

## All Wards NPA Meeting Minutes

Thursday April 30th 2026, 6:15pm-8:15pm

CCTV Studio 294 North Winooski Avenue, 2nd Floor, and on Zoom

Video recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f1e1niSlokU>

Facilitator: Lauren Ebersol

Notetaker: Barbara Turnbull

Members present:

Ward 1: Carol Livingston

Ward 2: Lauren Ebersol, Nora Aronds, Marc Stannard, Charlie Giannoni

Ward 3: Chris Haessly, Zach Cummings

Ward 4: Annie Lawson

Ward 5: n/a

Ward 6: Dale Azaria, Romeo Von Hermann, Hannah Riley

Ward 7: n/a

Ward 8: Amy Malinowski, Tom Carroll

### 6:15 Introductions | 5 min

### 6:20 NPA Resolution Implementation, Part 2 | 20 min

- Review of the fall 2025 City Council resolution that asked each NPA to identify and communicate its annual priorities to the City Council. So far Wards 1 and 5 have done so. Need to identify a process and timeline for the rest of the wards for this year. Chris, Jonathan, and Lena from the NPAs were on a committee with city staff and councilors to develop the resolution.
- Discussion about the purpose of this process and what the NPAs are asking the City Council to do with the priorities
  - Some folks like the idea of consolidating the priorities as “All Wards;” others want to keep separate. No broad consensus on this point
  - Carol: Ward 1 thought about this as, if there is a decision being made about one of our stated priorities, we want it to come to the NPA first, we would like to participate in these discussions.
  - Dale: Also an advocacy opportunity, to ask the City Council to bring these ideas forward
- Discussion about the timeline: priorities discussion should happen around the time of the new fiscal year and/or right after steering committee elections so the new steering committee has some guidance for agenda setting. Don’t want to let the momentum run out.
  - Chris: each NPA is on a different timeline in terms of elections/topics calendar. Lauren suggests a rolling timeline for submitting ward priorities based on steering committee elections.

- Romeo: there are so many meetings, so many different issues/priorities. We need to stay focused on tangible outcomes.
- Discussion about process for identifying priorities: how are councilors involved? How to get broad participation?
- Barbara: suggestion to use the NPA priorities to direct the NPA's calendar/guests throughout the year and stay focused on those issues. Also please take a look at the attached doc [Proposed City Processes for NPA Resolution Implementation](#) for Barbara's summary of the city's side of the NPA resolution and send any thoughts/feedback.
- Dale: bringing it back to: when are we developing these priorities and for whom? Proposes that for this year, do it on a ward-by-ward basis, and communicate to the CC members and Barbara to compile them. Next year, move to a more unified schedule.
  - Amy: they should also go on the City Council agenda in some fashion
- Consensus around creating this year's NPA priorities within 1-2 months of steering committee elections, and submitting to City Councilors/Barbara

**6:40 Budgeting for the rest of the fiscal year | 40 min** (general process overview 15 min; use of remaining funds 25 min)

- Barbara: [brief presentation on NPA budgeting and purchasing process](#)
  - Discussion about reimbursement for childcare and how it would work. Barbara clarifies that the City does not have a process for providing childcare at public meetings, and it would be helpful to understand how this has worked at NPAs in the past. Charlie explains that when Ward 2/3 offered childcare, it was not regularly used by the public, roughly during 2006-2007? 2010-2012? How it worked was there was someone lined up to supervise the childcare, promised \$25 flat rate, plus hourly but if nobody showed up for childcare in the first hour of the meeting they would leave early.
- Barbara: ask for each ward to contribute about \$75 toward updating the digital files of the NPA zine & poster designed by Christine Tyler Hill
- Discussion about All Wards events: some feel that doing an all wards social event is not a good use of time/resources because NPAs are intended to be neighborhood specific.
  - One idea that has traction with several wards: a candidate forum for districts that have broad overlap e.g. state senate
    - Ward 1 and Ward 3 already have state senate candidate forums on the books for May-June
- Carol brought up the idea of reducing the NPA budget since it's not utilized by all the wards.
- Amy shared that Ward 8 is in the process of hiring a part time summer intern to support the NPA's planning/outreach

**7:20 Potential summer projects | 40 min**

- Candidate forums/discussions in June-July. Lauren proposes asking each ward if they would be interested in joining forces on specific forums. Chris to take the lead on this.
  - Ward 2 usually has an outdoor community dinner in July with elected officials
- Charlie shared 2 ideas for All Wards projects:
  - Summer: NPAs work with Burlington/Winooski/SB school districts to provide tickets to home games for the Lake Monsters and fill up the stands.

- Chris: the winter version of this could be with UVM women's hockey which is under-attended; Ward 3 wants to work with Boys & Girls club to offer tickets
  - Winter: Mock Town Meeting on a Saturday in Contois. Non-binding discussion about what's on the ballot – give Burlington residents the chance to have a Town Meeting.
  - Overall, Charlie wants to see the wards working together more, to strengthen the perception of the NPAs and make the NPAs more powerful in the city
- Chris: need to remember the city commissions as well as the council. Make a list of commissioners in your ward.
- Charlie: NPAs should invite commissioners as well as department heads/staff – you get a totally different presentation from police commissioner vs. chief of police
- Amy: suggestion that prior to city commission application period, invite a panel of different commissioners to speak about the kinds of work they do.
- Broad consensus that people don't have capacity to work on All Wards projects in the immediate future; would rather put their energy towards their own NPA

#### **8:00 Open Discussion/Questions | 15 min**

- Carol: wants to set aside time to talk about outreach, particularly connecting with the Trusted Community Voices (TCV) group. Wants to increase diversity and broader outreach at Ward 1.
- Discussion about accessibility and inclusivity for new Americans, as well as people of color who are not recent immigrants. Barbara suggests inviting someone from the REIB to the next All Wards to think through some of these challenges and the TCV/NPA connection.
- Update on Apartheid-Free Community resolution: Wards 1, 2, 5, 6, passed the resolution. The other wards did not vote.
- Chris: wonders if it would be helpful for all the wards to be on roughly the same election cycle?
- Amy: suggests inviting someone who has done participatory budgeting work in other cities to speak with All Wards/NPAs

#### **8:15 Next Steps/Adjourn**

- Chris volunteers Ward 3 to organize the next meeting; Ward 8 can help too. Probably in September.