

Ward 1 Neighborhood Planning Assembly (NPA)
Wednesday, January 8, 2025 6:30 - 8:35 PM
In-person at the Friends Meeting House, 173 North Prospect Street
And Zoom online <https://zoom.us/j/96245939050>
Webinar ID: 962 4593 9050 Or by phone: +1 929 205 6099 ID= 962 4593 9050

6:30 - Formal Start

Introductions::

Sharon Bushor	Carter Neubieser	Richard Hillyard
Troy Headrick	Dave Cawley	Katherine Verman
Catherine Bock	Serrill Flash	Carol Livingston
Angie Chapple-Sokol	Linda Bowden	Breck Bowden
Sophie Quest	Rob Gutman	Caryn Long
Lisa Lax	Sharyl Green	Peter Lackowski
Jean Hopkins	Tom Derenthal	Jonathan Chapple-Sokol
Michael Mitchell	Hannah Brislin	Shawny Corey
Charlie Giannoni	Ashley Parker	Emma Mulvaney-Stanak
Mary Danko	Mike LaChance	Megan Moir

Allie Schachter, Kathy Olwell introduced themselves as candidates for East District City Council

Matt Price introduced himself as candidate for East District School Commissioner

Gary Golden introduced himself as candidate for vacant Ward 1 School Commissioner

Announcements:

Linda– AARP open house 1/16 in Fedex Building

Community Challenge Grant in FPF

Caryn endorsed Kathy Olwell

Troy announced that Sam Doherty is a finalist for the John Lewis Youth Leadership Award – recognition in Montpelier Friday 1/10

Dave – Winterlude 2/7; 2/8 11-3 sledding, skiing,...

Speakout

Jean expressed concern for folks victimized due to lack of housing on cold nights
General chatter (Caryn, Sharon, Breck, Kathy) about Ward 1/8 split and whether we wanted to revisit. Most of conversation was Ward 1 folks worried about Ward 8's

attendance. Carol and Jonathan reviewed history, including W1 outreach on multiple occasions without W8 response. Jonathan suggested we spend more energy doubling W1 attendance at our meetings than worrying about folks who have not shown any interest in re-merging. It was agreed that collaboration on East District Candidate Forums might be an entrée to the conversation. Jonathan agreed to reach out to Ryan Nick about forums.

Rob noted that the combined ONE FPF has lost intimacy; W1 meetings often go too long without W8 issues included, and the bigger the 'district' the less intimate the meetings will be.

Tom: We are planning a candidate forum in February

School Commissioner Update

Gary introduced Matt Price, candidate. "Good budget news" – Level spending was the focus; 2% reduction in costs; should be less than 5% overall increase; but expect our recently gained improved equity in CLA calculation to meet big challenges in Montpelier this year. Technical changes in how budget amounts are recorded on ballot to include all expenditure, including Federally funded grant activity. Some folks are looking at reducing admin proportionate to faculty reductions. Per Pupil spending = \$14,889. The 40 year HS bond is expected to build a school that should last 80 years.

City Councilor Update - Carter Neubieser

Carter reviewed 3 CDNR priorities: Housing support – double CEDO money in affordable housing without impacting low/middle income folks (focus on tourism revenue); Conflict of Interest and financial disclosures; NPA working group; There will be a Town Hall meeting on \$\$ Ballot items 1/13; Also, at last meeting Council voted not to put Apartheid-Free City pledge on the ballot, in spite of over 2000 signatures on the petition. Bad form from a pure democracy standpoint. More concerns on handling of BPD recruitment report and issues of sharing information with Union. Winooski Bridge – BTV leverages a huge amount of money from Feds and State (90%, with 5% more from Winooski) so we have limited say over outcome, beyond input into process. 250 folks living on the street. Resources targeting children, not so much older or disabled folks. Tax Fairness working group assembled – goal to expand utility method of progressive costing.

Sharon – Mill Street not well handled in CoBaRi model

CAIP program at the BPD and the broader programs available at the CJC – Michael Mitchell (Community Support Liaison, BPD) and Hannah Brislin (Parallel Justice)

[See Handouts](#)

Hannah Needs Volunteers!!! Contact her: hbrisl@burlingtonvt.gov

Sharon: Covid era dispatcher issues are no longer

Dave: How do you measure success? Are we moving the needle?

Breck: Staffing? CAIP pretty close.

8:05 – City General Obligation Bond Ballot item and other ballot updates – Ashley Parker

[See Handouts](#)

See also [interactive map](#) at [BTV Thrives](#) ;

Troy: Isn't it unconventional to bond for rollong stock? We only bond for the big trucks

Breck: A full explanation of all debt obligations would be valuable

Richard: Parking vs Traffic revenues

Lisa: Is tax burden distribution equitable? There are opportunities to do better; PILOTS,...

Caryn: Our streets are not safe

8:35 - Adjourn

OUR NEXT NPA MEETING IS FEB 12, 2024 AT THE FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE

Ward 1 NPA Steering Committee

Tom Derenthal tomd.npa@gmail.com

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