



CITY OF BURLINGTON, VERMONT
CITY COUNCIL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT &
NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE
c/o Community & Economic Development Office
City Hall, Room 32 • 149 Church Street • Burlington, VT 05401
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Councilor Brian Pine, Chair, Ward 3
Councilor Sarah Carpenter, Ward 4
Councilor Zoraya Hightower, Ward 1

Committee members: Chair Brian Pine (BP), Sarah Carpenter (SC), Zoraya Hightower (ZH)

City staff: Christine Curtis

Other Attendees: Katie Kinstedt, Todd Rawlings, Marcella Gange, CEDO; Rachel Batterson, Jessica Hyman, Jacqueline Majoros

Wednesday, May 5, 2021

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Virtual Zoom Meeting

Draft Minutes

Meeting Started at 5:30 PM

1. Approve agenda

MOTION by Councilor Pine, SECOND by Councilor Hightower, to adopt the agenda as presented

Councilor Carpenter not present for vote.

VOTING: unanimous; motion carries.

2. Approve minutes: 3/31/21

MOTION by Councilor Pine, SECOND by Councilor Hightower, to approve the minutes as presented

Councilor Carpenter not present for vote.

VOTING: unanimous; motion carries.

3. Public Forum

No one spoke at public forum.

4. Fair Housing presentation – Vermont Legal Aid, CVOEO (45 min.)

- Jessica Hyman and Rachel Batterson presented on Fair Housing.
- Presented on Federal and Vermont protections that include race, sex, disability, age, etc.
- Housing discrimination against victims of abuse, sexual assault or stalking.
- Where/when do Fair Housing Laws apply? Residential dwellings, everyone connected with housing, all advertising and statements.
- Exemptions: houses with 2 or fewer apartments, refusing to rent to a potential tenant under the age of 18, nonprofit religious housing, senior housing, rental units that are too small.
- Disparate Treatment vs. Disparate Impact was covered in presentation by Rachel.
- Rachel presented examples of Municipal Violations.
- The presentation provided resources for people experiencing housing discrimination. The presentation can be found on the CDNR Committee webpage:
<https://www.burlingtonvt.gov/CityCouncil/CEDONeighborhoodRevitalizationCommittee>
- Councilor Hightower asked about the lot violations, Rachel stated that large lots are too unaffordable to build affordable housing on. ZH asked about proving housing discrimination law and Rachel stated these cases are difficult to prove but statistical discrimination information can help to make a case. ZH asked how much demand is needed for these services, Jessica stated that only a small amount of discrimination gets reported so this is hard to say.
- BP discussed the City taking on a fair housing enforcement role.
- SC discussed increasing mediation services in the City to address Fair Housing complaints, Rachel stated this would not work for all Fair Housing violations.
- BP asked how a municipality could use its resources to support Fair Housing Law, Rachel stated awareness and advertising efforts.

5. Burlington Aging Council discussion/next steps (15 min.)

- Applications will be going out soon for people to apply to this Council.
- Marcella Gange will help with outreach within the City.
- Jacqueline Majoros stated that there needs to be wider participation for this Council. The Community needs to participate in this process from the beginning. There needs to be more outreach.

6. Community Development Block Grant and HOME Proposed Allocations for the 2021 and 2020 Action Plans for Housing & Community Development – Katie Kinstedt, CEDO (15 min.)

- Katie Kinstedt presented on this item and gave the Committee a brief overview of the breakdown of the CDBG and HOME allocations.
- Marcella Gange stated that she had conversations with individuals who had concerns that were expressed at the 4/26/21 City Council public hearing meeting to further explain the Action Plan process and funding.

MOTION by Councilor Carpenter, SECOND by Councilor Hightower, to sponsor the resolution for the 2021 and 2020 Action Plan item for BOF/CC approval on May 10th.

VOTING: unanimous; motion carries.

7. Other business

No other business discussed.

8. Set date for next committee meeting/Adjournment

June 2nd @5:30 PM will be the next CDNR meeting.

MOTION by Councilor Carpenter, SECOND by Councilor Hightower, to adjourn meeting at 7:01 PM.

VOTING: unanimous; motion carries.