



PARKS & RECREATION AND HARBOR COMMISSION

December 13, 2022, 5:30PM

645 PINE STREET, FRONT CONFERENCE ROOM

Zoom Link

<https://zoom.us/j/98997679344>

Webinar ID: 989 9767 9344

Phone: 1-301-715-8592

AGENDA

- I. Approval of Agenda
- II. Consent Agenda
 - A. Action Item: Approval of Minutes of November 15, 2022 Meeting (attachment)
*waive the reading, approve the minutes and place them on file
 - B. Action Item: Approval of Request for Special Use Permit and Sound Waiver at City Parks for BPRW Events
*waive the reading and approve the request for special use permit for amplified sound, vending and general use.
- III. Information Item: (10 min.) ECHO Update on Creemee Stand (verbal)
- IV. Action Item (20 min.) Penny for Parks Community Requests, Max Madalinski, Parks Project Coordinator, BPRW (verbal)
- V. Public Forum: (Time Certain 6:10PM)
- VI. Action Item: (20 min.) Legacy Fund Adaptation, Dan Cahill, Land Steward, BPRW and Zoe Richards, Conservation Board Chair (attachment)
- VII. Discussion Item: (15 min.) Urban Park Rangers, Erin Moreau, Waterfront Superintendent and Harbormaster, BPRW, Neil Preston, Lead Urban Ranger, BPRW and Cindi Wight, Director, BPRW (verbal)
- VIII. Action Item: (5 min.) Request for Waterfront Advisory Group Representative from Commission, Cindi Wight, Director, BPRW (verbal)
- IX. STANDING ITEMS:
 - A. Report from Commission on Volunteer Hours
 - B. Report on PACC Dog Force
 - C. Report on Parks Foundation
- X. Director's Items
- XI. Commissioner's Items
- XII. Adjournment

Agenda available in alternative media forms for people with disabilities. For disability access information, call (802) 864-0123



**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
HARBOR COMMISSION
Minutes
September 13, 2022
Parks and Recreation Commission**

Commission Present: Duke, Hurley, Lantieri, Johnson and Wiseberg

Staff Present: Roach, Sauve, Cahill, O'Daniels, Storrs, Moreau, Kaeding, Bushnell

Public Present: Zoe Richards (Conservation Board Chair), Mike Shea (Spirit of Ethan Allen), Jack Wallace (Burlington Harbor Marina), Paul Land

The meeting was convened at 5:32 p.m. by Duke

Duke reports that Alex Farrell has moved to South Burlington and is no longer able to participate on the commission. There is an open seat listed on the city website.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the agenda by Hurley, second by Wiseberg, motion carried.

Legacy Fund Update

Cahill stated that last winter, with the help of the commission, staff realized that the fund was only being funded at less than .5 of the full cent that it was supposed to be allocated. As of July this year the fund is now being funded with the full cent.

Zoe Richards indicated that this full funding has allowed the conservation board to reconsider what projects they can potentially work towards in the future. Has assembled a nature based climate change document in hopes of elevating a lot of the work that the conservation board and parks commission is doing. Essentially – parks are valuable and important not only for our community wellbeing but also in terms of climate action. Selective plantings can help cool cities, clean the air, and clean the water. These projects are low investment and high impact. The city council has been very supportive of the project and the conservation board has provided an idea for future projects.

Cahill provided a slide presentation showing the breakdown of what the fund has generated and how those funds were allocated. He specifically pointed out that 30% of the fund goes to funding a land steward position which has been historically funded through multiple sources. The other 70% of the fund has gone towards the conservation of around 230 acres of land.

Now that the fund is up to capacity, Cahill recommends distributing funds differently – 30% will continue to fund stewardship (land steward position), 30% would go towards conservation and acquisitions, and the remain 40% would be allocated towards a new category which would support nature based climate solutions in the community.

Hurley asked the time frame in which the 230 acres were required. Cahill was not able to provide information on specific properties, but was able to confirm that the fund began to accrue in 2006 and has been in operation since then. Hurley asked what acreage might be remaining. Cahill reported that



there are six different properties that have either been on the wish list since the beginning or have recently become available. These are spread throughout the city and consists of many different type of acquisitions including “pocket parks”. The estimated acreage they are hoping to acquire is around 140 acres.

Duke asked of examples of what work could be funded by nature based climate solutions. Richards explained that it could be as simple as increasing the number of new trees we plant yearly to replace older trees that are being removed. Cahill showed the commission the implementation plan developed by the city which will act as a potential guide or map to use of the fund. It would allow the funds to be used by city staff, conservation groups, and other organizations. Some of the categories for work include tree planting, community gardening, food security, etc...The conservation board has asked for more detail on how the fund would be administered and accountability for future projects. The goal is to make sure the fund is used appropriately.

Cahill suggested that the parks commission and conservation board have a joint meeting at some point in the next year to further discuss the fund and the use of the fund with the hope of making the meeting a yearly event. The conservation board has made it clear that they would like to see diversity in the projects that the fund sources, and would also like to see community built around the concepts and ideas and giving community something tangible to develop around. They would also like to find a way to make the legacy fund a matching funding source.

Richard concluded by explaining that there are three separate things that the fund is supposed to support – land acquisition, long term stewardship, and conservation education programs. Land acquisition has been going well, but work is needed to improve the other two areas.

Public Forum (Time Certain 6:00 PM)

Mike Shea, owner of the Spirit of Ethan Allen, asked about the harbor commission meeting following the parks commission meeting with questions in regard to the plan to dredge the harbor. He noted that the dredging desperately needed, his ships are bottoming out in the harbor, and he has had a hard time finding the plan for the harbor dredging.

Jack Wallace from Burlington Harbor Marina also commented on the need for dredging in the harbor. He also asked about harbor patrols and patrol routines as executed by BPRW. He has seen far more traffic in the harbor in the last few years and notes that the city should be providing patrols now that the pandemic is easing.

Paul Lande joined the public forum to discuss the community garden program, but as the item had not yet been discussed he decided to wait to hear the presentation.

Update on BACG Program

Deryk Roach provided some background on the equity work that the program has been doing in the last couple of years. One of the identified steps towards improving equity in BPRW included improving the community garden program. He introduced Dan Cahill who provided an update on the new garden agreement for the community gardens. The new agreement actively seeks to make the program equitable for all races and all members of our community with the goal of being intentional about inclusion and belonging. Dan specifically cited Paul Land who has been deeply involved in the process as a community member.



Cahill provided an update on the adaptive garden agreement which seeks to help promote the pieces of gardening and the gardening experience that can help maintain curiosity and encourage interactions with one another. Staff will be meeting with site leaders to further discuss their roles as well as further community building. The heart of the community garden program is the volunteers that run it; the site leaders make this program work and BPRW acknowledges that if the running of the gardens is left up to folks who have the time and resources to take on site leader roles it can have a restricting effect on who uses the community garden program. Cahill and his team will be looking at what site leaders and volunteers need to best do their jobs and what kind of staffing positions need to be created to serve a parallel function to support the site leaders.

Another step is the development of tools and resources that can support the learning and growing in relation to inclusion and belonging. The aim is to provide tools, resources, and information in a culturally appropriate way and in a way that works for all users of the garden program. This aspect is more of a reflective process.

Finally, they will be reexamining the requirement of 4 hours of volunteer work, what qualifies as the community service requirement, and what may or may not be supporting people's access to the gardens. The aim is to broaden the way BPRW serves the building of community and belonging at those sites and in the program.

This work is all in the early stages and will continue to develop as time moves forward.

Johnson commented that he was appreciative of the work being done to improve equity and the information Cahill provided in the presentation. Duke concurred with Johnson and thanked Roach and Cahill for their work.

BTV Stat Fall Presentation

Sophie Sauve provided a short presentation that she and her department previously presented on BTV Stat. This year they chose to focus on playgrounds and provide a bigger picture that is city wide.

In deciding what to focus on for BTV stat, they decided to focus on playgrounds, the expectations around playgrounds, aging equipment, dwindling fees, ADA requirements, and universal access. One of the challenges that BPRW faces in terms of playgrounds is a lack of replacement parts and the need to remove pieces or whole structures due to aging and that lack of replacement materials. Out of the 30 parks in Burlington there are around 16 playgrounds in those parks. 12 playgrounds are due or overdue for replacement in the next 5 years. Some of these are more than 20 years old. Playgrounds at Leddy and Pomeroy had to be completely removed due to a lack of replacement parts and another one at Smalley was removed due to rotting wood. The team did discover that, while there are many playgrounds in need of repair and replacement, most do outlast their life expectancy. In terms of replacement, geography does impact the plans for replacement in addition to wear and tear.

On the financial side of things, 4 playgrounds were replaced in the last 5 years. Costs have varied over that time to replace parts and whole pieces of equipment, and the cost of materials for the universally accessible playground at Oakledge is considerably higher than standard materials. Inflation is also a factor in replacing current playgrounds in need of work. The cost for that would likely be around \$2 million. Next steps include looking at what is needed for each playground replacement.



The main budget for playground replacement comes from penny for parks, but creative funding sources have also been improved. Sauve provided a breakdown of the use of funds from the penny for parks program and how BPRW intends to use those funds for FY2023. There are, however additional costs that are not included in the breakdown for penny for parks. Playgrounds are just one of the components of penny for parks funds use, and all other programs that use the fund need to be balanced along with playground work.

Hurley commented that she loves the playgrounds. Duke commented that Sauve and Cindi Wight presented to the Parks Foundation at their last meeting and provided information on the need for funding to improve playgrounds akin to the general fund with an aim towards universal access. The parks foundation was receptive and may support the department in raising funds to improve playgrounds going forward. Wiseberg commented that the 2nd phase of work at Oakledge is starting to wrap up and he is very happy with the appearance of the new space.

Sauve provided brief update on Oakledge, noting that workers will be shutting down for the winter at the end of the week. They are ahead of schedule and plan to come back for 3 to 4 weeks in the spring to complete work (poured in place surfacing). They anticipate the playground being reopened in early summer as long as the weather cooperates.

Standing Item:

Report from Commission on Volunteer Hours

Johnson reported visiting Callahan Park for around 3 hours to chat with folks about the commission. Hurley was not able to complete any volunteer hours this month. Wiseberg spent around an hour at Oakledge reporting issues on see-click-fix. Duke met with Cindi Wight and attended the parks foundation meeting with the hope of spending more time on projects in the winter months.

Report on PACC Dog Force

Duke was unable to attend the last taskforce meeting. Cindi Wight was in attendance but was not able to be present for this meeting. An update will be provided at the next meeting.

Report on Parks Foundation

Alex Farrell was the commission representative, but as he has now moved to South Burlington a new representative is needed. Duke has been attending meetings and would be happy to continue to do so, however she offered the position to any of the other commission members who might be interested.

Director's Items

Wight was not present for this meeting and Roach did not provide an update at this time.

Commissioner's Items

There were no commissioner items at this time.

Adjournment

Hurley moved to adjourn, Wiseberg seconded, motion to adjourn Parks Commission passes at 6:43 pm

The Harbor Commission meeting was convened at 6:44 p.m. by Duke



Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda by Wiseberg, second by Johnson, motion carried.

Waterfront Update

Erin Moreau had one update to provide on marina operations. There are no fee changes at this time so that item will not be needed. 2022 was the first summer in a couple of years where the Canadian border has been open. Moreau shared a graph that clearly indicated the improved number of slip and mooring rentals over the last two years. The marina and campground both received software upgrades which really improved communications with customers, and the transition to the new system went very smoothly and now the team will be looking into what went well and what needs improvement in the year to come. They will be providing an update to BTV stat in February.

In terms of the campground, the improvement in reservations also improved from the previous two years. A fee change provided improved revenue for the campgrounds. Because of the new software staff was able to track visitors by the states that they came from, noting that Canadians is by far the largest group of visitors. The campground had a great year. On opening day the campground sold out on all of the busiest weekends and Alec Kaeding was busy right up until closure on 10/15. They were not able to move forward with the master plan for North Beach, but they will continue to look for funding sources to update the campground from its 1950s style and infrastructure.

Moreau will be spending some time this winter working with Sauve on solutions for the boathouse and start to plan for work to be done to improve that structure. Time is extremely limited, and hopefully they will be able to do a study this year.

Finally, Moreau provided an update on externally produced events at Waterfront Park. The events were still in recovery from the pandemic shut down, and is working at around 2/3rds capacity. Two large events decided not to return, but there have been several new producers/events and Richard Bailey is looking to fill in the last gaps in the summer schedule. A full update will be provided in December.

There are a few winter projects on the docket including construction at the cottage at North Beach which was started back in 2020 and was shut down due to the pandemic. Parking is another focus they will be looking at in the winter, partnering with DPW to roll in the few surface lots that are part of Waterfront division into the full city structure. Automated gate arms are likely to be added to assist in after-hours security issues. Moreau will be issuing an RFP for harbor dredging. An underwater depth survey was completed this fall and there is funding for design and permitting for dredging and further funding in FY24 for the actual dredging work. Looking at dredging at Perkins Pier and the main waterfront at the end of College St. They are looking at where the most need is with the knowledge that available funding may not cover all the areas that need work. They will be providing an urban park ranger program update in December.

Hurley asked if there were any updates on the boathouse. Moreau stated that she and Sauve will be looking at the boathouse feasibility study to determine the future of the boathouse. They will go from there. It is a much needed conversation and thankfully there are funds secured for that work.

Duke asked if fees and pricing will be looked at over the winter for either camping or the marina. Moreau states that fees were updated last year and only went into effect this season. They will be reassessing to see if a specialty fee (long term rate) is needed, but there is nothing pressing as the fees



were just updated. The only potential fees updates may come in terms of events with the hope for better compliance with Act 250 guidelines. There were issues this year with events and compliance and they are considering changing monetary requirements to improve that compliance going forward. Duke commented that the event fees seem modest to her and that some problems can be solved with just more revenue. Moreau commented that the department often hears from producers that they are more expensive than other locations, but BPRW will be looking at the needs for stronger damage deposits and fines for Act 250 violation.

Adjournment

Wiseberg moved to close the meeting, Hurley seconded, the motion passes. The Harbor Commission was adjourned at 7pm.

DR



MEMO

Date: December 13th, 2022
To: BPRW Commission
From: Meghan O'Daniel, Community Garden & Parks Outreach Coordinator
RE: 2023 BPRW Events in Parks

Request for waiver at all City parks to allow for amplified sound, vending and general use for BPRW events and programming throughout 2023.

Burlington Parks, Recreation & Waterfront Department is pleased to continue their activation of City parks through the planning and implementation of events for 2023. The events that the Department coordinates ensure that the parks remain enticing to community members in fun, creative and accessible ways.

These events include, but are not limited to – Kids Day, July 3rd, Beach Bites, and various Halloween and Holiday/Winter events.

Staff contact is KJ Doyle, BPRW's Event Planner.

Staff Recommendations:

Allow for Special Use Permit including a waiver for amplified sound, vending and general use.



Quick recap

In 2022 Parks Commission discovered that the Conservation Legacy Fund was not being fully funded. Previously, the fund was accruing at .43 cents on the grand list dollar, and now accrues at 1 cent on the dollar as was originally intended. Along with the reassessment, this has created a lot more money for Conservation work in the city.

CLF annual funding (FY05-22) - \$190,122

CLF annual funding (as of FY23) - \$561,000



CITY OF BURLINGTON, VT

OPEN SPACE PROTECTION PLAN

Natural Areas



Recreation



Open Space



Adopted by the Burlington City Council: 30 October 2000

From the Executive Summary of the 2000 Open Space Protection Plan

b) Proactive Conservation that identifies sites of the highest priority for protection, and offers the mechanisms and resources to set these lands aside as a legacy to future generations. The keystones to this strategy are the establishment of proactive Conservation Legacy Program which:

- Prioritizes lands that are most important and suitable for long-term protection based on the City's open space vision and the presence of important natural or recreational features ;*
- Creates a land conservation fund - sustained in-part with dedicated City funding – set aside towards the costs associated with the purchase and longterm protection of open land; and,*
- Ensures planning for the long-term stewardship of conservation lands under City ownership*



NOW, THEREFORE, SHALL IT BE RESOLVED that the City Council hereby

establishes a "Conservation Legacy Fund" as described in the attached document, to support the acquisition and stewardship of conservation land by the City and support ongoing operation of the Burlington Conservation Legacy Program including:

- To fund **Land Acquisition** and long-term protection of significant natural areas, important open spaces, and urban greenspaces through public acquisition by the City and other interested parties.
- To support the **Long-Term Stewardship**, including the development and implementation of property-specific management plans, of significant natural areas and important open spaces permanently managed by the City of Burlington's Conservation Legacy Program as Urban Wilds.
- To develop and support **Conservation Education Programs** administered under the Burlington Conservation Legacy Program; and

Burlington Conservation Legacy Program

1

Land Stewardship

To ensure the responsible long-term stewardship and management of significant natural areas and conservation lands owned by the City of Burlington.

2

Acquisition Planning

To facilitate the acquisition of significant natural areas and important conservation lands for permanent protection within the City of Burlington in partnership with area land trusts, non-profit organizations, and local, state and federal government agencies.

3

Conservation Education

To improve the public's familiarity and appreciation of Burlington's natural areas, to communicate the importance of open space protection, and to encourage public participation in the protection and planning process.

Administration & Oversight

The Burlington Conservation Legacy Program is administered and Managed by the Department of Parks, Recreation & Waterfront. The Burlington Conservation Board also advises the Department.

Original Bond Question Creating the Legacy Fund

“Shall the tax rate ceiling in Sec. 99 of the City Charter be amended by increasing it one(1) cent upon the dollar of the property grand list, from 38.88 cents to 39.88 cents, and shall the voters recommend authorizing the appropriation of such increase to be placed in a special revenue account under the name of the Burlington Conservation Legacy Fund, the purpose of which is the **purchase and protection** of important natural areas and open space?”



What **purchase and protection** of important natural areas and open space has been enabled by this vote over the past 17 years?

- Purchase

- Appraisals
- Cost of land
- Survey work
- Environmental assessment
- Remediation
- Loan interest
- Land trust carrying costs
- Bringing property up to standard (signage, deferred maintenance)
- Community wide planning

- Protection

- Land stewardship
 - Forest regeneration
 - Habitat protection
 - Monitoring
- Access and Wayfinding
- Trail development
- Conservation education
- Civic engagement and service work
- Place making and community building
- Partnership development



Conservation Legacy Fund by the Numbers



Total Legacy Funds 2005-22	Acquisition	Stewardship
\$3,232,975	\$2,263,083	\$969,893

Total Acres Conserved	Total Properties Conserved	Matching Funds Raised	Legacy Funds Disbursed for Acquisition	Fund Balance as of 10/26/2022
230	10	\$2,940,000	\$1,763,146	\$499,937

What adjustment are needed to continue to achieve a Conservation Legacy in Burlington

2022 Nature-Based Climate Solutions Addendum to the open space plan outlines conservation as climate action and updates focus areas to maintain resilience and function of our ecosystems.

The document outlines six focus areas:

- Water and Wetlands
- Lawns, Fields, and Small Open Spaces
- Agriculture and Community Gardens
- Green Infrastructure
- Urban Forests and Tree Canopy
- Equity, Inclusion and Relationships



Actions required to achieve nature-based climate solutions are outlined in the implementation matrix of the addendum and are divided into goals, strategies and actions

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

How does Burlington translate these Nature Based Climate Solutions into action? What new initiatives can we begin? Where and how can we expand the existing initiatives, where there is already momentum and investment? The seven themes highlighted in the plan -- forests and tree canopy; agriculture and community gardening; water and wetlands; lawns, fields, and small open spaces; green infrastructure; and equity and inclusion -- are further broken down below into strategies, actions, and opportunities. These can be thought of as both a roadmap forward, as well as an invitation to community members. This section cannot capture all of the potential steps to leverage nature based solutions to address climate change, but it is our hope that it will provide members of the community with a view into how they can participate and shape the collective response. Ultimately, we also intend for this section to be a guide for how financial resources can be directed to this work, as well as define the topical areas to begin forging the collective action necessary to address climate change through nature based solutions. Please note that the Burlington Conservation Board is managing a more detailed implementation matrix that includes additional information about each strategy and action including level of priority, anticipated timeline, and groups that could be involved.

THEME 01: FORESTS AND TREE CANOPY

A. CONSERVATION OF EXISTING TREE CANOPY

STRATEGY	ACTION
1A.1 Update the Urban Forestry Master Plan.	Broaden to incorporate the City's Street Tree Plan and nature-based climate solutions into a larger framework that includes intact forested areas, peripheral small open spaces, and private lands, both residential and commercial.
	Inventory specific trees by tree type and location. Include a complete analysis of overall tree canopy and strategies to protect the canopy as needed.
	Analyze Burlington's tree canopy to assess health and threats (biologic, abiotic, or anthropogenic).
	Identify strategies and metrics for monitoring the health of the tree canopy and the increase in canopy cover over time.
	Acknowledge and plan for the impact climate change will have on existing tree species.
	Include a carbon calculation of the amount of carbon being captured city-wide.
	Organize a planning retreat with existing land managers, neighborhood groups, and entities such as Branch Out Burlington and Grow Wild as a part of the Urban Forestry Master Plan Update.
	Create a fund to support the expansion of the city tree program beyond greenbelts and formal park areas to include: forest



How will the new part of the fund be administered

May	Joint meeting of BPRW Commission and Conservation Board - priorities for the climate adaptation fund set and approved by both bodies.
June- September	Outreach and education about the fund and upcoming priorities
October - December	Applications open
December-January	Internal project review and refinement
January	Open Space Subcommittee meeting - project applications reviewed and recommendation made to BPRW Commission and Conservation Board
February	BPRW Commission and Conservation Board approve and recommend project slate to City Council and the Mayor
March	City Council approval
April	Funds disbursed to approved projects



**OPPORTUNITIES TO
ACCELERATE NATURE-
BASED SOLUTIONS:
A ROADMAP FOR CLIMATE
PROGRESS, THRIVING
NATURE, EQUITY, &
PROSPERITY**

A REPORT TO THE
NATIONAL CLIMATE TASK FORCE
NOVEMBER 2022



THE WHITE HOUSE
www.eopxx.com

Previous, Current and Potential Legacy Fund Distributions

<i>Current Funding Disbursements with previous funding level</i>		
30% Stewardship	70% Acquisition and Planning	
\$57,000	\$133,122	
<i>Current Funding Disbursements with new funding</i>		
30% Stewardship	70% Acquisition and Planning	
\$168,300	\$392,700	

Scenarios of Funding Disbursements with new funding		
30% Stewardship	30% Acquisition and Planning	40% NBS Projects
\$168,300	\$168,300	\$224,400
30% Stewardship	35% Acquisition and Planning	35% NBS Projects
\$168,300	\$196,350	\$196,350
30% Stewardship	40% Acquisition and Planning	30% NBS Projects
\$168,300	\$224,400	\$168,300



VI. Distribution and Use of the Conservation Legacy

Fund

- All disbursements of principal, interest, or other assets of the Conservation Legacy Fund shall only be made in furtherance of the public purposes set out in Section I and II.
- The Conservation Legacy Fund shall have 2 categories of disbursements:
 - **(Acquisition Funds)** A joint recommendation to the Mayor from the Conservation Board and the Parks & Recreation Commission shall be made on a case-by-case basis for the disbursement of Conservation Legacy Fund monies for the acquisition of land, interests in land, and associated costs identified as for permanent protection in the City of Burlington.
 - Expenditures may be made to any form of nonprofit corporation, municipal corporation, state or federal government agency, for-profit corporation, estate, trust. Partnership or individual.
 - **(Capacity Funds)** During each year, the Conservation Board and the Parks & Recreation Commission shall jointly recommend to the Mayor a disbursement from the Fund to the Burlington Conservation Legacy Program for the purposes of Land Acquisition Planning, Stewardship, and Conservation Education for inclusion in the annual budget resolution.
 - No more than 30% of the annual tax revenue generated by the Fund shall be used to support the Program's annual operations.
- The Burlington City Council shall make the final approval of the annual budget, all loans and grants received, and all disbursements of principal, interest or other assets of the Fund upon the recommendation of the Mayor. The operations of the Fund shall be subject to all City purchasing and expenditure rules and procedures, and any staff shall be assigned for human resource administration purposes to the Parks and Recreation Department.

DOCUMENT

recommendation



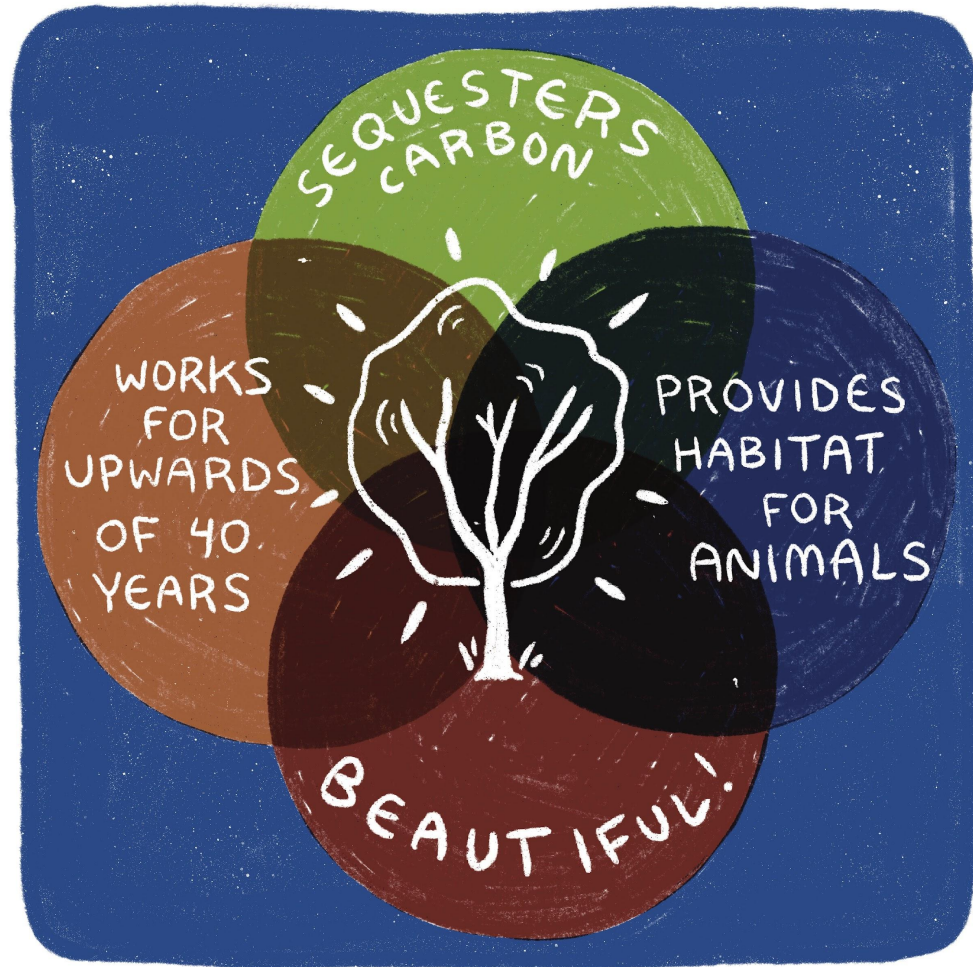
The City of Burlington Goes To The Head of the Class in Implementing Natural Climate Solutions

By: Zoe Richards, Melissa Hunter, and Taj Schottland | November 6, 2022



AGENCY Taking the problem of climate change into their own hands. Photo by the Burlington Conservation Board.

In Burlington, Vermont, packs of kids from Champlain Elementary School fan out to local parks gathering acorns, ash samaras, and



VI. Distribution and Use of the Conservation Legacy Fund

- All disbursements of principal, interest, or other assets of the Conservation Legacy Fund shall only be made in furtherance of the public purposes set out in Section I and II.
- The Conservation Legacy Fund shall have 2 categories of disbursements:
 - **(Acquisition Funds)** A joint recommendation to the Mayor from the Conservation Board and the Parks & Recreation Commission shall be made on a case-by-case basis for the disbursement of Conservation Legacy Fund monies for the acquisition of land, interests in land, and associated costs identified as for permanent protection in the City of Burlington.
 - Expenditures may be made to any form of nonprofit corporation, municipal corporation, state or federal government agency, for-profit corporation, estate, trust, Partnership or individual.
 - **(Capacity Funds)** During each year, the Conservation Board and the Parks & Recreation Commission shall jointly recommend to the Mayor a disbursement from the Fund to the Burlington Conservation Legacy Program for the purposes of Land Acquisition Planning, Stewardship, and Conservation Education for inclusion in the annual budget resolution.
 - No more than 30% of the annual tax revenue generated by the Fund shall be used to support the Program's annual operations.
- The Burlington City Council shall make the final approval of the annual budget, all loans and grants received, and all disbursements of principal, interest or other assets of the Fund upon the recommendation of the Mayor. The operations of the Fund shall be subject to all City purchasing and expenditure rules and procedures, and any staff shall be assigned for human resource administration purposes to the Parks and Recreation Department.

VI. Distribution and Use of the Conservation Legacy

Fund

- All disbursements of principal, interest, or other assets of the Conservation Legacy Fund shall only be made in furtherance of the public purposes set out in Section I and II.
- The Conservation Legacy Fund shall have 3 categories of disbursements:

O **(Acquisition Funds)** A joint recommendation to the Mayor from the Conservation Board and the Parks & Recreation Commission shall be made on a case-by-case basis, **as applications are received,** for the disbursement of Conservation Legacy Fund monies for the acquisition of land, interests in land, and associated costs identified as for permanent protection in the City of Burlington.

- 40% of the annual tax revenue generated by the fund may be made to support acquisition to any form of nonprofit corporation, municipal corporation, state or federal government agency, for-profit corporation, estate, trust. Partnership or individual.

O **(Capacity Funds)**

- 30% of the annual tax revenue generated by the Fund shall be used to support the Program's annual operations overseen by Burlington Parks, Recreation and Waterfront Department.. o**(Climate Adaptation Funds)**

O (Climate Adaptation Funds)

- 30% of the annual tax revenue generated by the Fund shall be used to support the community wide climate adaptation work as outlined by the 2022 Nature Based Climate Solutions, addendum to the Open Space Protection Plan. During each year, the Conservation Board and the Parks & Recreation Commission shall jointly recommend to the Mayor a disbursement from the Fund to the Burlington Conservation Legacy Program for the purposes of Climate Adaptation Funding. **This disbursement will follow a process approved by Conservation Board and BPRW Commission.**

- Expenditures may be made to any form of nonprofit corporation, municipal corporation, state or federal government agency, for-profit corporation, estate, trust. Partnership or individual.

- As capacity and funding allows, Conservation Board and Parks Commission can entertain and recommend emergent Climate Adaptation requests.
- The Burlington City Council shall make the final approval of the annual budget, all loans and grants received, and all disbursements of principal, interest or other assets of the Fund upon the recommendation of the Mayor. The operations of the Fund shall be subject to all City purchasing and expenditure rules and procedures, and any staff shall

be assigned for human resource administration purposes to the Perks and Recreation Department.

- All Funds not spent in any fiscal year, will roll-over and be available for their specified purposes in future fiscal years.

SUMMARY OF OPPORTUNITIES

Monthly Parks Commission update – December 2022

Stories (Lots of love for the new mosaic on the Greenway!)

Gratitude

In October, a wonderfully whimsical mosaic was created on the wall of the underpass for the bridge over the bike path between Leddy Park and North Beach. I was bicycling by when I saw one of the artists at work. A recent issue of Seven Days in an article by Sally Pollak identifies the artists as Mary Lacy and Corrine Yonce. The work was funded by the Dept noted above. It is cheering to see this mosaic. Don't miss it!



Check out the incredible work along the [#BurlingtonGreenway](#) bike path by artists @mary_lacy and @corrine_yonce, as covered by @sevendaysvt. Burlington Parks, Recreation and Waterfront's (BPRW) Conservation Team worked with the artists to bring this whimsical [#mosaic](#) mural to life on the wall of a bridge underpass between North Beach and Killarney Drive. BPRW maintains this area and the team often had to remove graffiti from this wall, but this permanent work of art has brought it to life in a new way. As Conservation Team leader and City Land Steward Dan Cahill describes it — they've gone from "cleanup to place-making" with the completion of this public art project. ✨ Thanks @sevendaysvt for featuring this work!



→ Read the whole Seven Days story here: www.sevendaysvt.com/vermont/local-artists-create-a-massive-mosaic-along-the-burlington-bike-path/Content?oid=36986318 And go check it out for yourself soon!

📷 by Daria Bishop | Seven Days

A friend and I were bicycling from my place at The Village at Northshore south to the waterfront in October when we saw the Bike Path Mosaic being created. It is whimsical and imaginative and, another benefit, obscures the tasteless, unimaginative graffiti that used to be on that wall (and also contaminate many of the buildings in Burlington and the bridge over the Winooski near the Lake). There was a two page spread in the most recent Seven Days about it. I had alerted them to the new mosaic, with photos, and they went to work and investigated, so Hurray! Parks and Seven Days ;-). Thank you!! - Dr. Susan E Rittenhouse

Department accomplishments and notable staffing developments since the last report?

December Work Anniversaries – Steven Latulippe (41!), Melissa Cate (28), Jake Hornick (6), Joanne Putzier (38 for the City!) – that is over 100 years of City history in December, and if you count Jake being able to plug into his Dad's memories we are around 150 years of history, which is invaluable!

- Hired Kenroy Walker as the Property Services caretaker for the Elmwood Emergency shelters
- Hired Raymond Bickings as our new HVAC specialist – it only took us over a year to fill the position!

Major upcoming events: <http://enjoyburlington.com/events/>

- Senior Holiday Dinner – Thursday December 14th
- Pomerleau Christmas Party – Sunday December 18th
- BIPOC Winter event – January 14th

Planning Division Update

Dewey Park public meeting

- Projects Progressing:
 - **Champlain Street Park Redesign:** Successful permitting process completed. Working on drafting an RFP for playground components and furnishings in 2023.
 - **Dewey Park Memorial Sculpture and Annex Refresh:** Supporting the work of the REIB and BCA on the commissioning and installation of the Embrace and Belonging Sculpture by Humanity Memorial in Dewey Park. Co-led a public meeting in December at Integrated Arts Academy about the sculpture. Working on an RFP to survey the park and the adjacent Spring Street 'Annex' to identify next steps in a potential Right-of-Way abandonment by DPW to make this portion of the street permanently part of the park. Working concurrently on 'refresh' concepts of the Annex to support the installation of the artwork in mid-2023.
 - **Leddy Park Comprehensive Plan:** Reviewing work by UVM Students on designing the playground area and the pavilion area as part of a semester project. Will be kicking the project back into gear in January 2023 with a consultant-led workshop.
 - **Leddy Pause Place and UVM Fitness Equipment Pad:** Working with consultants on updating drawings to bid out these remaining parts of the Greenway rehabilitation and to build the second bioretention area at Leddy as part of our Greenway Phase 3 stormwater permitting with the state (ongoing).
 - **Oakledge for All Universal Access:** Construction has been paused for winter. Contractors estimate a few weeks of work in the spring before the grand opening aimed at summer! Working with consultant developing plans for the restroom renovations. Reviewed selected fitness equipment with the City's Accessibility Committee and will be reaching out to additional contacts. Installation aimed for spring (ongoing).
 - **Pomeroy Park Playground:** A community request to replace the "tot lot" at Pomeroy has expanded to include universally accessible circulation to/from the playground area and looking at the playground as a whole for a full replacement in the coming year. Community input will be sought in the coming months as the process unfolds.



- **Roosevelt Park Comprehensive Plan:** Work on the public outreach strategy continues and will be aiming to start with students.
- **Schifilliti Path:** Still in NEPA review with the State of Vermont.
- **Survivors of St. Joseph Orphanage Project:** Working on cost estimates for the conceptual memorial healing project with the survivor's group. Supporting the traveling exhibit on the work of the group which will be arriving at the Fletcher Free Library in January 2023. Opening reception planned for January 12th.
- **Wayfinding:** New park signs have been installed in 8 of our city parks!
- Projects supporting other divisions/ departments: (abbreviated)
 - Playground Equipment and Compliance
 - Great Streets/Main Streets

Waterfront Division Update

- **Parking:** Waterfront parking lots have transitioned to off-season operations. Oakledge and North Beach no longer have a charge to park, and Perkins Pier and Pease Lot have switched to the off-season rate. Boat launches are free until the Spring. Staff have been working with DPW to upload all of our parking information into their new parking system, so that all of our waterfront surface parking areas can be integrated into the full City system, with DPW providing comprehensive parking management and enforcement.
- **Rangers:** The two FT Park Rangers continue to monitor, notice and remove encampments within our Parks. Special attention has been made to the Urban Reserve, as that site is prone to more unwanted activity and inhabitants that require more services outside of our Department to assist in relocation.
 - The Rangers have consistently brought a steady, compassionate presence to our Parks, often placed in very tough circumstances. We have placed a proposal to the Mayor's Office for permission to invest in this program with additional FT Rangers, as we are significantly under-resourced to handle the amount of encampments and people who require additional services.
- **Current Waterfront Projects:**
 - The Watercraft contract for recreational paddlecraft at North Beach will go in front of BOF/CC in early December for final approval.
 - The RFP for automated gate arms at Oakledge, North Beach and Leddy has been posted, with a closing date of December 16th.
 - The BHS City & Lake Semester wrapped up their Waterfront Partners collaboration with a great immersive meeting with all community partners (8+ partners, half within City). Erin Moreau, Dan Cahill, Andrew Romano and Neil Preston were all involved engaging with students about the future of the Urban Reserve. This is a great community partnership.

Recreation Division Update:

Miller/CORE Programs

- Recreation and Community Outreach Specialist, Zach Martin, has been meeting with representatives from AALV & Spectrum Family Services to set up a series of free programs and events. Staff have been leading

groups of teens on October trips to local Halloween haunted houses, dance classes and movie theater nights

- Bolton Ski and Ride program registration are taking place now after a two-year hiatus, the first 4-week session begins in January.
- Thanksgiving week licensed childcare Vacation Camp was held at the Miller during the break and was full. Recreation Specialist, Susan Carter, is now planning for licensed camp for school vacation weeks in December and February.

Leddy Programs

- Leddy Arena fall skating lessons are wrapping up soon. Lessons range from beginner to advanced and are available for ages 3-adult. Winter Skating Lessons are now available for folks to register on our website.
- Our Fall 2022 skating programs served 90 individuals.
- Our Leddy Ice Arena Recreation Specialist, Tess Weafer, is busy organizing our annual holiday figure skating show, The Gift, with the Champlain Valley Skating Club. The show will be held on December 14th at Leddy Ice Arena.

CORE Adult Center

- Upcoming December trips include Holiday Shopping and a Holiday Lights Tour
- December programs include:
 - Bone Building Exercise Classes
 - Holiday Candy Making
 - Exploring YouTube TED Talks
 - Senior Moments Theatre Group
 - Reminiscing – New Years' Past

Recreation Events

- Senior Holiday Dinner is scheduled for December 15th, and this year we will be holding it in the Old North End for the first time at the Old north End Community Center. We expect 100 Burlington senior adults to attend.
- Pomerleau Family Holiday Party takes place on Saturday, December 18th, 2022 at the Hilton Hotel, from 11:00am to 2:00pm. This party honors the great work the Pomerleau Family Foundation does in collaboration with the City of Burlington, dating back some 42 years with the help of Bernie Sanders and the Burlington Teen Council. Each year the Pomerleau's work with Burlington area family services organizations to invite over three hundred guests.

Athletics

Our NFL Flag Football League season concluded on November 5. **The BPRW Chiefs won the grade 6-8 division championship game.** The Chittenden County Patriots took the championship in the grade 3-5 division.



- Feedback from a parent regarding our NFL flag football program: *“I just wanted to write and say that Jordan (Clapperton) and his team (Brandon Allen, Nick Bishop and Tobias Kaplan) did an amazing job this year. They really went above and beyond to make the whole thing feel legit and “official.” The kids LOVED it. The evolution from last year was impressive and the way they officiated games and had playoffs and everything provided a collective experience that meant a lot to the families involved. And we had great weather each and every Saturday! Hopefully, they are able to continue it and find a way to bring more kids into the fold.”*
- Jen Cotton, Athletics Program Manager, and Jordan Clapperton, NFL Flag Football Program Director, are continuing to try and grow the NFL Flag Football program throughout the state of Vermont, and have been in touch with other neighboring towns about adding this program. It’s an exciting and fun sport and all of the BRPW flag football staff are thrilled to watch it continue to grow!
- MD Women’s Basketball League started on November 6 and has nine teams participating. They play on Sunday afternoons at the Miller Center through early March.
- Women’s Indoor Soccer started on November 13 and will run through the winter at the Miller Center on Sunday evenings.
- Adult Pickleball Clinics (Skills Clinics, Dinking and Drop Shot) continued in November and have been filling up due to the popularity of pickleball! We will be offering more clinics throughout the winter.
- Youth Basketball League starts on December 3 – we are looking at having close to 200 participants in the league with approximately 23 teams. Late registration is open until December 16.

Recreation Facilities Division Update

Leddy Arena

- High school hockey will be in full swing this month, with 16 games in December, including three high school tournaments. Leddy will also be hosting an all-day Dynamo youth hockey tournament on New Year’s Eve. In addition, we currently have 22 birthday parties, family/corporate skates and school groups scheduled in December, as well as all of our weekly rentals.
- Come join us for “The Gift” holiday ice show at 1pm on Saturday, December 17. This great annual event features local skaters of all ages and abilities performing routines, which celebrate the holiday season. Admission is free, with donations accepted which will benefit The Hope Lodge Burlington.
- Current projects at the Arena include repairs to the leaking water bottle filler, trouble-shooting charging issues on our new Zamboni with DPW Equipment Maintenance and Zamboni personnel and repairs/preventative maintenance on the old propane-powered backup Zamboni. Big thanks to Kim Bleakley’s custodial team who performed a thorough cleaning of the snack bar so that hockey booster groups can use it this season.
- Leddy Arena is hiring! In November we said farewell to Damion Gilbert who has joined the DPW Streets Maintenance team. We are currently seeking both an Arena Maintenance Worker and Arena Maintenance Specialist. Huge thanks to Stan Bajuk, Josh Cushing, Scott Hannigan and Tess Weafer who are keeping the rink running with minimal staff. Additional thanks to Ritchie Snow from our Grounds division who will be supporting rink staff during our busy tournaments, and to his supervisor, Steve Bachand for being willing to be flexible with Ritchie’s time. We could not keep operating 18 hours a day without department-wide support.

Miller Center

- December Miller programs include line dancing, women’s basketball league, American Sign Language, Kids Holiday Candy Making, pickleball, table tennis, morning walking program, and December vacation

camp. We will also be offering some highly requested evening pickleball sessions the week after Christmas.

- In addition to our weekly church services for Champlain Valley Baptist Church, the Miller Center will host a special holiday service for Iglesia de Dios Pentecostal on December 17. Thanks to staffers Mellisa Cain and Janira Cartagena-Aponte for covering Miller for the Baptist church services on Christmas and New Year's mornings.
- Our new Office Assistant at Miller has done a great job decorating the Miller lobby and common spaces for Halloween and now the winter holidays. In December his office will get spruced up with the addition of new carpeting as well.
- Thanks to the Central Facilities, Grounds and Parks Facilities teams who consistently respond to service requests at Miller, ranging from no heat in the gym to an inoperable snow blower to a broken drinking fountain...and much more.

CORE

- December Very Merry Theatre performances include The Addams Family Musical December 9 & 10 and Oklahoma December 16 & 17. Other December activities include Tai Chi, martial arts, our weekly Covid clinics, a gender reveal party, VT Legal Aid meeting, pickleball and more!
- CHT and BPRW are working with CCTV to get a new hybrid meeting system installed at the event hall, thanks to grant funding secured by CCTV staff.
- The ONE Event Hall will be host site for this year's BPRW Senior Holiday Dinner on December 15 from 4:30-7pm. This wonderful annual event is a favorite of Burlington seniors and the ONE Center will provide more space and a better kitchen for the festivities.
- **Thank you to Very Merry Theatre for their painting of the entrance to the gymnasium** – their artwork is a huge, fun improvement to this area! Welcome to our new ONE Center Building Superintendent, Jason Horne! Along with Mulu, Melissa and Migmar, Jason has been trained on the new sound system in the event hall and will support our maintenance needs in the ONE Center.



Park Division Update

Park Administration

- Community Garden Registration has started.
- Perimeter lighting was installed at Frame. Still executing the closeout of work.
- Filled the Property Caretaker Position. The candidate starts on December 20, 2022.
- Working to fill Facilities Maintenance Specialist and Cemetery Maintenance Worker
- Participating in two internal CEDO-led Committee's – Reducing Risk through the Opioid Crisis and the Committee to Help End Homelessness.

Conservation Program

- Close up of 2022 bacg season

- Site Leader Fall Gathering
 - Maintenance Activities
- 2023 Bagc registration underway
- Continued work on Bagc org systems, reviewing leadership structures, aligning educational materials, including translations
- Planning season for next season bike path improvement projects (soft shoulder repair, plantings and accessibility)
- Participating in [Grow Wild](#) strategic planning sessions
- Fall Burlington City and Lake Semester Projects ([read BCL most recent blog for more details](#)).
- Continued Support of Champlain Elementary School Nature Based Learning Initiative Pilot. ([read recent article for more info about the pilot](#)).

Central Facilities Program

- Interviews completed and an offer made for new Property Services Caretaker position.
- Custodial Working Foreman is working with the Asset Manager to create additional VueWorks work orders.
- Custodial cleaned the Leddy Arena snack bar area for winter use.
- Damaged ballot box replaced.
- Planning for historic door and window restorations at the BCA, Library and Fire Station 1.
- Successful shut down of the cooling towers in the Library and City Hall/BCA.
- Interior glass door tinting for CT office.
- Planning for upgrading RTUs at Miller Center.
- RFP posted for geothermal well test at Fletcher Free Library.
- Planning for additional data needs in City Hall.
- **New security door reader installed at the front entry of Library.**
- Final Walk through for new door reader system at 200 Church Street.
- Working to ensure heating with existing boilers at Memorial.
- Upgrading notes in Automated Logic Control program.
- Teaming with DPW for Pine Street parking changes.
- Furniture moved from 200 Church to 405 Pine.



Trees and Greenways Program

- **Continued line clearance work for BED contract**
- Responded to resident requests as needed.
- Continued fall cleanup of landscape beds throughout parks.
- Completed fall planting of bare root trees, 173 total.
- Completed cleanup of rain garden systems throughout the City per agreement with Water Resources Dept.
- Ordered bare root trees for spring '23 planting and identified planting sites.



Park Facilities Program

- I.D. Signs were installed at Baird, Battery, Ethan Allen and Calahan Parks.
- Warped boards were secured on the Waterfront Boardwalk.

- Changed flags for Veteran's Day.
- Assisted with the Red Stone Cottage improvements.
- Crew has been working on improving the condition of the fountain pit at City Hall Park and vandalism at the Portland Loo.

Facilities has had to call P and P septic three times in the last week to unclog the lines that were packed full of needles

Cemetery Program

- Preservation Burlington held two tours at Elmwood Cemetery on 11/5 and was featured on WCAX
- Lakeview closed to Saturday burials 11/1/2022, will reopen for burials on Saturdays in the spring depending on weather.
- Performed 5 urn burials and no full burials in the month of November.
- The cemetery sold no new lots for burial in November.
- **Louisa Howard Chapel was reserved for one wedding in the month of November (see picture).**
- With the help of Meghan O'Daniel burials, lot sales, and chapel rentals at Lakeview are now in Civic Rec. Consequently, the cemetery is now able to take credit cards for these purchases. This removes a large barrier that prevented many members of our community from making use of cemetery services.
- Maintenance manager position was reposted and there are now several applicants. Interviews to take place 12/6. Hopefully position will be filled before the first of the year.
- Paul Morris started as working foreman 10/31/2022.
- Continued fall clean up at all three city cemeteries.
- Began prepping for winter burials and casket storage at Lakeview.



Grounds Maintenance Program

- Repaired and maintained playground equipment
- Continued fall clean-ups
- Prepared equipment for winter storage
- Prepared trucks for snow plowing and, worked on snow blowers
- Application of final seeding at Calahan park
- Continued clean-ups of encampments
- Winterized parks, removal of tennis nets, etc.
- Preparing for winter ice rinks
- Maintained gravel roads and parking lots in the parks system

Admin Division Update

- Leddy Arena and Perpetual Care ordinance change presented to PACC in November. They are going to Council on 12/12/22.
- Cain Overlook restoration heading to BOF/CC for approval on 12/12/22. The project is a joint Admin/Park Facilities one.
- Red Stone Cottage improvements slowly moving forward.
- Three-week successful unplugged from work vacation!
- Marketing continues to support public communication for all divisions through regular social media, advertising, and web updates.
- Juliet from Marketing is developing ways to increase engagement and education about our Recreation programs and how they tie in to Parks and Waterfront through creative storytelling and social campaigns.
- Marketing is in the process of hiring a part-time graphic design and communications support role.
- We are researching options for a new website, in order to remain in compliance with accessibility standards and current website software.

Commission notes

- No additional notes

Halloween ride
pictures!



Realities of mornings
at City Hall Park



FRAME ribbon cutting



Permanent adjustable water quality
signs, peep holes at construction sites,
“not in VT” athletics sign and the B hat in
New Zealand!





**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
Minutes
December 13, 2022
Parks and Recreation Commission**

Commission Present: Duke, Hurley, Keech, Johnson and Wiseberg

Staff Present: Cahill, Moreau, Kaeding, Preston, Ramono and Putzier

Public Present: Zoe Richards (Conservation Board Chair) and ECHO

The meeting was convened at 5:34 p.m. by Duke

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda by Keech and remove item IV. PFP Community Requests to January meeting, second by Wiseberg, motion carried.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the consent agenda by Johnson, second by Wiseberg, motion carried.

Commission discussed briefly the proposed event blanket permit and would like to have the department update a few times a year on the upcoming events.

ECHO Update on Creemee Stand

Kelcey, sales and David and Charlie Smith, spoke of the mobile food truck trailer, had successful season, saw ECHO guests, wedding clients wanted to add on, a lot of school and camp groups. When first opened focused on customer behaviors, swapped order and pickup windows, added extra line stanchions to help with customer flow, reported on revenues, very good, increasing refrigerated storage to help with delivery capacity and better understanding of the flow of the season.

Wiseberg asked what other items might be added and was told some gluten free and non-dairy and vegan choices as well as adding some beverages. Wight explained that there was not a timeline for when the license would end and thanked the group for coming in to report out on the season.

Keech asked if the creemee stand was a significant addition of revenue to the souvenir shop and was told yes, has been a significant addition.

Public Forum (Time Certain 6:00 PM)

Nobody came forward to speak at the public forum.

Legacy Fund Adaptation

Dan Cahill and Zoe Richards introduced themselves. Cahill said this was a follow-up to the last month's meeting, increased funding in conservation fund, presenting and seeking as an item to approve and move forward to adapt. Prior funding was \$190,122 and as of FY23 funding will be \$561,000.

Richards stated went back to what the program was for and was written in 2004, did update in 2014 but the founding document is still extremely relevant and wanted to highlight what it is that is needed to do



to continue in perpetuity that would look out for purchase and long-term spaces. From this created Legacy Fund, questions went before the voters, two separate votes; one was to decide if wanted to have this and that was specifically a yes or no and then a vote on the specifics of how to do and what it could be used to fund. The fund specifically covers Land Stewardship, Acquisition Planning and Conservation Education.

Cahill spoke to the purchase and protection piece of the program. Spoke of how to build in to the acquisition of the land to cover all aspects. On protection side, 30% of the funding goes to the Land Steward position and covers overall management of the lands, which include forest regeneration, habitat protection and monitoring. Feels enhancing and climate solutions. About \$3.2 in funding and of that \$2.2 to acquisitions and \$969.8 to stewardship.

Richards, stated last year passed nature based climate solutions addendum to open space plan and will be re-written in 2025. Explained this is a way of valuing clean water, heat, clean air and must value wetlands and all, and stated that all are real climate issues and eco systems are very important.

Cahill spoke to an implementation plan that is divided into goals, strategies and actions. The document gives criteria of how to disperse and administered, speaks of joint meeting of BPRW Commission and Conservation Board and priorities for the climate adaptation fund set and approved by both bodies in May, June – September have outreach and education about the fund and upcoming priorities, October – December applications open, December – January internal project review an refinement, January open space subcommittee meeting – project applications reviewed and recommendation made to BPRW Commission and Conservation Board, February BPRW Commission and Conservation Board approve and recommend project slate to City Council and Mayor, March City Council approval and April funds disbursed to approved projects.

Richards stated that Nature based encourages keeping trees and not cutting to help and 1/3 should be nature based and should be 20% of portfolio and stated ahead of the White House and its report that was just put out.

Cahill stated that both commissions/boards were given scenario as recommendation of 30% stewardship which is the current, in past was \$57,000 versus what would be available in the current fiscal year which is 30% stewardship at \$168,300, and 30% acquisition and planning at \$168,300 and 40% NBS Projects at \$224,400....Cahill stated that the Conservation Board felt strongly about going with the scenario of doing 30 % Stewardship, 40% Acquisition and Planning and 30% NBS (nature based strategies) Projects.

Keech said he understands and said he felt does not feel developing is part of and felt acquisition is the key and no matter what work is going to equate over time and limited land will be available. Feels far more needs to go into acquisitions. Asked what the projection for growth is for stewardship, and asked what it would be used for.

Richards said agrees with but important to remember in we are in an urban context, and by doing nothing to help with trails is harmful and won't help make sure have in perpetuity and watches land that is already possessed is not kept conserved.



Duke said the NY Times has an interactive map to look at per capita impact on climate change and an argument can be made, Charlotte high per capita carbon impact, if you look regionally should take 200,000 people from Charlotte and put them in Cambrian Rise and help Charlotte carbon impact. In the end need to focus on protecting what have, not buying the most land possible is the most important way to go. Felt for education, management can have a bigger impact and feels a good direction for the program to go in. Felt stewardship is likely the bigger need at this point.

Richards said it is more important where the ecological land is located and gave an example of the project at Champlain School and growing trees, growing nursery, clippings from about 500 trees and native nursery stock.

Cahill stated that the stewardship is very dependent of the acquisitions.

Keech asked how the 30 and 40% debate was explained and if it was specific projects or acquisitions and costs. Cahill asked how got to \$500,000 balance and stated it varied differently over the years and felt City was in a place where have a backlog of items to get done, the first 40% projections was a review that was put forward and felt it should be equal or less and wanted to be more incremental. Wanted to see how it was going and look at the matrix and measurable outcomes to disperse.

Hurley said felt a lot of work had been done and trusts the process and the staff and percentages can be hashed out and supports.

Johnson agreed with Hurley and appreciated questions as well as the decades of work that have gone into the process.

Motion to change the Conservation Legacy Fund from the current 30% stewardship, 70% acquisition allocation to 30% stewardship, 40% acquisition and 30% NBS work allocation as a measure to be reevaluated annually, by Wiseberg, second by Johnson, motion carried.

Urban Park Rangers

Wight welcomed Rangers and Waterfront Team and said when all supported bringing Rangers on board that is how got support and felt that would be dealing with dogs off leash, fires on the beach and the like. Program started in May and can't say enough about the right people in the position. Andrew and Neal are the right Rangers and the ones that have really made this program.

Neal Preston introduced himself and stated how much he loves his job, regardless of how different the actual job is from what the initial job was introduced to be. He said it is probably the most hardest and difficult job within the Parks system. Stated spent 6 hours moving encampments. Said had an amazing team of seasonal Rangers over the summer. Romano said he was in parks since High School and a college grad, graduated last year and loves to focus on education.

Preston said essentially felt would be lots of community engagement, such as kids programs and guided tours as well as projects within parks and patrolling parks. Preston gave some examples of the ways in which he and Romano are in the community building relationships and breaking down fears and phobias and helping to build bridges of understanding and communication with all individuals within homes and outside of homes.



Moreau stated that when all other options are used the only other safe place to go is in the Parks and the Rangers have spent a lot of time building relationships and helping with understanding, compassion and to help them find a better situation on a case by case situation. Not an easy solution as to where to tell people they can go.

Moreau also stated they have still not had adequate training and protection, learning as they go and instead of retreating moved forward, learning process and don't have a clear answer as of yet but are being honest as to what is being seen within the City.

Keech asked if they had any sense of how many people are homeless and was told about 60 unhoused, has not witnessed any since July, which was a mother with 3 children. Typically couples and people struggling with drugs and mental health, along with those that can't be housed. Preston said largely when approached they operate with smiles and human dignity. Felt this process will continue moving forward and struggling at the national level why it would be expected that it will decrease.

Moreau spoke about the direction she would like to head, proposal for additional rangers and support, working closely with BPD, municipal tickets and more community outreach and tourist engagement. Anticipate this won't go away and requested 6 additional rangers, increase seasonal staff budget. Feel important and necessary work and takes a high amount of networking and resources. Would like to elevate the position that Preston is currently in and the level of connectivity that is being done.

Keech asked what happens to the belongings that are packed up and Preston said individual gets a note of belongings and where they are and they can come and get them, they are stored and located at North Beach in a trailer and kept safe until claimed and picked up.

Duke thanked the Rangers and said the way that Preston talks about it and conveying the humanity and stated that all did a great job speaking at the PAAC meeting and helped others to understand what is happening and what the City is going through. Totally supports adding to the program and continuing the conversation and asked how she could help in supporting the proposal of increasing more staff and training as well as equipment.

Romano said some winter engagement and events would include Urban Ranger community day at Leddy Arena January 14, Teach cross country skiing basics for recreation at Battery Park, cross country ski tours with the Rangers, pop up snowperson contests on the first snow day of the year CHP, also enrolled in Camels Hump Challenge.

Hurley thanked the Rangers and would love to have more people hear and see about them and appreciates all that they have done.

Motion to write a letter in support of expanding, strengthening and support the work of the Park Rangers and the increase in staffing and training and education by Wiseberg, second by Keech, motion carried.

Request for Waterfront Advisory Group Representative

Wight said that Act 250 stated this committee meets twice a month and has given the group the authority to go over how events have gone for the past year and review requests for events for the coming year, includes individuals from the neighborhood, Bailey the Events Coordinator, a producer,



BPRW staff, Fire, Police and a representative from the Parks Commission, not a big commitment but need a representative. Wiseberg said that he would like to be the representative for the Parks Commission.

Standing Item:

Report from Commission on Volunteer Hours

Keech had an additional hour, Wiseberg had an additional hour, Duke had an additional 3 hours

Report on PACC Dog Force

Duke stated she missed the last meeting, Wight said that Jake stepped down and Bria is on and a bit more traction. An idea came out of meeting for outreach and funding, if task force pushed getting dogs licensed 50% will go to task force if an increase is seen.

Report on Parks Foundation

Wight said looking at Frame in discussion on it, BPRW is going to them around a campaign around playgrounds and have small group and how they directly support Burlingtonians and will go back with formal request to take on fundraising around them to make accessible.

Director's Items

Wight said removing Leddy Municipal Arena out of ordinance as it was out of date and were successful in getting approved, also updated cemetery perpetual care language and got approval, took over ONE Event center and oversee for Champlain Housing Trust and started partnership with BCA to get more events covered for space, the Banner program is BPRW responsibility and working on how to move forward with the program and will be using similar permitting process with OpenGov with a higher fee so that don't lose money. Greenbelt is fully funded and Traverse discovered that was not fully funded and the CAO thought the same would go for Greenbelt/Street Tax and is not fully funded and readjusting what can do within that budget. Outdoor grant beginning to look at what can do, Catamount giving ski's and boots and will help with programming and City efficiency is trying to keep at level funding and sharing winter trailer. Cain overlook will be getting repairs and have granite pavers, new benches and repair the canon, lastly greenway mural is very nice and if you step back and look at you see other items within the mural.

Commissioner's Items

No Commissioners items.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Duke at 8:02 pm.