

CITY OF BURLINGTON, VERMONT
PARKS, ARTS & CULTURE COMMITTEE
c/o Fletcher Free Library
235 College Street, Burlington, VT 05401

Councilor Dave Hartnett, Chair, North District
Councilor Sara Moore, Ward 3
Councilor Joan Shannon, South District

Staff: Kath Laing, Development Manager
Fletcher Free Library
klaing@burlingtonvt.gov

DRAFT MINUTES

Park, Arts & Culture Committee Meeting
Tuesday, August 29th, 2017 at 10:00am
Local History Room, Fletcher Free Library

Participants

Committee Members:

Councilor Dave Hartnett, North District (Chair)
Councilor Sara Moore, Ward 3
Councilor Joan Shannon, South District

Staff:

Meagan Tuttle, Planning and Zoning
Deryk Roach, Burlington Parks, Recreation and Waterfront
Kath Laing, Fletcher Free Library

Public Forum:

James Lockridge
Didi Macnow
Joe Speidel

1. Approval of agenda & draft minutes from 05/11/17 – minutes approved unanimously. The agenda was approved unanimously adding the scheduling of meetings for September, October and November 2017 as agenda item #4.

2. Public Forum:

- James Lockridge presented the attached statement regarding un-curated public bulletin boards in City Hall Park.

3. City Hall Park project (DPW, P&Z, CEDO)

- Meagan Tuttle of Planning and Zoning presented updates to the City Hall Park project. Her presentation is attached to these minutes. Her presentation walked Councilors and other attendees through: the three-part initiative for Great Streets BTV; the planning history and process for this project; the November 2016 concept plan and feedback (over 400 comments) to this plan (highlighting ecological, accessibility, civic use and historic preservation issues raised); and the revised August 2017 plan responding to feedback.

- The revised plan incorporates the following: more bike parking; the location and utility connections for a standalone restroom; the removal of a steep path; the elimination of the terraces behind City Hall minimizing paved spaces and prioritizing the activation of College Street; modifications to the size and materials for planned infrastructure; and the location and utility connections for a future kiosk, providing a temporary space to pilot a concession area.
- Councilors made / asked the following comments / questions. Meagan Tuttle and Deryk Roach provided responses.
 - Councilor Moore inquired as to the maintenance for splash pad / water feature. This is being taken into account in the plan.
 - Councilor Hartnett asked about lighting. Lighting along pathways, historical lighting on along the back of City Hall and other buildings. From a public safety perspective, lighting is important but plan isn't to over light the park. The plan is to create a more cohesive and inviting space. BPD is more concerned about not creating spaces where people can hide.
 - Councilor Shannon referenced that the park has always been a watering hole, for animals and people. She encourages the plan to consider a central vertical sculptural potable water feature.
 - Councilor Moore agrees with James Lockridge that the bulletin boards should be accessible and not sanitized. All Councilors encourage a variety of bulletin boards – some curated others not, with an organic feeling and aesthetic.
 - Councilor Hartnett inquired why City Hall Park is part of Great Streets Initiative. Largely due to storm water functional process. The new plan for City Hall Park has no impact on parking on Main St.
 - Joe Speidel inquired about the location for the pilot temporary concession area. Temporary and longer term vendors would be selected through a proposal process and would be required to get permits. Above ground utility enclosure is a priority for concession area and other features of the park that require utility connections.
- Councilor Shannon proposes the motion: PACC recommends the City Council votes to amend the current design contract to include the next phase of design, seeking proposals for a central, vertical, sculptural and potable water feature in the design. Councilor Moore seconded the motion. The PACC approved the motion unanimously.

4. Meeting schedule – Councilors agreed to meet on September 20, October 18 and November 15 from 5:30pm – 7:00pm at the Fletcher Free Library in the Local History Room.

5. Executive Session – not necessary.

6. Adjournment – the meeting adjourned at 11:29am.