



Neighborhood Planning Assembly Minutes

NPA:
(choose one)

Wards 1 & 8	Wards 2 & 3	Wards 4 & 7	Ward 5	Ward 6
----------------	----------------	----------------	-----------	-------------------

Date of Assembly: 06/03/21

Start Time: (Commence): 6:30pm

Location: Zoom - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81027856568>

Finish Time: (Adjourn): 8:30pm

Note taker: N Martelle, edited by Kirsten Wilson

Steering Committee Members in Attendance:

Michelle Mraz, Matt Grady, Mary Riley, Caroline Hauser, Nelson Martelle

Discussion Topics

- 6:30-6:35 Music by Joe Frasca
- 6:35-6:45 Mayor Miro Weinberger
- 6:45-6:55 Charles Simpson tribute, given by Andy Simon
- 6:55-7:05 Public Comment
- 7:05-7:20 Liz Gamache, Director of Business Development & Donor Relations, United Way of Northwest Vermont
- 7:20-7:35 Grace Pfei, People for Police Accountability
- 7:35-7:50 Brian Pine, director of CEDO
- 7:50-8:05 Representative Barbara Rachelson, Chittenden 6-6
- 8:05-8:25 Representatives Tiff Bleumle and Gabrielle Stebbins, Chittenden 6-5

Actions Taken / Decisions Made

-

Zoom Attendance:

Andy Simon (he, him)	Dalia Rodriguez	Liz Gamache, United Way	Rep Tiff Bluemle/Burlington (she/her)
Anita	Grace Pfeil (she/her)	mary	Rep. Barbara Rachelson
Anna Grady	Joan Shannon	Mary Riley	Rep. Stebbins, Chitt.6-5 (she/her)
Ben	Joe Frasca	Matt Grady	Robert Backus
Brian Pine	joey (she, her)	Michelle Mraz	Susan Kuntz
Caroline Hauser (she/her)	Karen Paul	Miro Weinberger	Tom Hyde
CEDO NPAs	Kirsten Wilson	Neil Groberg	Town Meeting TV
Connie Krosney	korinna	Nelson Martelle	

Agenda Items and Actions:

- I. **6:30-6:35 Music by Joe Frasca**
 - a. Joe on guitar, vocals by daughter, Kira.
- II. **6:35-6:45 Burlington Police Chief Search Update by Mayor Miro Weinberger (10 mins)**
 - a. Mayor Weinberger described the restarting of the search for a new police chief, hoping the process can forge a new consensus around policing. A search committee including Councilor

Karen Paul, will initiate public conversations with stakeholders to answer the question of what we need in the next police chief. An online survey is available here:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/btv_police_chief_search

III. 6:45-6:55 Tribute to Charles Simpson

- a. Andrew Simon provided a tribute to Charles Simpson, former Ward 6 NPA member, community leader and tireless advocate for a more just, verdant and livable city for everyone.
- b. Neil Groberg, Connie Krosney, Matt Grady and Michelle Mraz also spoke to Charles' lasting impact on Burlington and Ward 6, in particular.

IV. 6:55-7:05 Public Comment

- a. Anna Grady thanked Mayor Weinberger for undertaking new police search, noting the position is a critical hire. Anna Grady asked Mayor Weinberger what are top qualities of next police chief. Mayor Weinberger noted candidates must understand we're in the midst of a long overdue reckoning around racial justice and that there's unfinished work to resolve existing disparities. He also noted that the position requires excellent communication skills to manage conversations with the community as well as internally within a 100-person city department.
- b. Councilor Karen Paul welcomed public input on the police chief search, indicating the city is looking for broad input and a series of listening sessions will continue through mid-June.
- c. Councilor Karen Paul also noted a committee will be convened to gather input on the upcoming redistricting process and suggested a summer Ward 6 NPA might be useful.

V. 7:05-7:20 Liz Gamache, United Way of NW VT (45 mins)

- a. Liz described United Way of NW Vermont's ongoing efforts to build a stronger local community by working together. Liz highlighted United Ways programs supporting Vermonters throughout the pandemic. More information can be found here: <https://unitedwaynwvt.org/>

VI. 7:20-7:35 Grace Pfeil, People for Police Accountability

- a. Grace provided information on the campaign for community oversight of the police in Burlington. Community oversight would be conducted by a community control board and would include among other responsibilities, input into hiring criteria and disciplinary matters. For more information: <https://peopleforpoliceaccountability.com/>

VII. 7:35-7:50 Brian Pine, Director of CEDO

- a. Brian is the new director of CEDO. Brian described the ways his personal and professional experiences have shaped his thinking about public policy. He shared his goal that CEDO support a locally driven economy.

VIII. 7:50-8:25 State Representatives Barbara Rachelson, Tiff Bluemle and Gabrielle Stebbins

- a. Representatives Rachelson, Bluemle and Stebbins reported back on outcomes from the recent session including legislation related to the ongoing impacts of Covid, infrastructure, promotion of BIPOC businesses, expansion of the Office of Racial Equity, voting by mail, healthcare and the status of proposed Burlington City Charter changes.

For a more detailed summary of the work of last session and perspective on next year's priorities:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1kkKxph4FTc19fGn5-wxCzxsMDgfj-OX0/view?usp=sharing>

Meeting adjourned: 8:30pm