

Wards 2 and 3 Neighborhood Planning Assembly



Thursday, April 11, 2024, 6:30-8:30pm

Join in person: ONE Community Center, 20 Allen St.

Join virtually: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85860854764>

Steering Committee Meeting Present: Jessy, Erika F, Jess H, Chris, Amy P, Lauren E, Michelle B

Attendees: See Following Pages

Moderator: Lauren Ebersol **Notetaker:** Jess Robbins

6:30 pm **Introductions & Announcements | 10 min**

1. Adopt the agenda
2. NPA member introductions

6:40 pm **Public Forum | 10 min** (2 minutes max per person)

Please state your full name, pronouns, street, and ward, and follow the NPA ground rules.

- **Emma Mulvaney-Stanak (Mayor Elect)** - Sunday, ONE community center community clean up. All welcome, food, music and supplies provided. Stay tuned for more events after this one.
- **(chad?)** Saturday, free event / repair cafe. Looking for volunteers. 12 North St. 11-3. Third Sat of every month moving forward.
- **Evan Ward 3** - Graffiti, covering street signs one of which is for a deaf child. Can't walk to the bus station without seeing needles.
- **Melo Grant (Central district)** - Going into graffiti cleaning season, solvents aren't effective in the winter. Click Fix app - Notify the app of any issues you might see.
- **Erika F (Ward 2)** - [VNRC event](#) - Wild and scenic film festival
- **Jess H** - [Fair Housing act was passed this day in 1968](#). Protections at state and federal level. Art prompts at tables, think about what home and community mean to you.
- **Charlie** - Street cleaning. Feedback from eclipse day was that Burlington is a great community, we need to remember.
- **Sam Powers (CDBG Rep)** - New ward clerk. Looking for poll workers, paid opportunities.

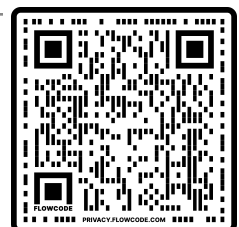
6:44 pm **Richard Kemp Center Trip to the National Museum of African American History and Culture Fundraising | 5 min**

Christine Hughes - Director, Richard Kemp Center

A brief overview of this annual trip and a request to the community to help with fundraising.

- Didn't attend.

Use the QR code to go to any of these links: [Email us](#) • Go to [our website](#) • Watch meeting recordings on [CCTV's website](#) • Connect with us on [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#) • Request a time slot with [CEDO's request form](#) • Links from this agenda



6:44 pm Updates from our CDBG reps | 10 min

- Money from the federal gov. \$600,000.
 - Fully funded tax assistance program, helps out people preparing their taxes.
 - Partially funded, community and treatment services 20k
 - Safe tonight partially funded
 - Vermonters for Criminal Justice partially funded.
 - Housing First Chittenden, Pathways partially funded.
 - Full funded Development
 - Small business equity 75k
 - Micro business development program 70k
 - Ethan Allen lighting upgraded
 - Feeding Chittenden
 - CEDO plan updating.
 - Prioritizing community safety.

Sam Powers

6:48 pm Community Discussion with New Elected Officials | 20 min

Councilors Gene Bergman, Melo Grant, and Joe Kane; School Commissioner Polly Vanderputten

Open discussion with recently elected officials. Come with questions & concerns!

- **Melo Grant (Central District):** On public safety committee, community safety committee: serving as chair. Educating our city on what's going on with police and fire. Fighting the drug crisis. Election season, lots of misinformation. Want's easily accessible data. Also on the Racial, Equity, inclusion and belonging committee.
- **Joe Kane (New Ward 3 city councilor)** Stepping into Joe Mcgee's committee assignments. Finance, community revitalization committee, excited to work on budget issues on board of finance. Budget deficit is a good way to look for new streams of revenues. 10 million dollar deficit. Looking at property tax and income brackets of that. CDR is a good place to do some of this thinking. Interested in strengthening the NPAs and giving them more power. Democratic processes, funded elections and paying councilors more.
- **Gene Bergman (Ward 2 City Councilor):** Chair of charter of change committee, tax reform is based on ability to change charter. Rely on legislators. Just cause eviction stuck with legislators, which is an example. Gene's approach is that you have to raise the window of opportunity. Also be on the Ordinance committee. Tried to get 4 people on this committee for quality of opinions, failed to do that. Hard to get things out of committee because of this. Also on Racial Equity, Inclusion and Belonging committee. Also going to be on the Transportation committee (McNeil, Airport etc.).

Q) Attendee: Used to live in Philly where they have Anti Graffiti Network. Ultimately merged with the mural arts project. People could get vouchers to do their own properties.

- Melo Grant wants that project. Parts of Montreal have this.
- People who have resources want to do that and match money towards this work.

Q) Jessica Ward 3: Question to Gene, could we have street level community bike lockers. Modeled on London bike lockers.

- Gene supports Bike lockers and wider transport hubs. Major study and outreach on where we could have these in wards 2 and 3. Email Gene these ideas.
- Polly: Biked everywhere in Germany where they had these lockers. These bike storages could be in parking lots. Positive feedback loop.
- Attendee: Mobility hubs discussion it was brought up that Old spokes and AALB are talking about transportation demand management. When businesses ask for parking lots for storage it isn't working.

Q) Charlie: Sculpture project - What's going on.

- Melo: Pancake morning at sustainability academy Monday, can see what's going on then. The sculpture will still be in its original location and construction has started.

Q) Charlie: Question about RIF, reduction in faculty in Burlington school.

- Polly (Ward 2 School Commissioner): Formal protest from Burlington educators association. 1.0 math teacher at high school, math teachers said they had been doing great work. Board members assured that there is not going to be a major increase in class sizes. Teacher being Riffed, will have a position at another school in the district.

Q) Attendee: No construction in the park with sculpture. Question: Outreach about meetings, where can I find that information? Missed a recent meeting.

- Gene: Meeting in question was a focus on the Willard and Riverside neighborhood. Did some targeted flyering. Some efforts on Front Porch Forum. Did not do an energetic job, really depends on the event happening. FPF, seems the avenue of most frequent and comprehensive outreach on a community level.
- Melo: Front porch Forum is the minimum. [Civic Clerk](#) is the best place to go. Even if you just read the minutes, you will understand more of what's going on.
- Attendee response: Have you tried Reddit?

Q) Attendee (Janet): Where can I find out more about the updates of the sculpture? Was it a design that had less public comment?

- Melo: REIB dept can update. [Link to website.](#)

7:30pm Neighborhood Cleanup | 10 min

Lisa Scofield

Learn about a neighbor's cleanup efforts to potentially inspire your own

- Want to lend out litter pickers.
- Bought all of them from HomePort, and wants to give them out to people to clean up their neighborhood.
- **CONTACT: pantheonheart@gmail.com**

7:35 pm NPA Funds Discussion | 20 min

Presentation on how the SC proposes to use the funds and showing how to share your input.

- Handed out forms for people to submit votes on the budget.

7:51 pm Expansion of Feeding Chittenden | 20 min

Champlain Housing Trust & CVOEO

[CHT](#) & [CVOEO](#) plan to extend the Feeding Chittenden building; they would like to share this plan and solicit feedback from the NPA.

- CHT, CVOEO built a food shelf, and CDBG funds. New allocation for renovations.
- Community resource center, building phase 2 renovation with federal funds, King st neighborhood development.
 - CVOEO started a community resource center with donations.
 - CRC on bottom floor, served 3,000 unique individuals there
 - 29,000 different services
 - 3 days since the resources center, where no-one has come in since its conception.
 - ½ of the people that use it 65 are unhoused.
 - Meal service done by culinary kitchen academy.
 - Access identification
 - Help with photo ID.
 - 30 times with Birth Cert.
 - Connected services with community partners.
 - 56 people went into housing last year.
 - 121 people a day there on average.
 - 2nd floor will bring staff back as not enough room for them
 - More space for the community resource center.
- Rob: feeding Chittenden. Without collaboration with CHT wouldn't have been possible.

- Sam: More green space, more parking. City sees it as a positive shift. Building a two story addition.
- **Q) Gene Bergman: How will the intersection be made safe?**
 - Sam: Curbs to stop drivers cutting in the wrong way.
- **Q) Attendee (Lisa): Can they stop leaf blowers coming, causing dust and mess. Get a landscaper who considers this.**
 - CHT: Passing on to property maintenance dept.
- **Q) Attendee: Timeline, where will they relocate?**
 - CHT: Funding is very close. Under construction this fall. They won't need to relocate. A few weeks they might shut down but are mostly operational during this project.
- **Q) Attendee (charlie): What does future funding look like?**
 - Feeding Chittenden: Well rounded pyramid of funders. Foundations, marketing and PR. Food is a human right, culturally relevant, helping all ages...finding the resources for the programming that makes them the most impactful they can be.
 - CVOEO: Housing advocates doing work, 5.5 FTE. Funding secured for another after Oct 31st. Looking for federal and state dollars.

8:15 pm

Water Line Assessment | 15 min

Emily Piersiak, Dept. of Public Works

Burlington Water Resources is performing a comprehensive water service line inventory to meet compliance with regulations from the EPA and the State and will be presenting on the assessment.

- Safe drinking water act in 86.
- Since starting treatment in 90s, Burlington has been compliant with the safe water level rules.
- All local and state water utilities must develop and submit inventories of service lines by October 16th.
- Although we have no record of active lead pipes, they are still required to submit an inventory.
- See slides below for further data points. [Or the website for further FAQ's.](#)
- **Q) Attendee: Does galvanized mean steel? Is that safer material?**
 - Copper is okay. Galvanized is much safer, but concerned about them breaking. They are keeping track of them, though.
 - Attendee: Are they checking lateral pipes?

They are checking, but go as far as to the house. That's why they need personal inventories to understand the comprehensive picture of pipe materials.

- **Q) Attendee: Who are you asking to furnish the information? The landlord or tenant?**
 - The landlord should be the one that does this. If a tenant wanted to do this, they could also. How does the tenant know if the landlord has done that. You can contact their customer care dept at BLANK who can retrieve that info.
- **Q) Attendee: Did they consult with the Housing enforcement code to look at this issue?**
 - Yes. Inventory data is being collected.
- **Q) Attendee: Is it being funded by water rates?**
 - Regular staff are being funded by a regular budget. Only the temps on this project are getting outside funding to support this operation.

Announcement

Wards 2 and 3: Budget has passed.

[View Slides](#)

8:30 pm

Adjourn - thank you for coming!

Our next meeting is Thursday, May 9.

APPENDIX

Information to join virtually (via Zoom)

Note: The webinar information is the same for every meeting.

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Webinar link | https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85860854764 |
| Webinar ID | 858 6085 4764 |
| Or iPhone one-tap | US: +19292056099,,85860854764# |
| Or telephone | +1 929 205 6099 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 669 900 6833 |

Wards 2 and 3 NPA Steering Committee

To email the full steering committee: wards2and3npa@googlegroups.com

| | | |
|-------------------------|--------|----------------------------|
| Lauren Ebersol | Ward 2 | lebersol27@gmail.com |
| Erika Faulkner | Ward 2 | efaulkner013@gmail.com |
| Mollie Klepack Flanigan | Ward 2 | mollieklepack@gmail.com |
| Jessica Hyman | Ward 2 | jessicahymanvt@gmail.com |
| Roxanne Meuse | Ward 2 | rtmeuse@gmail.com |
| Michelle Borbas | Ward 3 | sarno75@gmail.com |
| Chris Haessly | Ward 3 | haessly@adelphia.net |
| Amy Prenowitz | Ward 3 | aprenowitz@gmail.com |
| Jess Robbins | Ward 3 | jessiemayrobbins@gmail.com |
| Charlie Messing | Ward 3 | charliemessing@gmail.com |

About Neighborhood Planning Assemblies (NPAs)

A section of Burlington City Council resolution first adopted in 1982 establishing provisions for a Neighborhood Planning Assembly in each City ward.

...Neighborhood Planning Assemblies shall... help provide citizens with information concerning city programs and activities; help obtain citizen views of city needs; help provide citizens with the opportunity to participate in making recommendations with respect to governmental decisions including the allocation of revenues.

...Assemblies shall also be encouraged to provide advice to the appropriate commission or this council with respect to community development, housing programs, this City's Comprehensive Plan and its waterfront planning activities, and the city's budget among other issues....

NPA GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

- Operate through democratic principles and democratic procedures;
- Provide a safe and welcoming forum where residents can actively share their voices about issues that matter to them, and where they can learn from the voices of others;
- Cultivate involvement by a diverse spectrum of community members through active outreach and through eliminating barriers to participation;
- Operate in a manner that models respectful, inclusive, culturally, and economically aware practices; and
- Be a fun, creative, and vital organization that provides value and benefit through the multitude of perspectives shared by those who participate.

NPA GROUND RULES:

- Meetings should have clearly defined Agenda & Roles.
- Honor Time limits: A best effort must be made to start on time, follow the agenda, and finish on time.
- Listen to others: Make efforts to be an open-minded member of the group.
- Respect the agenda and the process: Try to remain focused on the issue at hand.
- Share your opinion respectfully: Speak out, but not over, others' comments.
- Treat people how you would like to be treated: Be respectful of everyone, including guests.

Elected officials representing Wards 2 and 3

Mayor:

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|----------------------------|-------------|------------------------|
| Mayor Emma Mulvaney-Stanak | Progressive | mayor@BurlingtonVT.gov |
|----------------------------|-------------|------------------------|

City Councilors:

| | | | | |
|---|--------------|-------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| Central District (Wards 2 & 3) | Melo Grant | Progressive | megrant@burlingtonvt.gov | 802-310-0962 |
| Ward 2 | Gene Bergman | Progressive | gbergman@burlingtonvt.gov | 802-598-3602 |
| Ward 3 | Joe Kane | Progressive | jkane@burlingtonvt.gov | 802-391-4394 |

School Board Members:

| | | | | |
|---|--------------------|--|-------------------------|--------------|
| Central District (Wards 2 & 3) | Jean Waltz | | jwaltz@bsdvt.org | 802-355-7856 |
| Ward 2 | Polly Vanderputten | | pvanderputten@bsdvt.org | 802-578-8653 |
| Ward 3 | Saja Almogalli | | salmogalli@bsdvt.org | |

Vermont State House Representatives:

| | | | | |
|----------------------|---|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| Chittenden-15 | Troy Headrick | Progressive/Democrat | theadrick@leg.state.vt.us | |
| Chittenden-15 | Brian Cina | Progressive/Democrat | bcina@leg.state.vt.us | (802) 828-2228 |
| Chittenden-16 | Kate Logan | Progressive/Democrat | klogan@leg.state.vt.us | (802) 828-2228 |
| Chittenden-16 | Jill Krowinski | Democrat | jkrowinski@leg.state.vt.us | (802) 828-2228 |
| Chittenden-17 | [currently vacant - formerly Emma's seat] | | | |

Vermont State Senators:

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| Chittenden-Central | Tanya Vyhovsky | Progressive/Democrat | ltvyhovsky@leg.state.vt.us | (802) 828-2228 |
| Chittenden-Central | Martine Gulick | Democrat | mgulick@leg.state.vt.us | (802) 828-2228 |
| Chittenden-Central | Philip Baruth | Democrat/Progressive | pbaruth@leg.state.vt.us | (802) 503-5266 |

Attendees

COMMUNITY DINNER & NPA

| First Name | Last Name |
|------------|-----------|
| Amy | Prenowitz |
| Suzie | King |
| Deb | Wien |
| Hayden | Bosica |
| Carol | Woodstar |
| Evan | Baker |
| Nikolau | Baronite |
| Sharon | Webster |
| Dave | Campough |
| Emma | Frudberg |
| Julie | Di Pietro |
| ALEX | Iwabuchi |
| HAZAR | QURASHI |
| GILLIAN | HASAN |
| Mike | Blevin |
| Fosca | Beckhoff |
| Jim | Quinn |
| SWANET | DECKER |
| TRAD | ESLER |
| Abby | Munterich |
| Ivan | Klipstein |
| daniel | Entsoul |
| Jose | Urena |
| Weslie | Kho |
| Sandy | Flanigan |
| Mate | Dekhtere |
| Noah | Anderson |
| July | Sanders |
| Michal | Berkat |
| Martin | Lee |

COMMUNITY DINNER & NPA

| First Name | Last Name |
|------------|-----------|
| Mairin | Davd |
| ESBA | NARDGEN |
| Nora | Aronds |
| Melo | Grew |
| Brandon | Dayton |
| Nina | McDonnell |
| Lucy | Leahy |
| Philip | Wojcik |
| Polly | Wojcik |
| Sam | BEALL |
| Eli | Maroscher |
| Nolan | Rogers |
| | |
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