

REIB City Council Committee

March 18, 2025

5:30 – 7:00 pm

**Sharon Bushor Room, 149 Church Street, 1st Flr. Floor City Hall,
Burlington, VT**

Attendees:

Jeff Smith

Ted Castle

Patrick Brown

Sherwood Smith

Emma Kouri

Ferene Paris

A. Gonzalez

Tishawn Williams

Jory Hearst

Karen Sita

Christine Hughes

Mark Hughes

Dave Rapaport

Rooney Castle

Katie Greene, REIB

Christian Berry, REIB

Councilor Melo Grant

Councilor Gene Bergman

Councilor Becca Brown McKnight

Councilor Ben Traverse

Meeting Convened: 5:31 PM

Agenda:

1. Motion to Approve Agenda

Councilor Melo Grant motioned to approve. Councilor Gene Bergman seconded. Unanimous pass.

Councilor Grant asked to amend agenda to include “Path Forward”. Council Bergman motioned to approve. Council McKnight seconded. Unanimous pass.

2. Motion to Approve Meeting Minutes

a. October 2024

b. December 2024

c. February 2025

Council Bergman motioned to approve all minutes. Council McKnight seconded. Unanimous pass.

3. Public Forum

Discussed Juneteenth 2025 Award Nominations. Discussed concerns about REIB Office staffing and sustainability of the Office. Look to recording for more detail.

4. REIB Updates

a. Juneteenth 2025

Discussed the importance of community involvement in decision-making around resource allocation. Acknowledged the need for adjustments due to financial limitations. Highlighted opportunities for future collaborations and external support. Agreed to balance tradition with new approaches given current challenges. Look to recording for more detail.

5. Community Forum

Discussed the future of the REIB office and event planning, addressing concerns about staffing and funding. Attendees emphasized the importance of community engagement, potential partnerships, and fundraising. A motion was passed to request additional support from the City Council, with follow-ups planned to address staffing and budget concerns. City councilors committed to promoting REIB's work and fostering continued collaboration. Look to recording for more detail.

6. Motion to Adjourn

Councilor Melo Grant motioned to approve. Councilor Gene Bergman seconded. Unanimous pass. **Meeting adjourned 7:19 PM**

Zoom information:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/92744162495?pwd=YVNhUUUzU3RFYjIwODFlZm8xTFcoZz09>

Meeting ID: 927 4416 2495

Passcode: 225169

Minutes by Katie Greene