



Racial, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging

Tuesday, May 19, 2026, 5:30 PM, Racial, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging (REIB)

Held in the Sharon Bushor Conference Room, Ground Floor City Hall

OR

via Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/96324562039>

Meeting ID: 963 2456 2039

Or Use Phone number: 305-224-1968

Meeting ID: 963 2456 2039

1. Call to Order

2. Adopt the Agenda

3. Adopt Minutes

Subject	3.1. April 2026
Meeting	May 19, 2026 - REIB City Council Committee Meeting - Tuesday, May 19, 2026, 5:30 PM, Racial, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging (REIB)
Category	3. Adopt Minutes
Department	Racial Equity, Inclusion, & Belonging (REIB)
Type	

4. Public Forum

5. REIB Committee Agreements & Priorities (30 minutes)

6. Recruitment for Committees & Boards

7. City Council Updates

Subject	7.1. Work of Public Art from the Abenaki Nation of Missisquoi Tribal Council Memo
Meeting	May 19, 2026 - REIB City Council Committee Meeting - Tuesday, May 19, 2026, 5:30 PM, Racial, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging (REIB)

Category 7. City Council Updates
Department Racial Equity, Inclusion, & Belonging (REIB)
Type
Recommended Action
Subject 7.2. Resolution: Reinstating The Burlington Aging Council And Implementation The Age-Strong BTV Plan
Meeting May 19, 2026 - REIB City Council Committee Meeting - Tuesday, May 19, 2026, 5:30 PM, Racial, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging (REIB)

Category 7. City Council Updates
Department Racial Equity, Inclusion, & Belonging (REIB)
Type
Recommended Action
Subject 7.3. Update on Review Process for March 11 ICE Incident in South Burlington
Meeting May 19, 2026 - REIB City Council Committee Meeting - Tuesday, May 19, 2026, 5:30 PM, Racial, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging (REIB)

Category 7. City Council Updates
Department Racial Equity, Inclusion, & Belonging (REIB)
Type
Recommended Action

8. Adjournment

Subject 8.1. Motion to adjourn
Meeting May 19, 2026 - REIB City Council Committee Meeting - Tuesday, May 19, 2026, 5:30 PM, Racial, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging (REIB)
Category 8. Adjournment
Department Council and Board
Type
Recommended Action

9. Informational and Non-Discrimination Statements

Subject 9.1. This agenda is available in alternative formats upon request. For more information on access, call Lori Olberg, Licensing, Voting and Records Coordinator (802-865-7136)(TTY 802-865-7142). Persons with disabilities who require assistance or special arrangements to participate are encouraged to contact 802-865-7000 (voice) or 802-865-7142 (TTY) at least 72 hours in advance so that proper arrangements can be made. This meeting will also air on Town Meeting TV the Wednesday after the meeting, starting at 8:00 pm and

repeating at 1:00 am and 7:00 am the following day. The City of Burlington will not tolerate unlawful harassment or discrimination on the basis of political or religious affiliation, race, color, national origin, place of birth, ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, veteran status, disability, HIV positive status, crime victim status or genetic information.

Meeting May 19, 2026 - REIB City Council Committee Meeting - Tuesday, May 19, 2026, 5:30 PM, Racial, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging (REIB)

Category 9. Informational and Non-Discrimination Statements

Department Council and Board

Type



Racial, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging

Tuesday, April 21, 2026, 5:30 PM, Racial, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging (REIB)

Held in the Sharon Bushor Conference Room, Ground Floor City Hall

OR

via Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/96324562039>

Meeting ID: 963 2456 2039

Or Use Phone number: 305-224-1968

Meeting ID: 963 2456 2039

1. Call to Order

2. Adopt the Agenda

3. Adopt Minutes

Subject	3.1. February 2026
Meeting	April 21, 2026 - REIB City Council Committee Meeting - Tuesday, April 21, 2026, 5:30 PM, Racial, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging (REIB)
Category	3. Adopt Minutes
Department	Racial Equity, Inclusion, & Belonging (REIB)
Type	

4. Public Forum

5. Councilor Updates

6. TCV Updates

7. Missisquoi Gift

Subject	7.1. Authorization to Accept a Work of Public Art from the Abenaki Nation of Missisquoi Tribal Council Memo
Meeting	April 21, 2026 - REIB City Council Committee Meeting - Tuesday, April 21, 2026, 5:30 PM, Racial, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging (REIB)

Category 7. Missisquoi Gift
Department Racial Equity, Inclusion, & Belonging (REIB)
Type
Recommended Action

8. REIB Updates

9. Adjournment

Subject 9.1. Motion to adjourn
Meeting April 21, 2026 - REIB City Council Committee Meeting - Tuesday, April 21, 2026, 5:30 PM, Racial, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging (REIB)
Category 9. Adjournment
Department Council and Board
Type
Recommended Action

10. Informational and Non-Discrimination Statements

Subject 10.1. This agenda is available in alternative formats upon request. For more information on access, call Lori Olberg, Licensing, Voting and Records Coordinator (802-865-7136)(TTY 802-865-7142). Persons with disabilities who require assistance or special arrangements to participate are encouraged to contact 802-865-7000 (voice) or 802-865-7142 (TTY) at least 72 hours in advance so that proper arrangements can be made. This meeting will also air on Town Meeting TV the Wednesday after the meeting, starting at 8:00 pm and repeating at 1:00 am and 7:00 am the following day. The City of Burlington will not tolerate unlawful harassment or discrimination on the basis of political or religious affiliation, race, color, national origin, place of birth, ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, veteran status, disability, HIV positive status, crime victim status or genetic information.
Meeting April 21, 2026 - REIB City Council Committee Meeting - Tuesday, April 21, 2026, 5:30 PM, Racial, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging (REIB)
Category 10. Informational and Non-Discrimination Statements
Department Council and Board
Type

Attendees:

Kelli Perkins, Director (in person)

Christian Berry, Communications and Community Engagement Manager REIB (in person)

Katie Greene, Community and Belonging Program Manager (in person)

Councilor Sarah Carpenter (in person)

Brian Wiggins (in person)

Robert Richard (in person)

Sophie Sauvé (in person)

Richard Menard (in person)

Chol Dhoor (in person)

David Massell (in person)

Troy Headrick (in person)

Denise L. Watso (in person)

Max Curry (in person)

Mira Fakiranando (in person)

Laura Massell (in person)

Councilor Laura Sanchez-Parkinson (virtual)

Councilor Melo Grant (virtual)

Daniel G. Nolett (virtual)

Rev. Mark Hughes (virtual)

Mona Tolba (virtual)

Liz Curry (virtual)

- **Call To Order**

- Councilor Sanchez-Parkinson called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm.

- **Adopt Agenda**

- Councilor Grant motioned to adopt the agenda. Councilor Carpenter seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Adopt Minutes**

- Councilor Grant motioned to adopt the minutes. Noting this is a new iteration of the committee. Councilor Carpenter seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Public Forum**

- Sophie Sauvé announced an upcoming open house for planBTV 2050, a coordinated planning effort involving Parks, CEDO, City Planning, and the Transportation Division of DPW.

- The municipal plan is due for revision; the parks plan has not been revised since 2015; the transportation plan dates to 2011; there has been no economic development plan.
- The open house will be on Thursday, April 30, 3:30-8:00 PM at Main Street Landing. Food, activities, and consultant engagement will be available to the public.
 - Sophie Sauvé asked for support with outreach
- Reverend Mark Hughes extended a welcome to new Chair Sanchez-Parkinson and expressed appreciation for Director Kelly and the REIB staff.
- **Councilor Updates**
 - Councilor Grant reported on the ongoing review of the 2020 City Council Resolution, tracking items completed and items still outstanding. She noted the recent charter update vote to include the REIB Department in the city charter as an example of completed work. Raised concern that certain obligations from the 2020 resolution have lapsed. Refer to the video
 - Councilor Sanchez-Parkinson thanked Councilor Grant for her leadership as Chair for the Public Safety Committee and the REIB Committee and for her mentorship. She expressed she would be interested in bridging some of the conversations that happen in the Public Safety Committee in the REIB Committee. She updated everyone on what has been happening with the South Burlington Immigration raid. Refer to the video.
 - Councilor Carpenter shared there has been some side work happening to bring back the Aging Council and will bring information back to the REIB Committee when the time comes.
- **TCV Updates**
 - Christian Berry informed everyone none of the TCVs were able to come to the meeting but they are working on disseminating the planBTV 2050 information to their communities.
- **Missisquoi Gift**
 - Councilor Sanchez-Parkinson informed everyone the matter of the Missisquoi Gift was referred to the REIB City Council Committee by City Council for further consideration. The Committee was tasked with making a recommendation to City Council on whether to proceed with accepting the gift commissioned by the Abenaki Nation of Missisquoi. Refer to the video.
 - Brian Wiggins shared a letter from Chief Brenda Gagne of the Missisquoi Nation. The letter requested the totem be installed at Battery Park; if not, asked that the sculpture be returned to the tribe. Refer to the video.
 - Bob Rickard noted the tribe has received repeated state recognition, with near-unanimous support from Vermont legislators. He clarified the sculpture is not a “gift” in the traditional sense. Burlington funded the project via a grant and awarded those funds to Missisquoi for educational purposes.
 - Christian Berry clarified BCA did not commission the piece. The \$50,000 was gifted to the Missisquoi Nation via the 2022 resolution; the Nation commissioned the sculpture independently. Parks and REIB’s role was to identify a placement location. The original Greylock statue had been removed for safety reasons.
 - Richard Mernard informed everyone he has been storing the sculpture at his property since last July and urged a decision be made. Refer to the video.
 - Troy Headrick framed his concern as procedural, not personal. He stated his role is to amplify voices that have been excluded. He argued that the Vermont state recognition process for Abenaki groups was procedurally and inconsistent with UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Refer to the video.
 - David Massell helped organize three public forums on Indigenous history and identity at UVM since 2022, which prompted press investigations on this issue. Stated that based on research the leadership and Vermont’s recognized Abenaki groups have no traceable Abenaki ancestry. Refer to the video
 - Denise Watso spoke on behalf of the Odanak First Nation and its elected Band Council. She argued the Missisquoi Nation does not represent actual Abenaki people, citing the federal Bureau of Indian Affairs denial of their application. She called the current statue offensive and stereotypical; she urged the

Council to reject the gift and begin engagement with legitimate Abenaki representatives. Refer to the video.

- Max Curry expressed his concern about the educational message the statue would send in Burlington’s high-traffic, university-dense public spaces. He noted that descendants of Chief Greylock have said the statue does not represent who he was and urged the Council to listen to those voices.
- Laura Massell cautioned the Council against rushing to a decision due to “momentum” from the existing recognition process and suggested more time for evaluation with new information.
- Mira Fakiranando questioned the motivation of the Odanak’s opposition. Refer to the video.
- Daniel G. Nolett stated that as the Nolett family (Waba Nolett/ direct Greylock descendants), Odanak would be glad to collaborate with the City of Burlington to honor Greylock’s memory. He asked the Council to decline the gift and return the sculpture to Missisquoi. He framed a collaboration with Odanak as a meaningful act of truth and reconciliation.
- Liz Curry argued the City should not attempt to adjudicate the dispute, and should instead view the statue as an educational tool that can spark community dialogue, including about the current contestation. Liz Curry suggested accepting the gift need not be read as legitimizing any one side of the dispute. Refer to the video.
- Councilor Grant and Councilor Carpenter voted to recommend to proceed with acceptance to City Council. Councilor Sanchez-Parkinson opposed. The motion passed. Refer to the video.
- **REIB Updates**
 - Director Perkins noted no updates requiring extended discussion and invited ongoing email updates from community members and REIB staff.
- **Adjournment**
 - Councilor Sanchez-Parkinson moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilor Carpenter seconded. The meeting adjourned at 7:49 pm.

BURLINGTON CITY ARTS

MEMORANDUM

TO: City of Burlington, City Council

FROM: Doreen Kraft, Director, Burlington City Arts

CC: Kelli Perkins, Director, Office of Racial Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging
Sophie Sauvé, Parks Planning Division Director, Burlington Parks
Recreation and Waterfront
Colin Storrs, Public Art and Grants Program Manager, Burlington City Arts

DATE: 2/17/26

SUBJECT: Authorization to Accept a Work of Public Art from the Abenaki Nation of Missisquoi Tribal Council.

REQUEST

Burlington City Arts (BCA) requests City Council authorization to accept the donation of a work of Public Art from the Abenaki Nation of Missisquoi Tribal Council, and for the Director of BCA, their assignee, or their successor to execute all documents necessary to accept the gift, subject to final review and approval by the City Attorney's Office and Chief Administrative Officer.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Background:

In 1984, Peter Wolf Toth approached the City of Burlington and proposed to complete a sculpture as part of his Whispering Giant series, where he carved Indigenous figures in each of the 50 states to honor oppressed peoples. Having fled the Soviet occupation of Hungary, he identified with their struggles. In 1987, he completed what would later be known as Chief Greylock in Battery Park. The work was named and embraced by the Abenaki community but was neither created by nor representative of the Indigenous people of Vermont.

After 40 years of exposure to the elements, the sculpture had sustained significant degradation. In 2019, the 6–8-foot-tall feather atop the statue was deemed a hazard and fell after being fenced off for public safety. In the fall of 2024, Burlington City Arts (BCA) commissioned Tree Works to conduct a condition assessment, which concluded that the entire sculpture was a public safety risk and recommended removal. Subsequently, and in

accordance with the Art in Public Places Policy, BCA consulted the City Attorney's Office to confirm appropriate next steps.

Prior to the City informing Chief Brenda Gagne of the need to remove the existing Chief Greylock sculpture, the Abenaki Nation of Missisquoi—using funds allocated under City Council Resolution 6.01 (formerly 6.05), adopted on March 21, 2022—had commissioned artist Brandon Wilson of Mountainside Sculpture & Design (Jay, VT) to create a large-scale public artwork. At the time of commissioning, a permanent installation site for the work had not yet been secured.

While several potential locations had been explored with community partners, the planned removal of the existing sculpture created an opportunity for the Abenaki Nation of Missisquoi to propose donating the commissioned work to the City as a replacement on the existing foundation. In response, Burlington City Arts initiated the Public Art Gift process in accordance with the City's Art in Public Places Policy, ensuring that City Council would serve as the final decision-making body regarding acceptance of the donated work.

As part of the public art donation process, BPRW Director at the time, Cindi Wight expressed her approval for the project from the perspective that the donation would align with the Battery Park's function and plan. As it was to be a replacement of an existing work of art, it met the BPRW Department's criteria for acceptance.

The Public Art Committee, a subcommittee of the BCA Board of Advisors, reviewed the work and made a motion to recommend the acceptance of the gift to the BCA Board of Advisors during their March 13, 2025 public meeting. The committee was provided with contextual information regarding the City's Art in Public Places Policy and City Council Resolution 6.01 and were advised that their role was not to determine City policy direction, but rather to evaluate the proposal within the existing Art in Public Places policy framework.

A preliminary assessment by an accredited engineer indicates that the existing foundation appears to be capable of safely supporting a new sculpture, pending further evaluation. If acceptance is provided, an engineer will be commissioned to finalize any adjustments necessary to accommodate the installation of the new work.

Project Funding:

The total project budget is \$25,000 for the foundation evaluation, materials required, and support of the necessary construction work. All City related costs will be covered by the Public Art Commissioning Fund (807-27-700.9500_100-Capital Outlay Construction).

The value of the donated work is \$20,000, which is the commission fee paid to the artist.

The City's estimating a maximum project budget of \$25,000 to support project-related costs associated with the acceptance and installation of the donated artwork. This maximum authorization accounts for potential contingencies should an engineering review identify hidden deficiencies or structural failures in the existing foundation that require substantial reconstruction.

Maintenance

The work will be incorporated into the City's Art in Public Places program and maintained using funds from the 1% for Public Art fund. The City will include in their donation agreement, a clause that allows for an accelerated deaccession process—to reflect the realities of displaying a wooden sculpture in an outdoor environment. While the work is expected to remain in place for an extended period of time, this adjustment ensures a more responsive long-term maintenance strategy and more efficient removal and replacement process if the condition warrants it.

Department Contact:

If you have any questions, please contact Colin Storrs at cstorrs@burlingtoncityarts.org or (802) 540-8376.

ATTACHMENT

- A. Gift Summary
- B. Public Art Committee Recommendation to Approve and Accept Gift Date March 13 2025
- C. BCA Board of Advisors Recommendation to Approve and Accept Gift Date March 18 2025

MOTION

Burlington City Arts (BCA) respectfully requests City Council approve the following motion:

"To approve and authorize the Director of BCA to accept a public art donation as described in Attachment A, with a total value of \$20,000 from the Missisquoi Abenaki Nation; to facilitate site preparation up to a maximum amount of \$25,000; and to execute all necessary documents upon final review and approval by the City Attorney's Office."

Abenaki Public Art Donation: Gift Summery



TO: City of Burlington, City Council

FROM: Doreen Kraft, Director, Burlington City Arts

CC: Kelli Perkins, Director, Office of Racial Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging
Sophie Sauvé, Parks Planning Division Director, Burlington Parks Recreation and Waterfront
Colin Storrs, Public Art and Grants Program Manager, Burlington City Arts

DATE: 2/17/26

SUBJECT: Donation Summery of a Public Art Gift from the Abenaki Nation of Missisquoi Tribal Council to The City of Burlington

Summary:

In 1894, Peter Wolf Toth approached the City of Burlington and proposed to complete a sculpture as part of his *Whispering Giant* series, where he carved Indigenous figures in each of the 50 states to honor oppressed peoples. Having fled the Soviet occupation of Hungary, he identified with their struggles. In 1987, he completed what would later be known as *Chief Greylock* in Battery Park. The work was named and embraced by the Abenaki community but was neither created by nor representative of the Indigenous people of Vermont.

After 40 years of exposure to the elements, the sculpture has sustained significant degradation. In 2019, the 6–8-foot-tall feather atop the statue was deemed a hazard and fell after being fenced off for public safety. In the fall of 2024, Burlington City Arts (BCA) commissioned Tree Works to conduct a condition assessment, which concluded that the entire sculpture was a public safety risk and recommended removal.

Recognizing the cultural significance and high visibility of the site, the Abenaki Nation of Missisquoi request that the City consider accepting and installing a work of public art with a comparable visual presence in this prominent public space. The Nation had previously commissioned artist Brandon Wilson of Mountainside Sculpture & Design (Jay, VT) to create a public artwork, though no permanent installation site had been finalized at the time.

After exploring various potential locations with community partners, and following discussions between the City, Council representatives, and Chief Brenda Gagne regarding the removal of Chief Greylock, the Abenaki Nation of Missisquoi propose donating the commissioned work for installation on the existing foundation in Battery Park. Burlington City Arts subsequently initiated the Public Art Gift process in accordance with the City's Art in Public Places Policy.

Gift Value:

The value of the artwork is **\$20,000**, which includes all payments made to the artist for fabrication and delivery. Installation and any necessary foundation updates will be the City's

responsibility. The City will use 807 Public Art Funds for foundation requirements and installation costs associated with the project, if available the project may also utilize funds allocated by BPRW for Battery Park renovations.

Material:

The artist has provided in-progress images of the work (attached at the end of this document). The final piece will feature a lower section that includes a wildlife totem on one side, an Abenaki figure on the other, and a top section that is an eagle carving. The lower section will stand 11 feet above the foundation, with a too-be-attached eagle sculpture increasing the total height to 16 ½ feet. The sculpture is made of Red Oak with carved and painted sections.

Site Plan:

The project will utilize the existing foundation from *Chief Greylock* with necessary modifications. The location is in the northern section of Battery Park, intentionally positioned so that viewers at the base of the sculpture can look through the bandstand toward Odzihozo, a rock formation of significant importance to the Abenaki community.

City Department Support:

Cindi Wight, former Director of BPRW, has supplied letters of support.

Construction Documents:

Construction documents will be prepared following City Council Acceptance. A preliminary assessment by an accredited engineer indicates that the existing foundation appears to be capable of safely supporting a new sculpture, pending further evaluation.

An engineer will assess the optimal modification needed to the existing foundation and the base of the donated work to safety and securing accommodate the new piece. The new artwork is intended to be secured to the foundation with the existing metal rod support system (similar to the original installation) with final details determined after the engineering assessment.

If acceptance is provided, an engineer will be commissioned to finalize any adjustments necessary to accommodate the installation of the new work.

Recommended Maintenance Plan:

The work will be incorporated into the City's Art in Public Places program and maintained using funds from the 1% for Public Art fund. The City will include in their donation agreement, a clause that allows for an accelerated deaccession process to reflect the realities of displaying a wooden sculpture in an outdoor environment. While the work is expected to remain in place for an extended period of time, this adjustment ensures a more responsive long-term maintenance strategy and more efficient removal and replacement process if the condition warrants it.

Red Oak is one of the more stable woods for outdoor sculpture. However, to ensure longevity, the artist recommends power washing the sculpture and applying log-based oil (*Cabot Timber Oil – Natural*) generously with a paint sprayer every two years. The estimated cost for this maintenance, if performed by an external vendor, is \$2,000–\$3,000 every two years. This expense will be budgeted into the Public Art Maintenance Fund.

Attachments:

- Images of the proposed sculpture
- Site plan of Battery Park
- Statement of support from BPRW

Image #1: Side 1



Image #2: Side 2



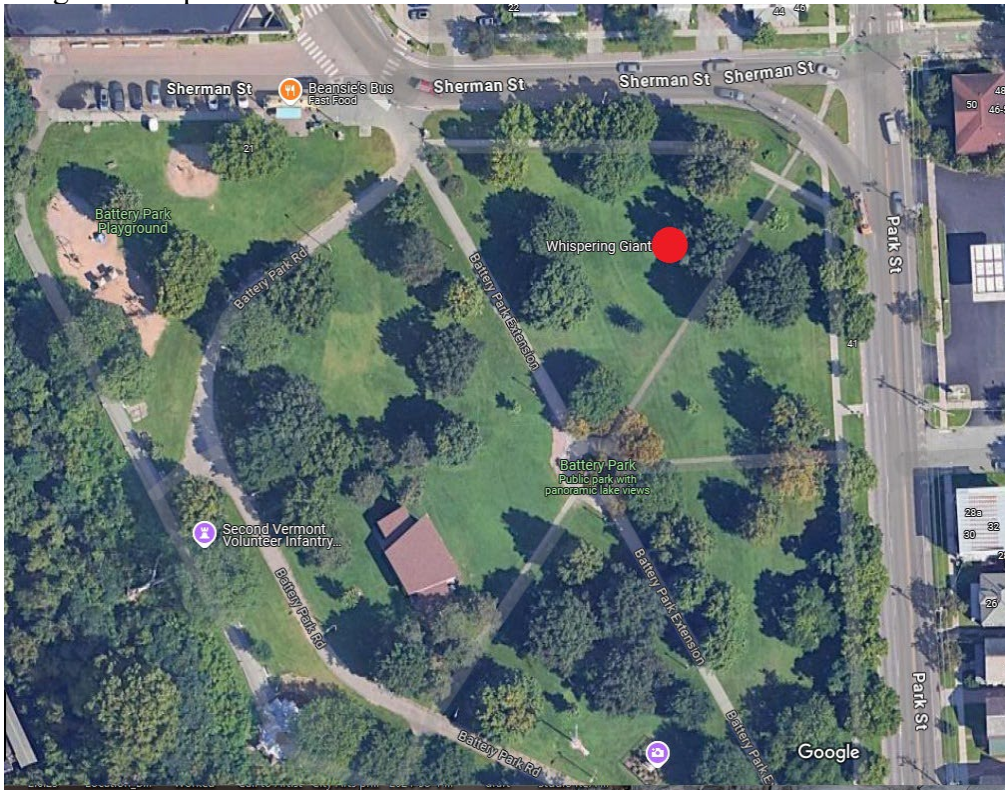
Image #3: Cap piece



Image #4: Location



Image #5: Map





March 10, 2025

To whom it may concern:

Burlington Parks, Recreation & Waterfront (BPRW) supports the addition of murals on the home and visitor dugouts at the Calahan Park Little League field, ensuring the art represents the diversity of users participating in baseball now and in the future.

In addition, BPRW supports the replacement of Chief Greylock at Battery Park as proposed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'C. Wight'.

Cindi Wight
BPRW Director

BCA

To: Burlington City Arts - Doreen Kraft, Executive Director

From: Burlington City Arts - Public Art Committee

Date: 3.13.25

Re: Artwork Gift - Recommendation to Approve and Accept

Dear Doreen:

Reference is hereby made to the City of Burlington Art in Public Places Guidelines and Policies (the "Guidelines"). Capitalized terms used herein, but otherwise undefined, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Guidelines.

On March 13 2025, the Public Art Committee of the BCA Board of Advisors (the "Committee") met to discuss, among other things, the proposed gift of Artwork to replace the current Chief Greylock work in Battery Park described in Exhibit A attached hereto (the "Gift"). Based on the information presented to the Committee, the Committee agreed that the Gift meets the criteria for Selecting Artists and Artwork as outlined in Section V of the Guidelines. Accordingly, the Committee voted to recommend the approval and acceptance of the Gift pursuant to Section VI.B.2 of the Guidelines.

As always, thank you for your advancement of BCA's mission and public art planning and projects – your leadership and efforts are very much appreciated!

Sincerely,

Burlington City Arts Board of Advisors



Livia DeMarchis, Public Art Committee

To: Doreen Kraft, Executive Director

From: Burlington City Arts Board of Advisors

Date: March 18, 2025

Re: Gift Acceptance – Public Art Gift to the City by the Abenaki Nation of Missisquoi

Dear Doreen:

Reference is hereby made to the City of Burlington Art in Public Places Guidelines and Policies (the “Guidelines”). Capitalized terms used herein, but otherwise undefined, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Guidelines.

Pursuant to Sections VI.B.2 and VI.B.3 of the Guidelines, the BCA Board of Advisors (the “Board”) hereby certifies its approval of the Acceptance of the Public Art Gift to the City by the Abenaki Nation of Missisquoi (the “Gift”). The Board’s decision to approve the Gift is based on the City’s commitment to encourage equitable and empowering partnerships with leadership and citizens of the Vermont Abenaki Community and ensuring their continued representation in the City’s Public Art program is important. The Board also as reviewed considerations, including, among other things, its inherent artistic quality, its planned design and materials, its durability and ability to be maintained, its accessibility by the public, and its environmental impact and believes it that the proposed Gift fulfills the goals of the Art in Public Places Program. Finally, having considered the recommendations of the Public Art Administrator and the Public Art Committee, the Board has concluded that the Gift is fitting and appropriate to the Project’s function and location.

In light of the above, the Board believes it to be in the best interests of the City and the Art in Public Places Program to initiate a gift agreement with the Abenaki Nation of Missisquoi for the proposed gift in accordance with Sections VI.B.2 and VI.B.3 of the Guidelines.

Sincerely,

Lori Rowe

Burlington City Arts Board of Advisors

Resolution Relating to

**REINSTATING THE BURLINGTON AGING COUNCIL
AND IMPLEMENTING THE AGE-STRONG BTV PLAN**

RESOLUTION 7.2.

Sponsor(s): Councilors Schachter,
Carpenter, Grant, and Sanchez-
Parkinson

Introduced: 05/11/26

Referred to: _____

Action: adopted as amended

Date: 05/11/26

Signed by Mayor: 05/12/26

CITY OF BURLINGTON

In the year Two Thousand Twenty-Six.....

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Burlington, as follows:

- 1 That WHEREAS, older residents of Burlington are valued members of the community; and
- 2 WHEREAS, older adults are as diverse as the communities in which they live and are Burlington’s
- 3 homeowners, renters, taxpayers, business owners, entrepreneurs, employees, volunteers, civic leaders, artists,
- 4 musicians, writers, and more; and
- 5 WHEREAS, the share of Burlington residents age 65 and older is growing and is projected to continue
- 6 to increase faster than any other age cohort, underscoring the need for coordinated planning and policy
- 7 leadership; and
- 8 WHEREAS, ageism and social isolation are embedded in our culture and continue to impact our
- 9 community’s seniors, leading to increased mortality and poor health outcomes; and
- 10 WHEREAS, Burlington has an opportunity to address these challenges through education, intentional
- 11 inclusion, advocacy, and responsive programming; and
- 12 WHEREAS, in 2019 the City Council created the Senior Study Committee to review and make
- 13 recommendations regarding the long-term provision of senior services in Burlington; and
- 14 WHEREAS, the City Council subsequently supported the formation of Burlington’s Aging Council to
- 15 elevate the contributions of older adults, raise issues facing older residents and service providers, and make
- 16 policy recommendations to the Mayor and City Council; and
- 17 WHEREAS, the Aging Council, with support from CEDO, developed the Age-Strong BTV Plan,
- 18 which provides a comprehensive framework to guide City policy, programs, and investments affecting older
- 19 adults. This Plan was formally adopted by the City Council on May 19, 2025; and
- 20 WHEREAS, the Age-Strong BTV Plan identifies key focus areas including housing, transportation,
- 21 health and wellness, food security, social inclusion, and civic engagement, and calls for sustained coordination
- 22 across City departments and community partners; and

* * * * *

ORIGINAL

DISTRIBUTION:

I hereby certify that this resolution has been sent to the following department(s) on

RESOLUTION RELATING TO

.....

.....

.....

.....

Adopted by the City Council

....., 20.....

..... Clerk

Approved....., 20.....

Attest:

..... Mayor

Vol. Page

* * * * *

23 WHEREAS, in Fiscal Year 2026 the City sunsetted the CORE Adult Center located at the ONE
24 Community Building, which had provided recreational programming and support for seniors at a central
25 location in the Old North End, and also allocated a one-time \$50,000 to support programming for seniors; and

26 WHEREAS, a standing advisory body is necessary to ensure that the voices of older adults remain at
27 the forefront of City decision-making and that the recommendations of the Age-Strong BTV Plan are
28 implemented, tracked, and updated over time;

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby reinstates the Burlington
30 Aging Council as a formal advisory body to the Mayor and City Council; and

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Office of Racial Equity, Inclusion and Belonging shall
32 provide staff support to the Aging Council; and

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the purpose of the Aging Council shall be to:

- 34 1. Elevate the contributions of older adults in Burlington;
- 35 2. Identify and raise issues impacting older residents and the organizations that serve them;
- 36 3. Make policy and budget recommendations to the Mayor and City Council; and
- 37 4. Lead, monitor, and support the implementation of the Age-Strong BTV Plan; and

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Aging Council shall prioritize implementation of the
39 recommendations contained in the Age-Strong BTV Plan, including identifying actionable steps, timelines,
40 and metric for progress, and shall provide regular updates to the City Council; and

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Aging Council's focus areas shall include, but not be limited
42 to: housing affordability and accessibility, transportation, health and wellness, food security, accessible public
43 spaces, social inclusion, technology access, civic engagement, economic opportunity, and support for
44 caregivers; and

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Aging Council members shall be recommended by the Office of
46 Racial Equity, Inclusion and Belonging and appointed by the City Council, with half of the members serving
47 two-year terms and the other half serving one-year terms beginning July 1, 2026, and shall include:

- 48 • 1 member representing an organization providing supportive housing for older adults in Burlington
- 49 • 1 member representing an organization providing direct services to older adults to age in place
- 50 • 1 member representing an organization that directly advocates on behalf of the needs of and
51 opportunities for older adults
- 52 • 1 member representing a senior center in Burlington
- 53 • 1 member representing an organization supporting New Americans in Vermont

* * * * *

ORIGINAL

DISTRIBUTION:

I hereby certify that this resolution has been sent to the following department(s) on

RESOLUTION RELATING TO

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Adopted by the City Council

....., 20.....

..... Clerk

Approved....., 20.....

..... Mayor

.....

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* * * * *

REINSTATING THE BURLINGTON AGING COUNCIL AND
IMPLEMENTING THE AGE-STRONG BTV PLAN

- 54 • 1 member representing an organization providing recreational programming for seniors
- 55 • 1 member representing the City's Parks, Recreation & Waterfront Department
- 56 • 1 member representing Fletcher Free Library
- 57 • 1 older adult living in Burlington, who may be affiliated with the above-mentioned organizations
- 58 but does not have to be; and

59 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council directs the Aging Council to report back within
60 one year with progress on implementation of the Age-Strong BTV Plan and recommendations for any updates
61 or additional actions needed to ensure Burlington is an age-friendly community.

62
63 AS/Resolutions 2026/*Reinstating the Aging Council and Implementating the Age-Strong BTV Plan*
64 April 24, 2026

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REIB staff

Reinstating The Burlington Aging Council And Implementing The Age-Strong BIV Plan

A AS amended

Adopted by the City Council

May 11, 20 26

Paul Green Clerk

Approved *May 12*, 20 *26*

Carol L. Green Mayor

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Attest:
Lori Olberg
Lori Olberg
Council and Licensing Coordinator

* * * * *