



Neighborhood Planning Assembly Draft Minutes

NPA: (choose one)

Wards 1 & 8	Wards 2 & 3	Wards 4 & 7	Ward 5	Ward 6
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Date of Assembly: 3/13/ 2019 Start Time: (*Commence*): 7:00pm

Location: McClure Conference Room Finish Time: (*Adjourn*): 9:10pm

Note taker: Hannah Carpino Please forward these official minutes to: _____

Steering Committee Members in Attendance:

Richard Hilyard, Cindy Cook

Discussion Topics

- CDBG
- NPA Revitalization
- Sidewalk safety

Actions Taken / Decisions Made

-Voted on 3 new steering committee members.

Agenda Items and Actions:

Introductions/Speak-Out:

- Old East End Neighborhood Coalition: Wayside exhibits and posters appearing around town and in Winooski, put out with help of Lake Champlain Basin Program. Posters explain different historical sites. Taking suggestions for historical sites to be marked.
- Wayne Senville: Construction bids for City Hall Park came in at ~1 million more than estimated.
- Richard Deane: DPW will look into the bids for City Hall Park to investigate why the bids are higher than expected. Updates should come during the next few days.
- DPW is unable to make it tonight, will be coming in April to present on sidewalk safety and scooter/bike share
- Richard Hilyard: No funding available for rehabilitation of barn at Schmanska Park. Asking City Councilors to consider how much they can do to help the cause.
- Karen: Why is City Hall Park getting millions of dollars when the sidewalks surrounding the park, or sidewalks downtown, are in such bad shape?

City Council Update:

-Sharon Bushor:

-Did not vote for City Hall Park. The design and cost did not seem worth it, envisioned something different for such a historic space.

-Spoke to people who live in Macaulay, who asked why NPA no longer meets there. Perhaps NPA can meet in different spaces to include more people.

-E-scooter conversation with Chapin Spencer, who confirmed that no decisions have been made yet

-Board of Finances passed budget/sidewalk plan. Includes section from 62 Grove- Chase Street, another section from North Willard to North Prospect. Both sections will be completed this year.

Richard Deane:

-Infrastructure plan budgets for a certain amount of repairs per year, works at full capacity. If we were to not fund the park, it wouldn't necessarily mean fixing any more sidewalks.

-City Hall Park design meets the needs of a lot of people in Burlington, hopefully the original budget will be met.

- Sale on Burlington Telecom was closed today, is moving forward.
- Appreciative of solid and thoughtful campaign for City Council seat. Congratulations to Jack Hanson.
- Thankful for opportunity to serve as East District City Councilor for the past two years.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Update:

- Jonathon Chapel-Sokel is representative for CDBG Committee, among representatives from each ward, three mayor appointees and one state appointee.
- Helps advise city on how to distribute HUD money into different grants.
- City does not tend to override recommendations made by committee.
- 85% of money goes to larger projects with long lasting impact, 15% goes to smaller projects.
- Currently halfway through reviewing applications, using rubric from CEDO which helps determine whether projects meet city standards.
- Will present again in April or May with more updates

Sidewalk Safety:

- Especially bad winter, but problem of sidewalks around Burlington are chronic
- Sidewalks are supposed to have 40-year lifespans, but DPW should consider stopgap measures
- Bad sidewalks force people into the streets, making it really dangerous for both pedestrians and drivers
- Pedestrian enhancements (bollards, planters) seem to make it harder for plows to do their job- is it possible to sell these and use money for different types of improvements?

Revitalizing the NPA:

- Three new candidates for Ward 1 Steering Committee: Carol Livingston, Jonathon Chapel-Sokel, Karen Long.
 - Carol: Retired from teaching in Richmond but has lived in Burlington for 20+ years. NPA meetings are hugely informative, but maybe need some structural changes. Would greatly enjoy role of steering committee member.
 - Jonathon: Has learned more and more about Burlington through CDBG Committee and Board of Assessors. Wants to learn more and contribute more. Interested in good process, concerned with processes occurring in city government. A strong NPA improves communication between people and city.
 - Karen: Other NPAs have as many as six steering committee members, which seems helpful. Has been attending NPA for a long time- good to see neighbors and community members getting engaged and caring more.
- Ward 8 has no steering committee- could use both students as well as long-term residents of Ward 8 to give input.
- Also looking for ability to livestream NPAs to make them more accessible
- Choosing topics for NPAs: generally, they follow political cycle
 - Representation from landlords
 - More information about planning/zoning laws for housing
 - Early childhood care
 - Neighborhood coalitions: Old East End coalition, Isham Street coalition
 - Representatives from police and firefighters
- Macaulay Square wants to be used as a NPA meeting location from time to time

Dr. Catherine Antley- The Icelandic Model:

- Iceland has tried to create an environment where children can grow up drug and alcohol free
- Addiction as an infrastructure issue: creating programs and policy to prevent drug abuse
- Prevention costs much less than treatment
- Iceland moved from having some of the worst teenage alcohol and drug use rates in Europe to one of the best
 - Instituted a curfew
 - More family time
 - Vouchers for children to join sports teams