



CITY OF BURLINGTON, VERMONT

Burlington Aging Council

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

Minutes of Meeting of the Burlington Aging Council Tuesday December 21st 2021 3:00pm – 4:30pm

Attendance:

*Denotes Co-Chairs		
Member Status	Full Name	12th Dec 21
1 member representing an organization supporting New Americans in Vermont	Symphorien Sikyala	
1 member representing a healthcare provider	Jeanne Hutchins, MA	X
1 member representing a long-term care organization in Burlington	Shawn T Hallisey	
1 member representing an affordable housing organization in Burlington	Molly Dugan	X
1 member representing an organization working to fight food insecurity in Vermont	Jane Catton	X
1 member representing an organization providing advocacy and support for older adults in Vermont	Kelly Stoddard Poor	X
1 member representing a senior center in Burlington	Andrea Viets	
1 member representing an organization providing mental health services in Vermont	Alison Miley	X
1 member representing an organization providing transportation services in Vermont	Jordan Posner	X
1 member representing the City's Community and Economic Development Office	Brian Pine*	X
3-5 older adults living in Burlington	Barbara Shaw-Dorso	X
3-5 older adults living in Burlington	Glenn McRae*	X
3-5 older adults living in Burlington	Rodney Harold Alexander	
3-5 older adults living in Burlington	Charles J Messing	X
Staff	Marcella Gange	
1 member representing an organization advocating for racial equity, inclusion, and belonging in Burlington	Vacant	

Actions Required:

12 21 21	Seeking recommendations and contacts to fill available slots on the BAC - particularly "a) 1 member representing an organization advocating for racial equity, inclusion, and belonging in Burlington"	01 18 22	All members
	Connect with other Dept Heads to determine any other survey/research within City and to inform Dept Heads of the work of the BAC and the need for 'Senior friendly' projects and research.	Jan/Feb	Brian Pine
	Connect with AgeWell and DAIL for Zip Code level data form community needs assessment	Jan/Feb	Marcella/Jane
	Complete BAC Values/Action graphic	01 18 22	Glenn
	Connect with City staff conducting outreach and engagement on Great Streets -	Jan/Feb	Brian
	Identify the 'open' action areas - so that members may consider approaches for the BAC and for the Capstone Projects	01 18 22	Marcella

1. **Motion to approve agenda** - approved unanimous
2. **Motion to approve minutes** – GM, JC – unanimous
3. **Co-Chair BAC.** Beth Hammond has moved from Heineberg Senior Center and no longer able to serve as Co-Chair. Discussion and unanimous vote – Glenn McRae to serve as Co-Chair with Brian Pine.
In addition the members agreed to work to fill open slots on the BAC – and particularly:

The programs and services of the City of Burlington are accessible to people with disabilities.

For accessibility information, call 865-7144. For questions about the meeting

Contact Marcella Gange at mgange@burlingtonvt.gov or 802 865 7178

“a) 1 member representing an organization advocating for racial equity, inclusion, and belonging in Burlington”

4. **Presentation Livability and Burlington as a livable community** by Kelly Stoddard-Poor of AARP. Discussion of timelines for updated research. GM questioned other depts. and organizations that may also be conducting research – how may BAC inform and add to these? BP to connect with other City Depts, to inform on work of BAC, to ensure that work/planning of other Depts is ‘Senior friendly’, and coordinate on any survey/research.

GM – we could also connect with other City/Statewide partners eg AgeWell, AARP and housing providers etc

KP - DAIL and VDH are leading the ‘action plan for aging well’ and they will conduct further surveys as part of the new action plan.

JC - AgeWell completed a community needs assessments and outreach last fall and may be able to provide Zip Code level data for BTV (follow up with AgeWell/DAIL)

5. **BAC Mission and Goals** – continued

The Council agreed the following:

***“Mission:** To understand the opportunities and challenges facing all older community members, and to recommend policies and programs that respect and empower all older Burlington community members, to ensure and expand their quality of life.”*

Thanks to Beth and Charlie and other members for their work on this.

Goals: The group proposed using the diagram proposed by GM and following the statewide values/action areas model. Identify those areas that are already active and ensure BAC input. Utilize the Capstone Group to move forward and build momentum on areas that are not yet getting attention.

Agreed Three Primary Action Areas:

- A. **Housing:** has movement and recognized as an acute need – align with Mayor’s 10 point Action Plan. Additional need for service enriched housing. (Can we also introduce other policy pieces eg Smart housing and intergenerational housing options?)
- B. **Workforce Needs for older Vermonters:** Staffing in particular and associated Medicaid reimbursement for caregivers. Career ladder improvement within care industry. (Track to H153)
- C. **Mental Health/Isolation:** longstanding service challenges and made worse by COVID

Other Action Areas to be tracked

(MG to follow up on other open action areas) -

- D. Transportation and Community Design: Great Streets and bringing perspective of older Burlingtonians to the discussion.
- E. Workforce contributions of older Vermonters
- F. Recommendations for other resources from the Chat:

From Kelly Poor to Everyone 04:23 PM

NYT story about the Town of Frome in the UK, trying to combat loneliness and social isolation through community connections: <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/12/15/business/england-city-fights-isolation.html>

From Me to Everyone 04:24 PM

[https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5e7e9b4fdc34fb6814cb2714/t/60418192e3cb237c207f350f/1614905752769/2020 Cove ResourceGuide Interactive-03%3A04%3A21.pdf](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5e7e9b4fdc34fb6814cb2714/t/60418192e3cb237c207f350f/1614905752769/2020+Cove+ResourceGuide+Interactive-03%3A04%3A21.pdf)

From Jane Catton to All Panelists 04:31 PM

Thanks Kelly! The UK is doing some very innovative things in the Aging Space

<https://www.ageuk.org.uk.com/>

Also some very interesting work coming out of the Blue Zones <https://www.bluezones.com/>

- 6. **BAC Action Planning** – the Council will work towards an outline Burlington Plan for Aging for June 2022.
- 7. **Adjourn 4.31pm**

From Chat:

From Me to Everyone 03:05 PM

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1HftznRTUQX0FwQxjbHDITIXRLhA68b5Q/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=104323797901131977888&rtpof=true&sd=true>

From Me to Everyone 03:12 PM

- 1. Motion to approve agenda
- 2. Motion to approve minutes
- 3. Co-Chair BAC
- 4. Presentation Livability and Burlington as a livable community (Kelly)
- 5. BAC Mission and Goals - continued
- 6. BAC Action Planning
- 7. Adjourn

AOB - New members

From Me to Everyone 03:55 PM

Mission: To understand the opportunities and challenges facing all older community members, and to recommend policies and programs that respect and empower all older Burlington community members, to ensure and expand their quality of life.

From Molly Dugan, she/her to Everyone 03:58 PM

respectful education and information works!

From Molly Dugan, she/her to Everyone 04:13 PM

same with Cathedral Square!

From Kelly Poor to Everyone 04:23 PM

NYT story about the Town of Frome in the UK, trying to combat loneliness and social isolation through community connections: <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/12/15/business/england-city-fights-isolation.html>

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