



# 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 : 6 /12 / 2019     Start Time: (Commence): 7:05 PM

Location: McClure Room, UVMMC     Finish Time: (Adjourn): 9:10 PM

Note taker: Hannah Carpino     Please forward these official minutes to: \_\_\_\_\_

Steering Committee Members in Attendance:

Jonathan Chapple-Sokol, Carol Livingston, Caryn Long, Linda Rizvi

Discussion Topics

- Fletcher Free Library
- Housing

Actions Taken / Decisions Made

- NPA will meet in July, but not August

## Agenda Items and Actions:

*Please Remember to Enter Adjournment Time!*

### Introductions and Announcements

- Celebrating Richard Hillyard's longtime service to the NPA
- Ward 8 still needs Steering Committee members!
- Bobby Butoni: Thank you UVM for great tenants on Fletcher Place this year! Also, very concerned about proposed project on Fletcher Place- 75 units on a very small piece of land.
- Message from Jared Wood: Lighted sign that displays speed needed on N. Prospect St.
- Had a conversation with DPW employees who were working on University Terrace. They said they could not afford to live in Burlington, but want to.
- NPA will meet again in July, but will not have an August meetin

### City Council Updates

-Jack Hanson, East District

- Green Mountain Transit had an issue where many students were kicked off a school bus. Parents and students were concerned there was racial bias at play. GMT came to meeting Monday to discuss it.
- New director of CEDO appointed unanimously, Luke McGowan
- Chief del Pozo was reappointed with a 10-2 vote
- Two different resolutions related to policing issues recently- one passed, one did not.
- Champlain Parkway project in the South End has been given the green light by City Council
- Expansion of current bike share program, and conversion to electric bikes has been approved. Deferred conversation around e-scooters to be followed up with by Transportation, Energy, and Utilities Committee
- Higher Ground wants to move into Burton facility and create a food space, bring in a skate park and makers space.

-Adam Roof, Ward 8

- Brought forward a resolution around policing: 15 member special committee that will do comprehensive overview of Burlington police policies, potential changes, recommendations, etc. Resolution passed, applications to join committee are now open until June 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Ordinance Committee talked about Burton property, zoning change needed for Higher Ground move.

-CDNR Committee has been meeting about the Neighborhood Project: in the process of prioritizing different policies and potential actions.

-Last year, low-barrier shelter in Burlington closed in early April. This year, city has secured \$60k to extend it through June 15<sup>th</sup>. City will look at the success of this extension and analyze results

-Meeting with folks from CityPlace tomorrow. Seems like they are more engaged with the council and community

-Sharon Bushor

-No definitive start date for City Place. Rough timeline of 20 months, but others have refuted this and said it will take longer.

-Conversation around e-bikes, local bike shops are concerned around the company that will be providing e-bike expansion

-Residents in South End seem concerned about relocation of Higher Ground- noise, traffic, parking, etc.

-Request from NPAs has been honored, but it still needs to be seen in the budget.

-Funds from sale of Burlington Telecom will be used- Mayor is recommending using it to address some items in the budget.

-Housing Summit was interesting, full of debate and good ideas. Mayor is proposing meeting in September to address recommendations made during the summer.

#### Carol Livingston- DPW Update on Colchester Ave

-Upcoming meeting at DPW on 6/19 at 6:30 PM for people interested in the Colchester parking/biking project

-Landlords, business owners weighed in on elimination of street parking for additions of bike lanes

-Looking at eliminating just some sections of street parking, or moving parking into side streets

-Upcoming meeting at DPW on 6/19 at 6:30 PM for people interested in the Colchester parking/biking project

#### Housing: Open Discussion, Brainstorm and Questions

-Discussion between renters, landlords and owners in Burlington about housing issue

-Adam Roof: Resolution coming looking to the university to house more of its students

-Trinity Campus is on the list of potential locations

-Working with TJ Donovan about renters rights issues

-NPA should schedule time to generate comments, suggestions, and invite UVM people to meeting

-Neighborhood Project addresses a lot of these concerns

-Bill Ward should come to the NPAs

#### Edmunds School Complex Renovation

-Renovations to Edmunds School complex will make it more ADA accessible

-Have put it out to bid, lowest bidder was Wright & Morrissey

-Working on cafeteria, middle school building, sidewalks, entry areas, elevators

-The school will have an open house when the work is closer to being finished

#### Mary Danko, Fletcher Free Library

-2020 Strategic Plan for library is finished

-More outreach, more computer classes, more technological updates as libraries change

-More cultural and literary enrichment opportunities

-Trying to build staffing capacity

- Develop universally accessible literary programs
- The library worked as a warming center and cooling center when the weather called for it, and library staff worked the area throughout the day. Very successful effort
- Youth, teen, and adult programming attendance numbers are all up
- Pilot program called “Community Partners Desk”, where Howard Center social workers staff a desk for people to ask questions

### Legislative Summaries

#### -Barbara Rachelson, Chittenden 6-6

- Selene Colburn is away tonight, presenting at Fletcher Free Library
- Reproductive rights bill was signed into law this week.
- On the other hand, mandatory 24 hr waiting period for guns was not signed by Governor
- Introduced safe storage bill for guns, but didn’t get a lot of attention
- House Judiciary worked on other bills: medical monitoring bill, fair and impartial policing bill, statute of limitations changes around certain crimes.
- Burlington charter change related to Public Works did pass

#### -Brian Cina, Chittenden 6-1

- Difficult to deal with some of the lack of progress on major issues like climate change, economic justice, etc.
- FY2020 budge is a balanced budget of around \$6.6 billion. This is an increase over 2019 budget, significant increase in protecting environment, vulnerable Vermonters, working people.
- H3 (Act 1) passed and created a pathway for coalition on social and ethnic equity studies to develop recommended curriculum for school systems in Vermont.
- Passed a bill replacing Columbus Day with Indigenous People’s Day. Vermont will be the third state to do so.
- Passed a healthcare bill that put in place a series of protections on the state level so that as court cases on federal level occur, Vermonters/the Vermont healthcare marketplace will be protected.
- Proposed that we study the affordability of healthcare in state.
- Climate Caucus has been fighting very hard, but there were very few results legislatively.