

DRAFT MINUTES

Park, Arts & Culture Committee Meeting
Wednesday, October 18, 2017
LBG Room, Burlington City Arts

Participants

Committee Members:

Councilor Dave Hartnett, North District (Chair)
Councilor Joan Shannon, South District

Staff:

Noelle MacKay, Community and Economic Development Office
Doreen Kraft, Burlington City Arts
Cindi Wight & Gary Rogers, Burlington Parks, Recreation and Waterfront
Mary Danko & Kath Laing (committee staff person), Fletcher Free Library

Public Forum:

James Lockridge

1. Approval of agenda & draft minutes from 08/28/17 – minutes approved unanimously. The agenda was approved unanimously with one amendment, moving 6.c. Burlington City Arts update to follow agenda item #4.
2. Public Forum:
 - James Lockridge had sent an email to the PACC prior to the meeting. See email attached. He spoke to his email at the meeting. He called on the PACC to share its position on two items that have previously been discussed at the PACC – term limits for BCA Board Members and the inclusion of 3 uncurated bulletin boards in City Hall Park. After discussion, Councilors Hartnett and Shannon expressed that they were satisfied with the role of the PACC on both items.
3. Moran and Marina update –
 - CEDO Director, Noelle MacKay, reported that the City is currently deciding whether to partially or fully demolish the Moran Plant. Prior to demolishing the building the City will need to have a plans and permits in hand. Due to the historical nature of the building, the City will have 6 months after demolition to build another structure that gives the land a

better use. Noelle referred to the CEDO report on the Moran Plant as a crucial source of information. Next time the Moran Plant is on the PACC agenda it is agreed that there will be a link to the report in the agenda. CEDO is tackling Memorial Auditorium prior to moving forward with the future of Moran. Spring 2018 will be a good time to bring the Moran Plant back to the PACC.

- New Marina – BPR&W, DPW, and BED have many of the permits in hand to proceed. Some permitting around water and waste water are still in the works. The bid documents are developed and will be public soon. Some discussions under way with Sailing Center regarding land in and around Water Department. New Marina will definitely be completed by 2019, hopefully in 2018.

4. Bike Path and park signage update – Nina Safavi, Parks Planner, sent an update on signage by email prior to the meeting. See email attached. Parks Director Cindi Wight reported that 2 acceptable bids have been received for next phase of the bike path. This work should start in spring 2018. Committee members and staff discussed bike path signage: the potential for services and nearby businesses signage along the bike path, and the need for signage indicating the bike path is for people of all abilities and signage that reinforces bike path etiquette.

5. Burlington City Arts (update on summer programming) – Director Doreen Kraft reported that the opening of the new studio on Pine Street went well and summer programming numbers were comparable to the previous year, which was unexpected as BCA had lowered their estimate thinking participation would be down because offerings were slightly down due to move and new studio set up. 600 students participated in BCA summer programming and 73 scholarships were given. Currently experiencing a waitlist for studio space 42 long. Started a Friday night family program that is going well. Artists in residence in schools district wide. BCA training artists as educators. Director Kraft reported that in last year BCA Board has welcomed 6 new members. Increased diversity on the board an important factor in this process. One new member works at AARP and BCA is prioritizing working with this member to increase services for seniors. Board member who have a long history on the BCA and complete their allowed term are often invited to become Honorary or Emeritus members, so as not to lose the institutional knowledge and honor their years of commitment to BCA.

6. Draft resolution for Fletcher Free to enter into MoU with Friends of FFL – Director Mary Danko reported that the Library is working with its Friends organization (501c3) and the City Attorney's Office to develop an operating agreement between the Library and the Friends organization, formalizing the partnership. A Resolution to go to the City Council authorizing Director Danko to sign the MoU. The Resolution will be sponsored by Joan Shannon.

7. Summer programming update:

a. Fletcher Free Library – Director Danko reported that the Library had a great 2017 summer learning program. The library offered a range of learning opportunities for kids of all ages, did outreach to schools and summer camps, and was a summer nutrition site. Working on a stronger

partnership with the school district in coming years. Councilor Hartnett considers a natural fit for the library. Library has identified that August needs a boost in activities for kids.

b. Parks and Rec – At this start of this agenda item, Councilor Hartnett remembered Rick Niqat, who passed away over the summer. His tireless devotion to sport and recreation for Burlington kids will be sorely missed. Gary Rogers, Recreation Superintendent, presented a comprehensive look at 2017 BPR&W programming. See presentation attached. Councilor Hartnett raised the possibility of moving toward an intramural system at the high school. Currently with the varsity and junior varsity system only, many kids stop playing sport in high school.

8. Executive Session – not needed

9. Adjournment – the meeting was adjourned at 7:27pm. The next meeting is scheduled for November 15, 2017 and will be held in the LBG Room of the Burlington City Arts.