

Wards 1 & 8 Neighborhood Planning Assembly (NPA)

11 December 2019

UVM Medical Center's McClure Lobby Conference Room

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

6:45 Refreshments and Open House

Draft MINUTES

Facilitator: Cindy Cook

Recorder: Carol Livingston

Steering Committee members present: Cindy Cook, Carol Livingston, Jonathan Chapple-Sokol, Hannah King, Caryn Long, Oliva Peña

Meeting Start : 7:00pm

7:00 Introductions and Speak-out

An opportunity to make announcements and to raise issues that affect our community.

NPA Business: 1) Discuss/Elect Ward 1 Representative & 1 alternate for Colchester/East

Ave Advisory Committee:

Jonathan read Nicole Losch's announcement with details of this position: 3 meetings during the spring, solicits opinions & informs NPA

David Cawley - Nash Place - attended last Wednesday's mtg; excited about project; resident for 28 years; background = engineering studies, familiar with doing technical studies; Dave was elected unanimously.

Richard Hilyard volunteered to be alternate; has participated in a number of Ward 1 committees

2) Discuss Ward 1 and Ward 8 Community Development Block Grant Advisory Committee Representatives & Alternates - Election at January 8, 2020 NPA meeting. Federal grant set up to address issues of poverty. Fed. govt gives money for housing in the form of block grants. Burlington decides how to spend \$ for its block grant & has set up a citizen committee (city official, state official, reps from every ward) to decide who gets the grant \$. Past grants to provide services to citizens; most goes to development of housing in the city. ½ million \$: 100,000 to public service; \$300 - 400,000 to Development

3) NPA Budgets - SC creating proposed budget: looking at funding food for meetings; annual block party; mics; publicity for our meetings; live streaming meetings

Speak-out/Announcements:

BHS Construction Oversight Comm - monthly updates on 3rd Thursdays, 5:30 to 7:00 at

BHS.

India House has closed - FPF survey posted until 12/20. Please give your feedback.

Patricia Seelan & Dave Cawley are spearheading this effort.

Mark Hughes - exhibit at Fletcher Free Library - Racial Justice Alliance supporting:

First Africans Exhibit - exhibit through this Sunday, 12/15

7:25 UVM Housing Study - Tom Hier/Lisa Kingsbury

Focus will be on housing for juniors, seniors, & med/grad students.

Tom Hier = UVM consultant; Lisa is UVM project manager

What students are interested in; met with CEDO this pm;

Slide show on CEDO NPA website:

Original housing master plan in 2015 restructured housing & his firm was charged to update master plan and update data analysis, as well as local market analysis update. Focus on jrs and seniors - preferences (fr & soph required to live on campus)

71% want to live off-campus, typical nationally. Geography - being between campus & downtown = key reason to live off-campus. Cost is an issue, but costs on & off campus are comparable. 20% jrs on campus & 10-15% seniors on campus; jurs & srs clearly favor an indep living situation -

Key issue = students want to live off-campus, so how can we minimize negative impact & maximize positive impact.

Grad students - need more square ft, income = stipend so fewer resources for high cost housing

Needs: better info about housing & navigating Burl - new to area, to country; tough for int'l students; looking for community

7:55 Vermont State Legislators - Brian Cina, Barbara Rachelson (part of Wards 1 & 8)

Selene Colburn and Chris Pearson were unable to attend but will come in January.

Brian - most of ward 1, a little of ward 8, some of ward 2 - health care comm; AI task force

Our legislators want to hear our priorities for legislation for the 2020 session.

Bills from last year still alive, sitting in committees. Deadline for new leg was 12/1.

Student feedback: lack of communication with students -

Brian posting on Facebook, some on Twitter; FPF; knocking during campaign; NPA meetings; caucus meetings

Barbara: thinking of going to campuses; legislative column in on-campus Publications;

Both looking for ideas for better connections; not allowed to leave flyers or post Flyers. If UVM allowed this then leg'ors could set up meetings on campus.

Concern about State funding for homeless - domestic violence & shelters

How give local support from state level - expanding street outreach team

(Howard); expanding opioid & substance treatment in prison system; low-barrier shelter funding increase; support for low-barrier employment.

Leg'ive committee meetings are public - VPR apps; published in variety of ways; can also email legislators.

Chitt. Reg. Correctional center - BR, SC, BC on Women's Caucus & getting info about

corrections & proposing solutions for reform; women's sentences are unjust -
recidivism rate is high - spending lots of \$ without effective results
Info about to do list - bills they sponsor, co-sp is listed on website tied to their names;
Introducing ideas/bills are publicized - will try to post on FPF

8:15 East Avenue Safety and Sidewalk Update - DPW Staff

Plans for sidewalk improvements focusing on added segments; follow-up on East Ave. Safety.

Nicole - East Ave traffic calming - process revising; separate traffic calming from neighborhood enhancements.

Norm Baldwin - city engineer - East Ave crosswalk - guidelines. Doesn't currently meet guidelines for RFB; will do more info collection - volume of pedestrians crossing; after accident occurs look at crosswalk - asked to boost levels of illumination; interim steps to improve safety; looking at history of crosswalk & looking at what is correctable.

Colchester & Chase - flashing beacon -
Sidewalk tentative list for sidewalk work

Feedback from NPA member: Use of traffic calming bolsters impede and endanger Bicyclists

Response to petition about safety issues on East Ave:

DPW - traffic calming program; data collection will move East Ave to top of list - spring, summer of 2020 - 11 communities. Done vegetation clearing, RFB

Brief report from Jason Williams (liaison from UVM Med. Ctr) about helicopter flying patients to helipad to MEd. Ctr; SEE HANDOUTS

Boundary shapes shifted west & east boundaries shifted over Cent. woods; have to be careful of shifting into airport traffic.

Key change - above 500 feet; learned this isn't very high. Asking pilots to avoid red areas; can't avoid noise at any ht, so avoiding area is key to improve noise

Moving helipad to medical campus = long-term goal

Make revisions to map annually with review in May

8:35 City councilors reports (including parking ordinance update) - Sharon Bushor, Jack Hanson, Adam Roof

Sharon - Ordinance committee - looking at housing summit ordinances (ADU, short-term rentals, parking standards) ADU - 800 sq ft max.

Short-term rentals - not discussed in comm; eliminate minimum parking requirements in new developments - 200 feet back from center line

Joint committee - January 14

Jack - attending joint committees; elimination of minimum parking requirements - partnered with travel arrangements/patterns to replace parking demands - focusing on transportation Impacts

Looking at fare-free bus lines - purple only one; looking at others in city - expand in next budget year

Ranked voting - city council sent to charter change committee - not happening in March, but may be on ballot in November.

Adam - committee on reviewing policing policies - meeting regularly; prioritizing work on use of force and citizen overview; charter change - all resident voting - city council and then ballot in March??

9:00 Adjourn

Meeting End: 9:00pm