



# Neighborhood Planning Assembly Minutes

NPA:  
(choose one)

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Date of Assembly : **10 / 15 / 2015**

Start Time: (Commence): **7:05 PM**

Location: **DPW Building, Pine St.**

Finish Time: (Adjourn): **8:45 PM**

Notetaker: **Nate Orshan**

Steering Committee Members in Attendance:

**Alec Bauer**  
**Hans Manske**  
**Nate Orshan**

## Discussion Topics and Action Items:

### **(1) City Council Update – Joan Shannon, City Councilor, South District**

Shared recent news from the City Council, including the approved Housing Action Plan, which includes the proposed elimination of minimum parking requirements when building housing downtown. Discussed with attendees issues pertaining to Zero Gravity's recent application for event permits.

### **(2) Presentation: Current status of campus activities – John Caulo, Champlain College**

Presented an overview of Champlain College's history in Burlington, including the need to make development decisions such as whether to work with third-party private developers; difficulty working with the current permitting process; and the 2007 master plan that introduced the goal of growing within the boundaries of its current "footprint".

### **(3) School Board Update – Miriam Stoll, South District School Board Commissioner (additional comments from Susanmarie Harrington, Ward 5 School Board Commissioner)**

Shared recent news from the School Board, including Superintendent Yao Obeng's 100-day plan; anticipated challenges in the budgeting process given the new, statutory 2.14% growth limit; and the need to educate the public about it.

### **(4) "Save Open Space - Burlington: Development, Brownfields, Urban Living" – Presentation of interview of Hugo Martínez Cazón, VTDEC/WMD, by Ibnar Avilix, South End Alliance**

Shared recent concerns by Martínez Cazón re a potentially-contaminated pile of brownfield soil sitting in the Leddy Park parking lot and the need for more local oversight in decisions such as the one that resulted in the soil being deposited there in the first place.

### **(5) City Council Update – Chip Mason, City Councilor, Ward 5**

Shared additional recent news from the City Council, including the need to have to decide in the next six months how to proceed with Memorial Auditorium (which would need \$3-4 million to maintain its "status quo" or tens of millions of dollars to upgrade); the recent approval of union contracts with AFSCME Local 1343 for office workers and with Burlington Fire Fighters Association 3044, in which the unions agreed to a shared vision re their pension funds.

### **(6) NPA Related Open Forum and Closing**

No significant discussion.

**No action items.**

Motion to adjourn adopted at 8:45 PM.