

Wards 1 and 8 NPA
3/14/18
UVM Medical Center, McClure Room
Draft minutes

Start: 7:00pm

Steering Committee member present: Richard Hillyard-Ward 1, Anne Brena-Ward 8

Speak out

-Richard Hillyard-Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) representative Jonathan Chapple Sokol is going to come in the spring to summarize CDBG process and allocation results

-Representative Selene Colburn-Moving dramatically on gun safety measure. Will see some action in this legislation on universal background. Will be voting on budget for next year that will start on the house side as a bill from the appropriation committee. There are significant cuts in Human Services which will bring out interesting conversation. Will be looking at a proposal from the Ways and Means committee for education funding to have a hybrid model of income and property tax model.

-Sandy Baird-F-35 vote was won. Concerned of noise and also anti-war. Opposed to militarization of this county. Ask City Council to consider Joan Shannon's resolution to explore a different air craft and not F-35. Change is grassroots.

-Karen Long-Went to court and got City to send a violation of notice to landlord of illegal conversion. Concerned of a number of trees coming down in City Hall Park. 39 out of 56 trees is concerning

-Lynn Martin-Being told that park will still be historical but with fountain and trees coming down it will change the landscape

-Concerned about traffic calming from the stretch of India House going down the cemetery. There parking on both locations and a lot rental unit. It's difficult for car and buses to go down this street.

-UVM Medical Center is having a meeting on March 5:30 3/21 at Mary Fletcher room. There will be a team presenting on basing a helicopter at the Burlington airport. Will also be able to meet the UVM Medical Center President.

-Keith Pillsbury- Last September filed complaints with CODE and later called CODE enforcement to get answer on complaint on noise. There is a problem when residents have to constantly check up with CODE on complaints and no follow up from them. On the Board as Ward 8 School Commissioner and there will be makeup of different commissioners. Found out that will be building 5 rooms at CP Smith and 5 at Champlain preschools. Concerned about the impact this will be on private daycare.

-Having cars parked on both sides will slow cars down. Will encourage people when driving on Colchester Avenue by the India House to look at their speed and see if going 25 miles. As a cyclist the streets are not safe.

Council Update

Adam Roof-re-elected for another 2 years. The turnout was 898 which was the highest. The turnout was also more than 2016 presidential election. Also, there was more votes casted for City council than Mayoral election. Between now and organizational day will be working on closing up current council work as chair because may be re-assigned.

Sharon Bushor-Colchester Ave is not a complete street but becomes Pearl closer to downtown. There are some plans to look Colchester Ave for improvements. Wasn't in love of the new park design but trusted former arborist who supported the plan because trees being identified to come down were sick. Liked the old fountain and not the new fountain plan. Disappointed in the plan and think it's not the right plan.

Richard Dean-On the F-35 issue understand that a clear mandate was asked from the voters to look into alternatives. Need to understand more about the issue. Maple and Pine and Battery will have significant work done throughout the summer. Time plan is on DPW website. City Hall Park design is not arbitrary but incredible design that will improve ADA standards and decrease erosion. The current design is not meeting the current usage of the park. This will triple the amount of people to sit in the park. There will be a lot area for people to gather in diverse and rich environments. Farmer's Market will not be on the grass. When first became City Council drafted a resolution to connect our natural areas. This resulted in the Open Land and Conservation Connection Initiative (OLCCI).

Alica Daniels City field Naturalist and Zoe Richards Burlington Conservation Board -OLCCI:

This coalition is a partnership between City of Burlington-BPR&W, Conservation Board, Winooski Valley District, and the Diocese brought together through a resolution to help people imagine what we can do with our natural areas for use and access. Burlington is 49% Open Space. Open Space is land open and has no buildings. Open space can be waterfront and golf course. Of 49%, 25% is natural areas that has wild life and supports natural ecosystem. A lot of the open space is in the heart of the City in the flood plain. 15% is in public parks which is BPR&W and Winooski Valley District. Some natural wonders of Burlington are Rock Point that has rock thrust point for look out and limestone cedar trail. Interval Sea Caves which has several names was formed in 5-million-year old rock and pre-dates the Champlain Sea. Kilarney Elk's Beach in May of 2011 had a cliff slide off which exposed a timeline from pre-historic to modern times of land use. Arms Forest has yellow lady slippers and Ethan Allen Park has an American chestnut which one of the rarest trees because many wiped out by a blight about 100 years ago. Burlington is a fox City because foxes are everywhere. Bob Cats are still in Burlington. There are mammal tracking hot spots system. In Centennial there are fishers which is one of the largest weasel family. The flood plains is great ecosystem for animals and birds. Behind the North Ave. Alliance Church in the spring there are hundreds of Salamanders. With

all of these natural areas in Burlington there really is not good unified management. For example, the Arms Forest has 3 owners. The Interval has many owners. While there are many owners, many of the owners are open conservation. The biggest opportunity we have is improve the connectivity across the City for all to access. If there are any questions or want to keep up with conservation efforts of OLCCI in Burlington can sign up for newsletter through BPR&W. Will come back with updates.

Peter Keating-Chittenden County Reginal Planning Commission (CCRPC)

CCRPC does a lot of work with municipalities. Some projects specific to Burlington are Interval Road, Winooski Bridge, Amtrak train storage. Interval road project is in scoping phase to look at design. Looked at Riverside to Gardner supply. Then looked at Gardner supply to McNeil wood supply and then further down. Looking at three sections that may have 3 separate designs on how to make walking and biking safer. Had a meeting at Gardner's supply in the fall. Will come up with recommendations in the next couple of months. Before the railroad tracks is Ward 1 and after is Ward 2. The Winooski Bridge is 90 years old. There has been a study going since last summer and will probably do a presentation in front of City Council in this summer. Looking at alternative that build separate bridge for biking and walking or widening the bridge to accommodate safer bike walk infrastructure. Amtrak train location does not affect this ward but looking for potential locations to store Amtrak train. In two years there will be Amtrak train service that comes up to Burlington from Rutland. The schedule is for the train to come up in the evening be stored overnight and depart in the morning. There was a study is looking at four sites to store Amtrak train at Lake View Terrace, Union Station, Train yard and by South End City Market. In the fall did a public meeting and got a lot of negative feedback, now looking at 5th site and doing a noise study. Hopefully be concluded in the next couple months. This train will go from NYC, Rutland, and Burlington.

Kyle Dodson-YMCA

Contracted Freeman French Freeman. John Caula of Champlain College Campus planning is on volunteer development committee. There was a number of challenges with original design. Number one was cost due to the bedrock of land which would require to go into the water table. Another obstacle is entrance and height requirements. Building in a residential zone and design was too high. New design has a more residential feel but still serves a commercial use. Hope that the foyer in the YMCA lobby will be enjoyable to hangout and meet instead of just downtown. The parking is now on east side on Bradley. Look at the YMCA website for design. <https://www.stayingintheheart.org/about-the-project> Good number of people walk but 80-90% use YMCA are downtown workers and use YMCA when they are at work. From College set back 25ft and from Bradley 5-10ft. Current rule is that entrance needs to be at set back. There still will be two pools in the design. One warm pool for programming and one cool for laps. Hoping to maintain this promise. The current parking has 49 spaces. Since June of 2016 strengthen the building and design. Hope to build late summer and open in 2020. Have gone through DRB, Advisory Board and Sketch. Now going up to conservation board.

End. 9:05pm Minutes by Phet Keomanyvanh-CEDO

