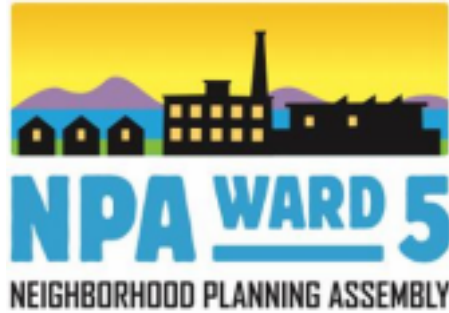




Meeting Agenda

Thursday, 6/17/2021

7:00 – 8:45 PM

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89574495720>

I. Participation

- a. Steering Committee Members & [Contact Information](#): Kirstin Boehm; Lucia Campriello; Billy Clark; Joe Dery; Jillian Kirby; Nate Lantieri; Andrew Simon; Ben Traverse
- b. Total Attendees: *TBD*

II. Agenda

- a. 6:55 – 7:05 PM: Musical Welcome: *TBD*
- b. 7:05 – 7:20 PM: Public Forum (community member exchange – questions, concerns, interests!)
- c. 7:20 – 7:45 PM: Legislative Session Update with Reps [Tiffany Bluemle](#) & [Gabrielle Stebbins](#)
- d. 7:45 – 8:05 PM: [Fair Housing Project](#) of CVOEO & Vermont Legal Aid with [Rachel Batterson](#) and/or [Erika Johnson](#), Vermont Legal Aid
- e. 8:05 – 8:25 PM: Community Control of Police Carter Change with [Grace Pfiel](#), People for Police Accountability
- f. 8:25 – 8:45 PM: Updates! [South End Construction](#) & [Consolidated Collection](#) (combining trash and recycling pickup) with [Robert Goulding](#), Department of Public Works

NEXT MEETING – TBD Summer Schedule

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Meeting NOTES
Thursday, 6/17/2021
7:00 – 8:45 PM

I. Participation

- a. Steering Committee Attendance & [Contact Information](#): Joe Dery, Jillian Kirby, Andrew Simon, Scott Pavsek, Nate Lantieri, Ben Traverse
- b. Total Attendees: 17

II. Meeting Notes

- a. 6:55 – 7:05 PM: Musical Welcome: *TBD*

No musical welcome this month; contact the Ward 5 Steering Committee if you're interested in performing at a future meeting!

- b. 7:05 – 7:20 PM: Public Forum (community member exchange – questions, concerns, interests!)

Joe asks group about summer events at Oakledge Park; suggests there is neighborhood interest in a block party!

Andy mentions passing of Charles Simpson; Charles was a steering committee member with the Ward 6 NPA and served the City in a multitude of capacities. He will be missed.

- c. 7:20 – 7:45 PM: Legislative Session Update with Reps [Tiffany Bluemle](#) & [Gabrielle Stebbins](#)
Rep Bluemle says session focused on COVID response, infrastructure and social equity. Legislature "made strategic investments."

Rep Stebbins mentions struggles of "small businesses, people with housing." Notes budget totaled seven billion dollars, but "federal deficit is a real issue." With doubling of budget, there were "millions of dollars in grants given to small businesses which hadn't received federal [aid]," in addition to support for new Americans, mental health investments. Unemployment tax burden was reduced. Aid provided to women and children who weren't eligible for federal aid. Rep Stebbins reads list of infrastructure investment highlights. Notes state IT systems were "from 1980s."

Rep Bluemle recounts legislation related to social equity. Notes two new positions added to Office of Racial Equity. Legislature allocated \$150,000 for "BIPOC-driven technical assistance for BIPOC businesses

in the state.” Health care for women and children regardless of immigration status, exemption of menstrual products from sales tax, formal apology for state’s history of eugenics represent key highlights for social equity this session. Notes child and elder care are now legally covered under campaign expenditure regulations.

Rep Stebbins returns to noteworthy bills. Notes receiving feedback from constituents regarding costs of child care throughout state. Mentions decriminalization of buprenorphine for therapeutic uses and banning of “forever chemicals” in consumer products. Last highlight includes banning of “trans panic defense” in criminal trials. “We heard quite a bit from constituents regarding pensions.”

Rep Bluemle reviews formation of summer study committees related to pensions, pupil weighting.

Joe Dery asks about ARPA funds, pupil weighting. Rep Stebbins discusses possible changes to school budgets after pupil weighting reforms are implemented.

Andy Simon asks about whether or not funding has been allocated to support Vermonters currently in emergency housing, set to end on 7/1. Rep Bluemle notes this project is FEMA-funded; emergency housing program may be able to secure funds through Dept of Commerce. Bluemle: “700 people will be released to their communities without guarantee of housing.” Notes ongoing communications with AHS staff to find more information about plan for housing support beyond 7/1.

- d. 7:45 – 8:05 PM: [Fair Housing Project](#) of CVOEO & Vermont Legal Aid with Ryan Murphy and Eric Fanning

Eric begins review of eviction moratorium enacted in May 2020, set to end now that COVID state of emergency has been declared over (6/15). All eviction cases statewide, beginning July 15, will no longer be stayed - speculates this is as many as 600, with more cases to be filed after moratorium passes. Eric emphasizes that Vermont Legal Aid services are available to all tenants; may receive referrals through vtlawhelp.org or helpline, 1-800-889-2047.

[Ryan](#) (Statewide Housing Navigator for CVOEO’s Housing Advocacy Programs Team) reviews VERAP application; tenants and mobile home owners can only access application online (vsha.org). CVOEO provides technical assistance for anyone seeking to complete the emergency rental assistance application. Support received through VERAP can be used for past or future rent. Ryan notes that evictions disproportionately impacts Vermonters belonging to protected classes (race, color, national origin, sex, family status, disability status and, in Vermont, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, receipt of rental assistance and victims of abuse/stalking).

- e. 8:05 – 8:25 PM: Community Control of Police Carter Change with [Grace Pfiel](#), People for Police Accountability

Group is organized around community control of policy, and seeks to get a proposal for community control on ballot in the next election. Charter would be changed to create an independent community control board with investigatory and disciplinary authority over police department. Grace cites statistics indicating black members of our community are disproportionately more likely to be pulled over or arrested by police. People for Policy Accountability are managing a signature campaign to receive ballot access via the petition process. Group can accept signatures online but will also be conducting neighborhood canvass.

f. 8:25 – 8:45 PM: Updates! [South End Construction](#) & [Consolidated Collection](#) (combining trash and recycling pickup) with [Robert Goulding](#) and Lee Perry, Department of Public Works DPW has finished a study of consolidated collection. City will still need to determine how to best implement a method of consolidation collection. Public Works Commission supports hybrid model in which City still manages collection. Next step in process is to bring proposal before City Council sometime next month.

DPW manages city's infrastructure; City is at end of sustainable infrastructure plan. Focused on sidewalks, street paving, drinking water. A map of sidewalk reconstruction is presented, with multiple sections on Home Avenue, Saint Paul Street, Howard Street and Dunder Road. Flynn pump station replacement is currently underway. Shelburne Street Roundabout improvement project set to begin in July.

NEXT MEETING – TBD Summer Schedule

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