



BURLINGTON ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ACCESSIBILITY
MONDAY DECMEBER 16TH 2024, 3:00 PM, THIS HYBRID MEETING WILL TAKE
PLACE IN THE SHARON BUSHOR CONFERENCE ROOM, FIRST FLOOR OF CITY
HALL 149 CHURCH STREET, BURLINGTON, VERMONT AND ONLINE OVER ZOOM.
MINUTES OF MEETING
December 16, 2024

1. Adopt the Agenda

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Meeting called to order by Chair NB at 3:05pm

Motion made to adpot the agenda made by ER, Seconded by KD. motion passes motion passed unanimously

2. Introductions

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Nate Bisio (He/Him) - Chair & representative of the Vermont Center for Independent Living

John Thomas (He/Him) - Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired

Karen Downey (She/Her) - Resident of Burlington and Adjuct Faculty Instructor UVM Occupation Therapy Doctoral Program

City Employees

Tim Williams (He/Him) - Staff support for the committee

Ashely Parker (She/Her) - Capital Programs Director

Jon Adams-Kollitz(He/Him) - Burlington Parks Recreation and Waterfront Parks Project Manager

Sophie Sauv   (She/ Her) - Burlington Parks Recreation and Waterfront Parks Comprehensive Planner

Elena Rosen (She/Her) - Marketing and Sponsorship Support Specialist Burlington City Arts

Sarah Montgomery (Sge/Her) - Assistant City Clerk

Other Present:

Olivia Greenleaf (She/Her) - Student invited to present an Accessibility report to the committee

3. Approve and Adopt Minutes

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Motion made to adpot the agenda made by KD, Seconded by AP. motion passes motion passed unanimously

Subject

3.1. Draft minutes 11.18.24

Meeting

December 16, 2024 - Burlington Advisory Committee On Accessibility - Monday,
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over Zoom.**

Category

3. Approve and Adopt Minutes

Department Other

Type Minutes

Recommended Action Approve

3.1. Draft minutes 11.18.24

4. Public Forum

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No members of the public present at time of public forum

5. News & Updates

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Elena Rosen shared about the following items:

- Annual New Year's Eve celebration on January 1st to emphasize accessibility.
- Distribution of free highlight tickets to local organizations.

Ahsley Parker shared about the following items:

- \$20M general obligation bond for capital improvements that was brought forward to Council.
- Development of a GIS map for city planning to enhance accessibility feedback.
- Town hall scheduled for January 6th to discuss bond initiatives and budgets.
- will present more fully at an upcoming meeting to the committee

Sarah Montgomery shared about the following items:

- **Polling Place Accessibility**
- Updates on improving accessibility at Edmond School Gym and work with poll workers.

6. Discuss Report Striving for a More Accessible Burlington

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Summary

- UVM Occupational Therapy students conducted an accessibility assessment of Burlington businesses.
- Key findings included:
 - **Physical Accessibility:** Handrails, ramps, ADA push buttons, and open spaces for mobility aids.
 - **Universal Design:** Inclusive entryways, clear text, and website accessibility.
 - **Attitudes Toward Accessibility:** Proactive measures encouraged among businesses.

Feedback

- Report shared with the Chamber of Commerce and Burlington Business Association, committee members shared additional programs to bring the report forward to.
- Discussion on city resources and engaging businesses for accessibility improvements via Business Workforce development (BWD).

Subject **6.1. Striving for a more Accessible Burlington - Report Presentation**

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Category 6. Discuss Report Striving for a More Accessible Burlington

Department Other

Type

Recommended Action

6.1. Striving for a more Accessible Burlington - Report Presentation

7. Next Steps for Community Appointments

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NB will compile a list of person who have been regularly attending the meeting, and draft a potential group based on criteria as set forth by the council resolution. Once complete a list of members with a short blurb will be presented for consideration of appointment.

Subject **7.1. Update on Departmental Accessibility Coordinators**

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Category 7. Next Steps for Community Appointments

Department Other

Type

Recommended Action

7.1. Update on Departmental Accessibility Coordinators

TW shared that about half of the city departments whom were asked to identify an Accessibility coordinator, have done so and that by the end of the calendar year all departments will have selected one.

TW proposed that these coordinators be invited to the January meeting, or once committee members have been appointed, and the committee formalized.

8. Set Schedule & Agenda for 2025

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January meeting scheduled for **January 27, 2025, at 3:00 PM.**

Future meeting dates to be evaluated based on committee availability.

9. Adjournment

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Motion made to adpot the agenda made by NB, Seconded by ER. motion passes motion passed unanimously

Subject	9.1. Motion to adjourn
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Category	9. Adjournment
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Department	Council and Board
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Type	
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Recommended Action	
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9.1. Motion to adjourn	
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10. Informational and Non-Discrimination Statements

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Subject	10.1. This agenda is available in alternative formats upon request. For more information on access, call Lori Olberg, Licensing, Voting and Records Coordinator (802-865-7136)(TTY 802-865-7142). Persons with disabilities who require assistance or special arrangements to participate are encouraged to contact 802-865-7000 (voice) or 802-865-7142 (TTY) at least 72 hours in advance so that proper arrangements can be made. This meeting will also air on Town Meeting TV the Wednesday after the meeting, starting at 8:00 pm and repeating at 1:00 am and 7:00 am the following day. The City of Burlington will not tolerate unlawful harassment or discrimination on the basis of political or religious affiliation, race, color, national origin, place of birth, ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, veteran status, disability, HIV positive status, crime victim status or genetic information.
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Category	10. Informational and Non-Discrimination Statements
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Department	Council and Board
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Type	
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