

## MINUTES

**Park, Arts & Culture Committee Meeting**  
**Thursday, June 23, 2016**  
**Local History Room, Fletcher Free Library**

1. Approval of agenda & draft minutes from 04/21 – the agenda was unanimously approved with the change of moving BPRW update after Public Forum. The minutes from the April 21, 2016 meeting were unanimously approved.
2. Public Forum – no need for public forum.
3. Parks, Recreation and Waterfront (Gary Rogers & Candice Holbrook) – Staff reported that the Recreation Division of BPRW is fully staffed as of January 2016. A review of summer camps and regular programming was presented.
4. Smoking Ban survey discussion of J. Bridges proposal (Councilors) –

Councilor Hartnett stated:

- he would prefer not to incur the \$6,000-\$8,000 expense projected by Jesse Bridges, based on the administration of a BPRW survey recently.
- he believes the survey he presented to the PACC recently will serve the purpose, as well as providing the opportunity to do outreach in parks – talking to people.
- that Winooski has a partial ban on smoking in parks and he believes this is the way to go.
- he continues to be discouraged by the lack of effort to enforce the smoking ban on beaches in Burlington.

Councilor Colburn, although reluctant to incur the expense, believes there is a need for a more objective, scientifically based survey. She believes there could be lessons learned from the Safety Committee's recent Neighborhood Survey – and will speak to Councilor Knodell, Chair of the Safety Committee.

Councilor Paul stated:

- there is a clear need to get this done as soon as possible.
- the survey needs to be more empirical and less biased. She believes that having people verbally administering the survey in parks allows for bias.
- if necessary to pay to get it done correctly then this would need to happen.

It was proposed that when Jesse Bridges returns to the office, this matter would be further discussed with his participation.

5. CEDO / PIAP updates (Kirsten Merriman Shapiro)

- Sailing Center update (Mark Naud) – Mark reported an impressive level of community support at the Love your Lake campaign kick-off event. Mark reported \$4.5 million committed in the capital campaign for the construction of the new sailing center. Entering public phase of campaign now.
- Other PIAP project updates – Burlington Harbor Marina on City Council June 27 agenda. Bike Path Rehabilitation Phase 2 under construction this summer. ECHO project development slow, but moving ahead. New Moran on City Council agenda in July. Waterfront Access North wrapping up, final punch list.

8. Fletcher Free Library (Simon) – Rubi Simon announced she has accepted the Directorship of the Howe Library in Hanover, New Hampshire. Her last day with the Fletcher Free Library will be the 26<sup>th</sup> of August. Councilors Hartnett, Colburn and Paul expressed their dismay, commending Rubi on her forward-thinking management of the Library over the last 4 years and wishing her the best in new endeavors. Rubi reported that the Summer Reading Program is off to a great start with some restructuring – focus on developing healthy reading habits, new software, teen reading buddies for elementary participants, participation in BPRW & BSD Summer Nutrition Program as a lunch site.

9. Burlington City Arts (Kraft) – Merchants Bank confirmed as a major sponsor of Festival of Fools. The Festival is strengthened but not planned to grow beyond \$100,000. Doreen reported 68 applicants to the Community Grants Program (\$35,000 this round). Most asking for max. grant of \$3,000. Councilor Selene raised the possibility of moving to fewer larger grants for increased impact.

10. Confirmation of next meeting date. The next meeting will be held on July 19 at 5:30pm at the Boat House.

11. Adjournment – the meeting adjourned at 7:08pm.