



CITY OF BURLINGTON, VERMONT
CITY COUNCIL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT &
NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE
c/o Community & Economic Development Office
City Hall, Room 32 • 149 Church Street • Burlington, VT 05401
802-865-7144 VOX • 802-865-7024 FAX • www.burlingtonvt.gov/cedo

Councilor Carter Neubieser, Chair, Ward 1

Councilor Evan Litwin, Ward 7

Councilor Joe Kane, Ward 3

CDNR Committee Meeting
Wednesday January 15th, 2025
6:30 – 8:30 PM
Queen City Conference Room – City Hall

Committee members: Carter Neubieser (CN), Evan Litwin (EL), Joe Kane (JK)

City Staff: Marcella Gange, CEDO

Other Attendees: None

Draft Minutes

Meeting Started at 6:32 PM

1. Approve agenda

MOTION by Councilor Kane, SECOND by Councilor Litwin, to approve the agenda

VOTING: unanimous; motion carries.

2. Approve minutes: 7/17/24

MOTION by Councilor Kane, SECOND by Councilor Litwin, to approve the minutes

VOTING: unanimous; motion carries.

3. Public Forum

- No member of public present

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contact Christine Curtis at ccurtis@burlingtonvt.gov

4. NPA resolution update

- Chair Carter gave update – see PDF attachment and invited questions or comments.
- Clr Kane – Notice periods are not adequate and should include more safeguards to prevent issues and undue influence from small groups of participants. Suggests implementing quora and limiting steering committee power.
- Clr Litwin – questions how proposed measures would align with the NPAs' intended independence within city government and City Councilors should have guaranteed time slots, if there are expectations of interaction/reporting to NPAs. The districting of NPAs should be referenced.
- The discussion highlighted the need to balance NPAs' autonomy with accountability measures.
- Chair Carter - Clarified legal advice regarding the notice period and the city attorney's understanding of the NPA independence within city government and highlighted the need for a balance between city council authority and the NPA autonomy. Working group proposal is general and aspirational as to value and practice of NPAs
- Clr Kane – Does the proposal guarantee NPAs anything more than current?
- Chair Carter – The resolution doesn't change current NPA activity.
- Clr Kane – It is reasonable to require certain actions to ensure the NPAs are reasonable in behavior and activity – suggests adding these safeguards
- Chair Carter – Each NPA has bylaws, determining these aspects of practice. Expressed concerns about the lack of genuine engagement and understanding between the city council and suggested that the city needs to be clear about its limitations and expectations, particularly regarding the provision of support for meetings.
- Clr Kane commented on the example of the Ward 3 NPA.
- Clr Litwin – suggested Clr Kane bring complaints to City Attorney.

5. Revised Resolution – Affordable Housing Trust Fund study (attached)

- Chair Carter comments that there has been no additional feedback and proposes to send the matter to City Council and would like to move to vote.
- Clr Litwin needs to take the resolution to the Democrat caucus.
- Clr Kane suggests adding footnotes for statistics.

- MOTION by Chair Carter, SECOND by Councilor Kane, to refer the Resolution to City Council and ask that it be taken up at the next City Council meeting.
- VOTING: unanimous; motion carries.
- Clr Litwin requested that the minutes reflect that he supports the referral to City Council but does not support endorsement of the resolution.

6. Other Committee Business/Updates

- No other business

7. Adjournment

- ADJOURN at 7.49 p.m. by Chair Neubieser with no objection