R facilities.

PD: suggests that the Parks Commission chair and others attend the next PACC meeting.

KP: who has the authority to make recommendations as to vendor sites and selection?

MS: the Commission has the authority to make recommendations for Council action. For her though, the question is doing business vs creating policy. She will ask if Ron and Mimi from the Marketplace could model a policy for the discussion.

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 pm.

Notes submitted by Larry Kupferman