

CITY OF BURLINGTON, VERMONT

**All Wards NPA Steering Committee**

c/o Community & Economic Development Office

City Hall, Room 32 • 149 Church Street • Burlington, VT 05401

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All Wards NPA Steering Committee Meeting  
294 N. Winooski Ave.

Draft Minutes All Wards

12.16.15

The meeting began with introductions around 6:40PM. In attendance were:

Richard Hillyard, Hans Maske, Charles Simpson, Charlie Giannoni, Lea Terhune, Barbara McGraw and Marcy Esbjerg from CEDO. An agenda was developed with all participants.

- 1. Change in review zoning ordinance** –Group reviewed proposed changes in thresholds for Major Impact Review to include: downtown mixed use excluded, thresholds increased; concerned about developers still coming to the NPAs to share what they are doing in their neighborhoods. Questions raised: is downtown exempt from Act 250; what about cumulative impact on waste water, streets, etc; currently during a review they can question the developer and strain on the City and services. The group shared experiences of NPA input that impacted what has been or has not been approved. Lea shared the 10 factors checked for Act 250. Barbara is concerned that the quality of life in downtown with all the additional development without the appropriate review;

**Motion:** All wards is opposed to the changes in the Conditional Use and Impact Review. Not accepted.

Instead the group discussed asking each NPA to consider it.

**Motion by Barbara: All Wards Steering Committee on record to a demand a vigorous public process to discuss possible changes in Conditional Use and Major Impact Review language.** Motion seconded by Charles. Discussion - let the councilors know that citizens want a public process and bring back to the NPAs. **Unanimous vote.**

- 2. CDBG Reps** – Marcy handed information on reps from last year and discussed grant possibilities and how to apply.
- 3. Clarification of procedure on developers who come to NPAs**– what is the requirement to note they have fulfilled this requirement. Minutes? List of those in attendance? Agenda?
- 4. Inclusionary Zoning** – Charles discussed the call for an RFP on the IZ ordinance discussed at the CDNR committee; list of items to look at; was there an assumption that IZ was impeding development; intended purpose – inclusion – not production of units; will the RFP be changed; inform your councilors.

*The Steering Committee members expressed a concern that expertise in the public arena doesn't get recognized or utilized for many of the City projects. The tendency is to hire professional consultants. It helps to have those people in the NPA.*

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5. **Regular meetings for NPAs** – Charles mentioned the NPAs that choose to not have regular meetings. The group discussed this issue and suggested that each member urges their NPA to have regular meetings. There are so many issues going on right now like the budget, Memorial Auditorium/ 10 year capital plan. Ward 5 says it is difficult in the South End to get people engaged in monthly meetings, but there are a lot of robust topics there. Others should bring issues and concerns happening in their NPAs to the All Wards for advice and support; community dinner before meeting is a good way to get others to come for a meeting.
6. **Hiring Process Interview Panel** – Marcy asked for NPA volunteers to join the hiring panel for the CDS I- Public Engagement person. Richard H, Lea T, Charlie volunteered for interviews.
7. **Stipend for hiring** – Lea asked about the status of the proposal to hire their own clerk for each NPA. Marcy explained that the CDNR committee asked that the NPAs provide a consistent list of what is needed for all the NPAs across the board. Lea suggested they develop a clear job description for the stipends, make a list and what kind of support needed on a monthly basis. In addition, Marcy reminded the NPAs that they should spend the funds they have already been allocated.
8. **Update on ballot items for NPA** – Marcy to check on the status of ballot items for Town Meeting and refer back to All Wards and NPAs.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,

Marcy Esbjerg  
Assistant Director  
Community, Housing and Opportunity Programs