

NORTH END NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING ASSEMBLY

MINUTES: August 26, 2015

Miller Center, 130 Gosse Court.

Facilitator: Jason L'Ecuyer

Notetaker: Kesha Ram

GROUND RULES

Listen to others speaking
Respect the agenda and process
Share your opinion politely
Treat people respectfully
No personal attacks

Meeting commenced at 7:00 pm.

Introductions and announcements were made.

Speak Out items included PlanBTV South End, the Leddy soil pile, Blodgett Ovens, speeding on North Avenue, and the bike path.

Councilor and Representative Wright discussed the Moran Plant, the bike path, potential changes to the board and commission appointment process, and campaign finance reform. Representative Joanna Cole discussed her visit to the Police Academy, the closing of two dispatch locations in the state, and Women's Equality Day. Representative Jean O'Sullivan discussed marijuana legalization and rent-to-own regulation.

School Board Commissioners Anna Judson, Mark Barlow, and Mark Porter provided an update on incoming Superintendent Yaw Obeng's visa status and discussed kindergarten size and the budget.

Parks, Recreation, & Waterfront Director Jesse Bridges presented on the Leddy soil pile. He updated the group that soil testing was happening ahead of schedule and they hope to remain on schedule for the removal of the pile by the end of the year. He responded affirmatively to a request for a special meeting on contaminated soils.

The following resolution was moved by Lea Terhune and seconded by Jim Holway:

"The Ward 4 and 7 Neighborhood Planning Assemblies request that the stockpiled soils be removed from Leddy Park. The NPAs recognize that additional testing must first occur before the soils can be removed. To that end, we urge in the strongest possible terms, that the BPRW, the DEC, and the EPA collaborate to ensure that the timeline for testing of the soil is significantly shortened, thus expediting the process for removal of the soil from Leddy Park as soon as possible."

Linda Deliduka called the resolution to question, Ron McGarvey seconded. The vote to call to question passed 15-5 and the resolution then passed 18-3.

Rich Nadworny, Pat Kearney, Jason L'Ecuyer, and RJ Lalumiere provided an update on the North Avenue Corridor Task Force. They found in favor of recommending on-street parking be removed from Institute Road to Plattsburgh Avenue on North Avenue for safety and ease of passage. This will be noticed as a potential change through the Public Works Commission and door-to-door by Councilor Dave Hartnett. They then requested feedback on crosswalk priorities, with responses including high traffic bus stops, senior housing, and the corridor between Hannaford's and Rite Aid.

Meeting adjourned at 9:06 pm.