



Wards 4 & 7 NPA  
Robert E. Miller Community Center  
January 27, 2016

Draft MINUTES

*Commenced 7:00 pm*

#### Announcements

- Steering Committee openings
- In need of a volunteer to set up sandwich board before event to direct people to the meeting

#### Award Nominee Bill Burrell

- Recognized by Shaina Kasper of the Toxics Alert Network
- Working to tackle environmental threats – contamination of soil in Leddy

#### Police Officer Announcement

- Concerns posted on Front Porch Forum about homeless encampment in Leddy Park
  - Howard Center reached out to the individual camping there and he has declined services
  - Been working on asking him to remove his stuff for about a week and a half
  - Gave him an unlawful trespasser order from dusk to dawn
  - Next step: To issue a municipal ticket which can be given every 24 hours, the third time they have to issue him a ticket, he will be arrested
- There has been no unsolved homicide in the park – a man got drunk and fell off his bicycle hitting his head
- In the past year, there have only been 6 crimes in that park regardless of the rumors
- Reassuring citizens Leddy Park is safe
- Q & A
  - The situation with Mr. Mitchell, the homeless person in the park, is common. Can the judge order someone to receive mandatory mental health services?
    - Not unless the person is a serious threat to himself or others.

#### Public Comment

- Follow-up on City Council meeting, the pilot study is going live
  - Concern over continued misrepresentation of traffic data by the taskforce
- Beginning of development of Burlington College land

- Concern over how the project has historically been addressed
- Is the City going to reach out to citizens and actively involve them?
- Brian Bessery
  - Rebuilding – adding a creamee window and a deli counter
  - Taking a step back to be more local, less like a grocery store
  - Crowdfunding – for \$100 given to help build the store, you get \$120 dollars back in \$20 a month over 6 months
    - Available on the website
  - Hoping to open mid-May

#### Discussion with Elected and Appointed Officials

- City Councilor Tom Ayres
  - Representing Ward 7
  - Monday evening the council approved putting a question on the ballot in response to the petition – Shall the City Council be advised to keep four lanes open to motor vehicles on a stretch of North Ave
    - Will be on the ballot March 1<sup>st</sup>
    - Gathered 1,587 signatures on the petition
  - Three charter changes proposed
  - The City will take the results from the pilot study into consideration
  - The Burlington College land development will receive as much scrutiny as any other major development project

#### Cleanup of Contaminated Soil in Leddy

- Jesse Bridges, Director of Parks and Rec
  - The removal process went very well
  - The pile was shipped to two different landfills
  - The project wrapped up by New Years
  - Already done testing of soil for the next phase of the project
- Q&A
  - Are you going to divert bike path traffic onto North Ave?
    - Yes, how that will happen has yet to be determined definitively
  - What was the final bill and how was it paid for?
    - \$240,000 – It came in slightly under budget and was paid with TIF dollars
  - Will the bike path construction coincide with the beginning of the Burlington College development?
    - Most likely not. The Burlington College project still needs to get permits

#### South End City Market

- General Manager John Tashiro and Community Engagement & Marketing Director Allison Weinhagen
- Tashiro
  - Relieve pressure from the downtown store, expect about 20% of sales to be diverted to the new store while also generating new members,
  - Break ground by June this year and open by next June
  - Purchasing two lots for a total of 4 acres
  - Conducting phase 2 environmental assessment

- Architects have been hired
- Weinhagen
  - Proposed design of the new store (see supporting documents)
  - 114 parking spaces
  - Intend to put a teaching kitchen and two community spaces on the second level
  - Will have opportunities for the community to share input
  - Looking for more pedestrian access to the new location
  - Outside and inside seating as well as a garden
  - Rally for Change contributes substantial donations to the Food Shelf

#### CDBG Update

- It's a process providing federal money to local organizations, allocated through the committee
- Received 14 requests which can all be found online by those interested

North Ave Task Force Report – Canceled

*Adjourned at 8:59 pm*

*Minutes submitted by Danielle Mund, Interim Public Engagement Specialist*