



MEMO

Date: March 10th, 2020
To: BPRW Commission
From: Meghan O'Daniel, Community Garden Outreach Coordinator & Customer Service Associate
RE: American Parkinson Disease Association Walk Approval for May 30th, 2020

Request to have a fundraising event use the Northern section of the Burlington Greenway.

The American Parkinson Disease Association is hoping to hold their annual Optimism Walk event on the Northern portion of the Burlington Greenway for the first time on Saturday, May 30th from 9am – 11am. They will be using the Community Sailing Center as their home base. They have worked with the Stowe Parks and Recreation department for this event but are looking to attract more people with a Burlington based walk. The mission of the American Parkinson Disease Association (APDA) is to provide the support, education, and research that will help everyone impacted by Parkinson's disease (PD) live life to the fullest. The Optimism Walk is a family-friendly fundraising event that offers a short walk (5K) and an important opportunity for friends, families, and individuals coping with PD to take their passion and concern and turn it into a positive experience aimed to help end Parkinson's disease. Funds raised will be used to continue building a stronger network of offerings for the local PD community including a patient aid scholarship program, research, support groups, exercise and dance classes, and an annual educational conference for people with Parkinson's and their families. The event will have around 200 participants.

Staff contact for this event is Charlotte Gowen.

It is on a day with no conflicting events.

Staff Recommendations:

Approve event.