

Neighborhood Planning Assembly Draft Minutes



NPA: (choose one)

Wards 1 & 8	Wards 2 & 3	Wards 4 & 7	Ward 5	Ward 6
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Date of Assembly : 01 / 08 / 2020 Start Time: (Commence): 7:00pm

Location: FAHC/UVM Medical Center McClure Lobby Conference Room

Finish Time: (Adjourn): 9:08pm

Note taker: Sydney Hinckley Please forward these official minutes to: Phet Keomanyvanh

Steering Committee Members in Attendance:

Cindy Cook

Jonathan Chapple – Sokol

Caryn Long

Linda Rizvi

Hannah King

Liv Pena

Agenda Items and Actions:

Please Remember to Enter Adjournment Time!

7:00 Introductions

7:04 Budget Proposals

- Ward 1 & 8 made committees for how to spend the money (\$2,500 which is more than last year).
- Shares Draft Budget Document that hears from community to see how they feel about budget items.

7:14 Speak Out

- Bidur: Works at UVM in a program in the Pediatrics Department and is from Bhutanese and Nepali community. He heard about this meeting from Front Porch Forum and would like to continue to build community.
- Mark: Making of a Game Changer – an event showing a video from Patricia Rose on MLK Day hosted by Mark and Rev. They will also be doing a community forum series about systemic racism.
- Zoraya Hightower: Running for City Council for Ward 1 and suggested spending money on advertising and more food to bring more people out to meetings
- Dave: Suggested using a survey through survey monkey to hear feedback.
- Liv: Greater Burlington Women’s Forum – not limited to women or to people who just live in the area. Event focused on Winter Blues at City Hall 01/09.
- Aden: Running for school board Ward 8 and appreciates NPA meetings.
- Jane: Suggested having someone designated to do outreach. Running for Ward 8 City Councilor.
- January 18th is the Women’s March at Castleton.
- Richard: Asked when the telecasting date would be. You can see this meeting on cable from 1:00 – 3:00 PM on Sundays.

- January 15th - Homelessness Awareness: Memorial Vigil and Speak Out.
- Suggests doing Facebook Events like Ward 2/3.
- In process of Livestreaming this NPA meeting.
- Forum for City Council members in February at the YMCA. Won't be having a regular NPA meeting, but it will be the Forum on the second Wednesday of the month.
- Suggested moving meetings to the YMCA?

7:26 City Council Update: Sharon Bushor, Jack Hanson, Adam Roof

Sharon Bushor for Adam Roof: Attended public safety meeting about sheltering on public lands and the policies about outreach and removal about encampments that are illegal or prohibited. He's working on a plan of action about housing with a net increase of undergrad beds.

Sharon Bushor: Ordinance committee is working with planning commission. Next Tuesday at 6:30, the joint ordinance meeting will take place.

Jack Hanson: Discusses Amtrak and the different complications and challenges about where to overnight the trains to service them and the way they impact Vermont rail interaction (south of union station). Currently in negotiation. Next week, January 16th, we are going to have a meeting with transportation and utilities at 6:00 PM at Riverside Apartments to talk about overnighing the train and other negotiations, deadline is Mid February.

7:32 Vermont State Legislators: Selene Colburn, Chris Pearson, Brian Cina

Chris: This fall we talked to the public about climate action and what we should do. Will be look at Transportation, Building Efficiency, Energy Efficiency, Efficiency on all fuels, Renewable Energy, and Accountability to try to make some of these laws make a net zero for our state and give the accountability to the citizens.

Selene: Former City Councilor and Representative with Brian Cina. We sent paid family leave to a conference committee, have concerns that the bill needs to go further than it is. Will be voting on a 2 year increase minimum wage. \$12.50 in two years and I am continuing to work on that. Discusses vetoing bills and will be looking at criminal justice reform for the state.

Community members as questions about climate, H284 Police Data, minim wage, Anthony Pollina, and domestic violence.

8:01 Discussion regarding a Ward 1/8 Neighborhood Housing Forum: Cindy Cook, Liv Pena

Liv: Housing comes up often and they would like to create a Ward 1/8 Neighborhood Housing Forum. They ask community members, what would you like in a meeting? It could be about Tenant Rights, Housing Conditions, and College Housing. Selene suggests discussing cooperative student housing and that there are interesting models. Look into CHT and BHA, local housing providers. Zoraya mentions wanting to discuss tenant protections.

8:11 CDBG

Seeking nominations for the CDBG advisory committee. Asks for recommendations of this committee, we need one from Ward 1 and Ward 8.

Nominated: Hannah King for Ward 1

Nominated: Rebecca Roland for Ward 8

8:13 Riverside Avenue Development: Ben Avery

Ben, Black Rock Construction, gives an overview of the Riverside Avenue Development. As the needs of senior care and memory care increase, this property creates an opportunity for seniors who are looking to live with an independent lifestyle. There will be 55 - 60 units, with studios to 2-bedroom apartments. Asked about date for DRB, but no set date. Another community member mentions concerns about landslides and project will address anything that will happen, but they understand their concerns. Haven't gotten to the architectural level but will consider it when we get further into the specifics.

8:23 Discussion regarding future use of the India House site

India House was a restaurant on Colchester Avenue and was an operation for 30 years. The strategy of the owners is to keep the building but sell everything inside. Not interested in selling the building but will lease it for \$4,000/month. Sent out a survey about the space and the key findings are that using this space for a restaurant is a good idea. They refer to survey for results of community members' interests.

8:30 Hungerford Terrace Development: Bruce Baker

Discuss the three properties on Hungerford Terrace and have during the early stages to get input before making plans. Questions about architectural façade matching neighboring homes. Questions about parking, trees, the neighboring gas station. Would like to continue to get feedback and will be back to NPA again.

8:50 Discussion regarding Police Department: Police Commissioner Mark Hughes

Mark discusses historical relevancy of his position as police commissioner and the police department advisory commission. Civilian oversight responsibility for 1/3 of the state police and the commission has a responsibility to over 100 police officers. City Councilors delegate the commissioner responsibilities. Mark discusses the lack of information he has about recent incidents with the Burlington Police. Member asks who to call when they have complaints about the police, and Mark responds that calling them would work. Police Officer answers question and tells them to contact representative, police department, and online. Community members continue to ask questions to about the commission and what changes need to be made.

Adjourn at 9:08