



PARKS & RECREATION AND HARBOR COMMISSION

May 9, 2023, 5:30PM

645 PINE STREET, FRONT CONFERENCE ROOM

Zoom Link

<https://zoom.us/j/92466416890>

Webinar ID: 924 6641 6890

Phone: 1-301-715-8592

AGENDA

- I. Approval of Agenda
- II. Consent Agenda
 - A. Action Item: Approval of Minutes of April 11, 2023 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 Battery Park by MadFreedom, Inc.
*waive the reading and approve the request for special use permit and sound waiver
 - C. Action Item: Approval of Request for Special Use Permit and Sound Waiver at Battery Park by Sangha Studio
*waive the reading and approve the request for special use permit and sound waiver
 - D. Action Item: Approval of Request for Special Use Permit and Sound Waiver at Oakledge Park for Linden Higgins Party
*waive the reading and approve the request for special use permit and sound waiver
 - E. Action Item: Approval of Request for Special Use Permit and Sound Waiver at North Beach by Gardener's Supply
*waive the reading and approve the request for special use permit and sound waiver
 - F. Action Item: Approval of Request for Special Use Permit and Sound Waiver at North Beach by Champlain Housing Trust
*waive the reading and approve the request for special use permit and sound waiver
 - G. Action Item: Approval of Request for Special Use Permit and Sound Waiver at Oakledge Park for Leah Swanson, Polly's Family Fun Day
*waive the reading and approve the request for special use permit and sound waiver
 - H. Action Item: Approval of Request for Special Use Permit and Sound Waiver at Oakledge Park for Adrian Sackheim
*waive the reading and approve the request for special use permit and sound waiver
 - I. Action Item: Approval of Request for Special Use Permit and Sound Waiver at North Beach Shelter for Brain Freezer 5K
*waive the reading and approve the request for special use permit and sound waiver
 - J. Action Item: Approval of Request for Special Use Permit and Sound Waiver at Roosevelt Park for ONE Dance Festival
*waive the reading and approve the request for special use permit and sound waiver
- III. Presentation: Coach of the Year, Jen Cotton, Athletics Program Manager, BPRW (verbal)
- IV. Action Item: (15 min.) Bicycle Events on Greenway, Cindi Wight, Director, BPRW (attachment)
- V. Public Forum: (Time Certain 6:00PM)
- VI. Discussion Item: (20 min.) Review Draft Annual Commission Report (verbal)
- VII. Discussion Item: (15 min.) Updating Ordinances – Park Use, Cindi Wight, Director, BPRW (attachment)

Recess for Harbor meeting

**HARBOR COMMISSION MEETING
May 9, 2023**

- 1) Approval of Agenda
- 2) Consent Agenda
- 3) Information Item: (20 min.) Waterfront BTV Stat Presentation, Erin Moreau, Waterfront Superintendent and Harbormaster (attachment)
- 4) Adjournment

Reconvene Park Commission

VIII. STANDING ITEMS:

- A. Report on PACC Dog Force
- B. Report on Parks Foundation

IX. Director's Items

X. Commissioner's Items & Volunteer Hours

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION – REAL ESTATE MATTER

XII. Adjournment



**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
Minutes
March 14, 2023
Parks and Recreation Commission**

Commission Present: Duke, Johnson, Keech, Lantieri, Morrigan and Wiseberg

Staff Present: Wight, Madalinski, Sauve, Doyle, Cate, Sarah Carter and Putzier

The meeting was convened at 5:33p.m. by Duke

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion to approve minutes from March 2023 Commission meeting and other items on the consent agenda by Keech, second by Morrigan, motion carried.

Morrigan would like pronouns changed to they them on minutes.

Burlington Burn Club, founder moved to PA but others are committed to keeping space alive. Feel important to have access and learn and make sure following safety protocols.

Volunteer of the Year Award

Sarah Carter, CORE Director introduced herself and stated she had a teacher that came to CORE and taught acrylic painting and wanted to award to Sue Brassard. Carter introduced Ellie and Jan, two of the adults that attend the Center and asked Ellie if she would like to speak. Ellie said Susan was her favorite instructor and was afraid to paint initially, said that Susan relaxed students and helped them and because of that she could not wait to paint each time and is very excited. Sarah also introduced Jan who attends the classes as well and said it took her quite some time to join as she was not confident enough and then became very excited and more confident.

Public Forum (Time Certain 6:00 PM)

Public forum opened at 6:00 pm

Nobody came forward to speak and was closed at 6:01pm.

BPRW Events 2023

Doyle said she would be speaking about a couple of events and wanted to bring up the mystical event that happened in October. Partnering with again for a new event, Soccer playoffs, doing after Beach Bites, 9-11PM and will be played in New Zealand, will have a projector, will be amplified for game, not a band but maybe something between commercials. Not sure how overtime will work. Second event 9/9 at waterfront and will have a dog centric event, Wag the Waterfront, and would like to use the Frame for things like agility and display, not for vendors, down further will have vendors and local people, barkery, do photo booth, rescues and other ideas about being able to bring a few dogs around adoption. Going to have later in the day will have happy hour in conjunction with Switchback, fenced in after the event that will be earlier in the day, will try and source dog beer also, they will donate those and will go



to a rescue. Will also be able to use Texaco Beach. Doyle stated she has an intern coming and will have more information and help as moves forward.

Wight asked about the dates for Beach Bites and was told it runs from July 12- August 9th for Beach, fully booked for 5 weeks with truck vendors.

Duke asked about the Mystical Market and Doyle said it had 23 vendors and also had 10 x 10 tents out as well, had a few food trucks and the bar was fantastic, many were interested in merchandise but a lot of neighborhood participants came to enjoy the event. Wight added that a special sensory component was held the following day that was not as intense for those that wanted a different experience.

FY24 Penny for Parks Approvals

Sauve provided some background while waiting to upload, started working on yesterday since weather was great. Contractors need to come in and finish family slide, need to finish surfacing, not sure exactly when it will wrap up but looking forward to. Glad the family slide got added in.

Continue to prioritize projects based on the 2015 parks comprehensive Plan in addition to community requests received on a yearly basis and emergent needs. Showed a spreadsheet that indicated the projects that are either active now and will overlap into FY24, or projects that will begin in FY24. The majority of funds have come from PFP but have also received other funding from grants and others to fulfill projects.

Showed a chart of where funds would come from for each project and how much it would cost, also explained items that are spread out year to year that is allocated to special needs items. Showed the capital projects that are under special projects that get funding from bonds and what some of those projects are. Stated a new Grant Director for the City was hired so hope to get more help around funding, will give all the information to one specific person requesting and putting together.

Keech asked what was happening at Lakeview Cemetery and was told by Sauve that a conceptual design was done for section 8 design and now this is for the actual design for plots etc. and it will be a variety and new section that will include various different types of plots.

Johnson asked if sidewalks were going to be built in Calahan Park and Sauve said along locust Street, within the park and would pass in front of the parking lot and going into some of the other areas eventually.

Motion to approve the recommendation of the list of projects for FY24 PFP funding by Morrigan, second by Johnson, motion carried.

BTV Stat Presentation

Wight stated that Waterfront was moved to the next meeting and the staff that are currently present were going to present on the Recreation Facilities and Programming, introduced Melissa Cate, Gary Rogers and Jules Shen.

Cate stated that facilities include Leddy Arena, Miller Center and CORE and look at usage to gauge how doing and historically over the years, went down in some but Miller remained strong as it was used through COVID. Hard to compare as the facilities are all very different. Miller has dedicated space that



can be used as much as wanted, at CORE some areas are dedicated and unavailable for full public use and scheduling. This was by hours of usage, which was very different if organized or sublet to others. Covid played a big role in some of the usage among youth versus adults and the ability for use. Discussed internal and external users and the fees, and realized balancing quite closely between the two.

Keech asked how the scheduling works and how it is opened to the public and Cate stated that recreation group creates programs and scheduling and reserves the spaces and have first choices, then have long standing groups that get choice and then open up to all public. Then showed the revenues and how they had changed from facility to facility and how Leddy is in great shape this year.

Rogers began with a presentation from last spring and another one year later and was quick, used some of the same data and continued along after COVID. Began with participation, started at the peak of the pandemic and did not gather adults only youth and was outdoor, felt good that persevered and got additional funding, explained how the participation graph was broken up between the school year and the summer. Summer 2022 had a huge up tick from 2018-19 pre Covid. Discovered youth numbers down in team sports. Program capacity and slots filled for summer 2021 was still post covid and somewhat relaxed, could not be in schools still but what did offer was filled, felt it was too high, would like to be at 75%, then at summer 2022 made concerted effort to hold spots and offer scholarships to make sure reaching all in the city. Trying to find better ways to make sure all have access. Rec Nutrition program is the biggest program, bringing programming to communities that may have a hard time getting children to places or areas and bringing to them and their areas. Burlington School district supplies and all are free and through grant. Served the most meals at the height of the pandemic, could hand to adults to give to children, less stringent rules. Get 3 meals at some of the specialty camps. Summer funding costs over \$100,000 and fortunate to get grants from state, City scholarships, donations/grant, VT Fed grants and BSD transportation. Stated that Wight got a \$90,000 Great Lakes Fishery grant for FY24. Constantly looking at ways to get funding, doing great for this year.

Keech asked about the demographics and asked where see going if focus will need to be on children of color and Rogers said has increased and or stayed relatively steady and how offered and involved has changed. Several years ago created a program just for Burlington that was free. Feels not declining but because of immigration.

Wight said that feels like leveling and not projecting a big increase in children.

Duke asked what the biggest challenge of access is in the community and Rogers said communication with parents due to language barrier.

Johnson asked about team sports not quite coming back yet and asked if Rogers had seen that in other areas as well or specifically in Burlington and Rogers said he was not really sure, but his son plays sports in another Town and from the basketball world and traveling it is down also but would ask surrounding towns how they are doing.

Annual Commission Report

Duke said have to do an annual report and used some of last year's reports. Wight said look over previous meeting topics that have been discussed several times and some challenges and projects.



Received a template from City Council on how to create. In May have draft, due in June. Wight showed the commission the prior year's report and the format.

Duke suggested putting together a draft and passing around to all and then bring back draft to review and finalize. Decided to add this to a November meeting to start taking a look at to capture past and start planning coming year.

Morrigan appreciated that the commission is very mindful of open meeting law.

Wight apologized for not working on student commissioner with Lantieri and they both said they had been but then COVID hit and got sidelined. Duke suggested putting back on future projects.

Johnson would like to revisit future plans and projects and in terms of timeline for next meeting would everyone like to sign the report and Wight said the June meeting would be when signed and Duke said would like to discuss at May meeting and hope to have a draft before May meeting and then might be element of virtual signing depending on what the actual deadline is.

Standing Item:

Report on PACC Dog Force

Wight said reported to City Council and felt good job very interested and worried first time presenting at City Council. Morrigan said it was very engaging by City Council. Have upcoming presentation to Cemetery commission. Closing survey and will be compiling information and turning into quantitative information.

Keech asked who was on the PACC committee and Wight explained Ali Dieng, Joe Magee and Mark Barlow where on. Also explained they do many other things other than the Dog Task Force, just one part of what the committee is working on, it is a direct committee of the City Council.

Report on Parks Foundation

Duke said she had missed the last meeting Wight said formally voted on doing 5 playgrounds in 5 years and are taking it on but looking at the how and when.

Director's Items

Wight said two things, in NY Times article about eclipse that will happen in April next year and said all hotels in Burlington are all sold out and that Burlington is in the line and others want to have events here, entire lots etc. Felt it might be bigger than July 3rd. Wight said Zach Williams from BCA is working on an event. City Hall Park there is a heavy enforcement going on for about 3 weeks and will be cracking down on not following the rules etc. and wanted to inform might be hearing about from the public. April 17 the business student is bringing \$2 mil of ARPA funds, we have two projects Redstone Cottage Annex and the Frame. City Nature is having nature day on April 30th at the Intervale Center.

Commissioner's Items & Volunteer Hours

Morrigan spoke regarding the desire to write to FPF and was told that starting now or in next couple of weeks FPF will have a policy not granting all permissions to post, hoping that others could extend for them. Heard that the PACC is overlapping and starting to see parks going to different spheres and felt being more informed of everything going on in parks and enforcement, felt helpful to have Police Chief



come to a meeting. Duke said was appropriate to invite to do a presentation to the commission and how his team interacts with Urban Rangers and others. Morrigan said that they had been approached by others about sharps receptacles and giving out for use. Wight said would like to have Roach come and speak about as many safety issues around this and want to make sure to have in the correct location and using properly. Also stated were working on last year and will have him speak more to the topic.

Johnson passed around the dog survey before it expired to a large social network and hoped for some good responses. Felt the sharps containers is a good idea and felt having for any type of cleanup it would be good to have available.

Keech spoke to green up day and said found needles in neighbor's yard and likes to get kids on board but with the danger of needles has revisited that thought.

Lantieri said Champlain Park work is continuing, has 5 additional hours and an event coming up next week at the park with Madalinski and Bachand for a community celebration and to get folks back into the park and what the possibilities are and how he's seen lots of possibility. Said currently zero needles in the park now compared too many a year ago. 11-2 Next Wednesday drop in event, cleanup, speakers and free lunch.

Duke had volunteer hours of 3, parks department and all had a great shout out as to what is happening in the parks since he (Wienberg) became Mayor, very memorable in speech to her.

EXPECTED EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to enter executive session where premature disclosure would put the city at a substantial disadvantage by Morrigan, second by Wiseberg, motion carried.

Real Estate Matter Staff Discussion

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Duke at 8:06 pm.



MEMO

Date: May 9th, 2023
To: BPRW Commission
From: Meghan O'Daniel, Community Garden & Parks Outreach Coordinator
RE: MadFreedom Special Use Permit for July 15th, 2023

Request for a Special Use Permit at Battery Park to hold an event and for a waiver to allow amplified sound.

MadFreedom, Inc. is hosting their annual Vermont Mad Pride Day on Saturday, July 15th at Battery Park. This will be a celebration organized by psychiatric survivors, consumers, service users, mad people, and folks the world has labeled "mentally ill". Mad Pride is about challenging discrimination, advocating for rights, affirming Mad identities, remembering and participating in Mad history, and having fun. Our lives are valuable and need celebration. MadFreedom, Inc. is a Poultney, Vermont 501(c)(4), tax-exempt non-profit organization whose mission is to secure power and influence to end the discrimination and oppression of people based on their perceived mental state. MadFreedom envisions a world where all people, regardless of race, gender, class, ableness, and mental state have the freedom to live their lives on their own terms without coercion and with equality under the law.

This event is expected to have around 150 participants and 25 volunteers. This event will include a march from Church St. to the park, speakers, live music, spoken word poetry, skits, informational tabling and a catered meal. MadFreedom is collaborating with several other organizations to curate this event. Those organizations include Pathways Vermont, the Vermont Center for Independent Living (Montpelier), and Another Way Community Center (Montpelier). They are prepared to provide extra portalets and their staff and volunteers will be responsible for site clean-up. They have the necessary Certificate of Insurance.

The amplified sound will take place between 12pm and 3pm. They have already booked Battery Park.

Staff contact for the event is Wilda White.

It is on a day with no conflicting events.

Staff Recommendations:

Allow for Special Use Permit including a waiver for amplified sound.



MEMO

Date: May 9th, 2023
To: BPRW Commission
From: Meghan O'Daniel, Community Garden & Parks Outreach Coordinator
RE: Sangha Community Pride Special Use Permit for June 3rd, 2023

Request for a Special Use Permit at Battery Park to hold an event with fundraising and for a waiver to allow amplified sound.

Sangha Studio is hosting their Community Pride Celebration in Battery Park on Saturday, June 3rd.

From the organizers: "At the core of yogic teachings is liberation – and at Sangha, we are not free until we are all free. Let's move our bodies, connect in community, practice collective care, and together, create a space for queer folks to be celebrated, uplifted and held."

They will arrange for extra portalets if needed and their staff/volunteers will be responsible for site clean-up. They have the necessary Certificate of Insurance.

The amplified sound will take place between 9am–12pm, including music for yoga classes, a DJ and announcements. They have already booked Battery Park.

Staff contacts for the event is Claire Pascal.

It is on a day with no conflicting events.

Staff Recommendations:

Allow for Special Use Permit including a waiver for amplified sound.



MEMO

Date: May 9th, 2023
To: BPRW Commission
From: Meghan O'Daniel, Community Garden & Parks Outreach Coordinator
RE: Linden Higgins Special Use Permit for May 13th, 2023

Request for a Special Use Permit and waiver to allow for a bagpipe to play at Oakledge Park.

Linden Higgins Party has a park permit for Oakledge on Saturday, May 13th for a private gathering.

They are requesting to have a bagpipe play for approximately 5 minutes between 3:30pm – 4pm.

It is on a day with no conflicting events.

Staff Recommendations:

Allow for Special Use Permit including a waiver for the bagpipes.



MEMO

Date: May 1st, 2023
To: BPRW Commission
From: James Allison, Customer Service Associate
RE: Gardener's Supply Special Use Permit for August 24th, 2023

Request for a Special Use Permit and waiver at North Beach to allow for amplified sound.

Gardener's Supply has rented out the Shelter at North Beach on August 24th, 2023 for a work retreat and annual company gathering of 250 individuals.

They are requesting to have amplified sound between 11:30 am and 2:30 pm, with music being performed by a live DJ. They have already booked the Shelter.

Michelle Berthiaume is the point of contact for Gardener's Supply.

It is on a day with no conflicting events.

Staff Recommendations:

Allow for Special Use Permit including a waiver for amplified sound.



MEMO

Date: April 13th, 2023
To: BPRW Commission
From: James Allison, Customer Service Associate
RE: Champlain Housing Trust Special Use Permit for August 5th, 2023

Request for a Special Use Permit and waiver at North Beach to allow for amplified sound.

Champlain Housing Trust has rented out the Shelter at North Beach on Saturday, August 5th for a Picnic for their Members and Residents.

They are requesting to have amplified sound from 11am – 2pm. The amplified sound would include a musician with a microphone, a low volume amp, and acoustic instruments. They have already booked the North Beach Shelter.

Helen Rock is the point of contact for Champlain Housing Trust.

It is on a day with no conflicting events.

Staff Recommendations:

Allow for Special Use Permit including a waiver for amplified sound.



MEMO

Date: May 1st, 2023
To: BPRW Commission
From: James Allison, Customer Service Associate
RE: Leah Swanson Special Use Permit for June 29th, 2023

Request for a Special Use Permit and waiver at Oakledge Park to allow for amplified sound.

Leah Swanson has rented out the Upper Shelter at Oakledge on June 29th for a corporate event and Polly's family fun day.

They are requesting to have amplified sound between 4:30pm and 7:30pm, with music being performed by a live band. They have already booked the Upper Shelter.

It is on a day with no conflicting events.

Staff Recommendations:

Allow for Special Use Permit including a waiver for amplified sound.



MEMO

Date: April 13th, 2023
To: BPRW Commission
From: James Allison, Customer Service Associate
RE: Adrian Sackheim Special Use Permit for July 15th, 2023

Request for a Special Use Permit and waiver at Oakledge Park to allow for amplified sound.

Adrian Sackheim has rented out the Upper Shelter at Oakledge on July 15th, 2023 for a gathering of old friends.

They are requesting to have amplified sound between 3pm and 6pm, with music being performed by a friend who is a DJ. They have already booked the Upper Shelter.

It is on a day with no conflicting events.

Staff Recommendations:

Allow for Special Use Permit including a waiver for amplified sound.



MEMO

Date: May 9th, 2023
To: BPRW Commission
From: Meghan O'Daniel, Community Garden & Parks Outreach Coordinator
RE: Brain Freezer 5K Special Use Permit for September 16th, 2023

Request for a Special Use Permit at the North Beach Shelter to hold a fundraising event and for a waiver to allow amplified sound.

People Helping People Global (PHPG) will be hosting their annual Brain Freezer 5K race at the North Beach Shelter. Fundraising efforts for this event help support their mission to provide interest-free micro-loans to individuals who want to start or expand small businesses as well as provide artisans with fair wages and access to more viable international markets to people in the developing world.

This event will have around 250 participants and they are requesting use of the bike path with a turnaround point TBD that will be where people stop to eat ice cream part way through the race. Their staff will be responsible for site clean-up. They have the necessary Certificate of Insurance.

The amplified sound will take place between 9:30am–12:30pm, including music from a playlist and announcements. They have already booked the shelter.

Staff contact for the event is Michelle Piche.

It is on a day with no conflicting events.

Staff Recommendations:

Allow for Special Use Permit including a waiver for amplified sound.



MEMO

Date: May 9th, 2023
To: BPRW Commission
From: Meghan O'Daniel, Community Garden & Parks Outreach Coordinator
RE: Alex Cobb Special Use Permit for June 3rd, 2023

Request for a Special Use Permit at Roosevelt Park and for a waiver to allow amplified sound.

Alex Cobb is organizing the ONE Dance Festival, which will be a celebration of culture and community through expressive movement. The event is free and open to everyone with support from Wards 2 & 3 NPA. The organizer's vision is to bring joy and connection to the neighborhood through dance in three ways:

- Workshops: all levels, all generations movement classes in a variety of dance styles taught by performing artists
- Performance: showcase the breadth of talented dance artists in the ONE
- Dance Party: moving and grooving together with a live DJ

This event is expected to have approximately 75 people in attendance. The organizer and other volunteers will be responsible for site clean-up. They have the necessary Certificate of Insurance.

The amplified sound will take place between 6m–9pm. They have already booked the park.

It is on a day with no conflicting events.

Staff Recommendations:

Allow for Special Use Permit including a waiver for amplified sound.

MEMO

Date: May 9, 2023
To: Parks Commission
From: Cindi Wight, Director
Subject: Bicycle-specific events on the Greenway

Request:

Motion to support the BPRW Director's decision to restrict bicycle-specific events from the Greenway

OVERVIEW

In early winter 2023, we received a request for a fundraiser bicycle ride on the Greenway. We denied the request due to concerns about the safety of path users. The Greenway receives tremendous use year-round, particularly on weekends from the early warm days of spring to late fall and would not be able to handle the additional stress of bicycle-specific events.

We note "bicycle-specific" events, as there might be future events with incidental use of the Greenway where it is not focused solely on riding bicycles on the Greenway.

Motion

To support the BPRW Department's decision to restrict bicycle-specific events on the Burlington Greenway.

MEMO

To: Parks Commission
From: Cindi Wight, Director of Parks, Recreation & Waterfront
CC: Deryk Roach, Superintendent of Parks and Central Facilities
Date: May 9, 2023
Subject: Updating Special Use Permits

Request:

To consider an update of the special use permits in Appendix D of the Burlington City Ordinances.

OVERVIEW

Past Commissioner and current City Council member Ben Traverse contacted the Department and Park Commission Chair, Abbey Duke, to ask us to consider updating the special use permits. He noted we have some special use limitations on City Hall Park that do not align with what we've done there in the past on Juneteenth and other big celebrations. To avoid future issues and provide the Parks Commission with more permitting flexibility, he thinks it may be worth considering some amendments to the Special Use language in Appendix D.

Staff, including Zach Williamson from BCA reviewed the suggested changes. The suggested edits to the ordinances are in Appendix A.

ATTACHMENT A

APPENDIX D

RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE BURLINGTON PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

1 Park reservation and special use policy.

(H) *Approved Special Use Activities by Park:* Park special use permits will be issued for park areas and facilities under the following guidelines and restrictions:

* * *

(2) *Special use areas:* Battery Park, City Hall Park, Perkins Pier, Waterfront Park.

(a) Battery Park—Cultural, performing arts and concerts, public speeches and demonstrations, civic ceremonies, fund raising, shows and exhibits. Permit for entertainment must be approved by the board of parks and recreation commissioners. The amplified sound at each individual events or concerts shall not exceed three (3) consecutive hours in duration. Sound checks or testing shall commence no earlier than one-half two hours before the permitted performance schedule. Concerts shall be limited to three (3) days per week, not more than one per day, with the week commencing on Saturday at 9:30 a.m. Concerts shall not be scheduled on more than two (2) consecutive days and will commence no earlier than 9:30 a.m. unless specifically authorized by the board of parks and recreation commission, nor and shall they conclude no later than 9:00 p.m., unless the board of parks and recreation commission determines there are special circumstances warranting earlier or later hours. The volume level of any concert, or any event with amplified sound, shall not exceed seventy-five (75) decibels at any time when measured at any place on the exterior perimeter of the park.

(b) City Hall Park—Cultural, performing arts and concerts, public speeches and demonstrations, civic ceremonies, fund raising, shows and exhibits. Permit for entertainment must be approved by the board of parks and recreation commissioners. Sound checks or testing shall commence no earlier than one-half two hours before the permitted performance schedule. Concerts shall be limited to three (3) days per week, not more than one per day, with the week commencing on Saturday at 8:00 a.m. Concerts will commence no earlier than 8:00 a.m. and shall conclude no later than 911:00 p.m., unless the board of parks and recreation commission determines there are special circumstances warranting earlier or later hours. The volume level of any concert shall not exceed ninety-five (95) decibels at any time when measured at any place on the exterior perimeter of the park.

(c) Perkins Pier—Waterfront or aquatic-oriented events. Permit for entertainment must be approved by the board of parks and recreation commissioners. The amplified sound at each individual events or concerts shall not exceed four (4) continuous hours in duration. Sound checks or testing shall commence no earlier than two one hours before the permitted event or concert and shall last no longer than one hour. The volume level of any concert, or any event with amplified sound, shall not exceed eighty-five (85) decibels at any time when measured at any place on the exterior perimeter of the park.

(d) Waterfront Park—As administered by department of water resources.

(3) *City parks:* Ethan Allen Park, Leddy Park, Oakledge Park, North Beach Park.

(a) Ethan Allen Park—Limited facilities restrict use to a time period of three (3) hours. Use of the park exceeding three (3) hours requires provisions for restroom facilities.

(b) Leddy Park—Available for field sports, tennis, picnicking and aquatic events. Permit for entertainment must be approved by the board of parks and recreation commissioners. The amplified sound

at each individual events or concerts shall not exceed four (4) continuous hours in duration. Sound checks or testing shall commence no earlier than two hours before the permitted event or concert ~~and shall last no longer than one hour~~. The volume level of any concert, or any event with amplified sound, shall not exceed eight-five (85) decibels at any time when measured at any place on the exterior perimeter of the park.

(c) Oakledge Park—Available for field sports and picnicking. ~~Use of amplified recorded or live entertainment must be approved by the board of parks and recreation commissioners.~~ Permit for entertainment must be approved by the board of parks and recreation commissioners. The amplified sound at each individual events or concerts shall not exceed four (4) continuous hours in duration. Sound checks or testing shall commence no earlier than one-two hours before the permitted event or concert ~~and shall last no longer than one hour~~. The volume level of any concert, or any event with amplified sound, shall not exceed eight-five (85) decibels at any time when measured at any place on the exterior perimeter of the park.

(d) North Beach Park—Available for aquatic events. Permit for entertainment must be approved by the board of parks and recreation commissioners. The amplified sound at each individual events or concerts shall not exceed four (4) continuous hours in duration. Sound checks or testing shall commence no earlier than one-two hours before the permitted event or concert ~~and shall last no longer than one hour~~. The volume level of any concert, or any event with amplified sound, shall not exceed eight-five (85) decibels at any time when measured at any place on the exterior perimeter of the park.

BTVSTAT 2023



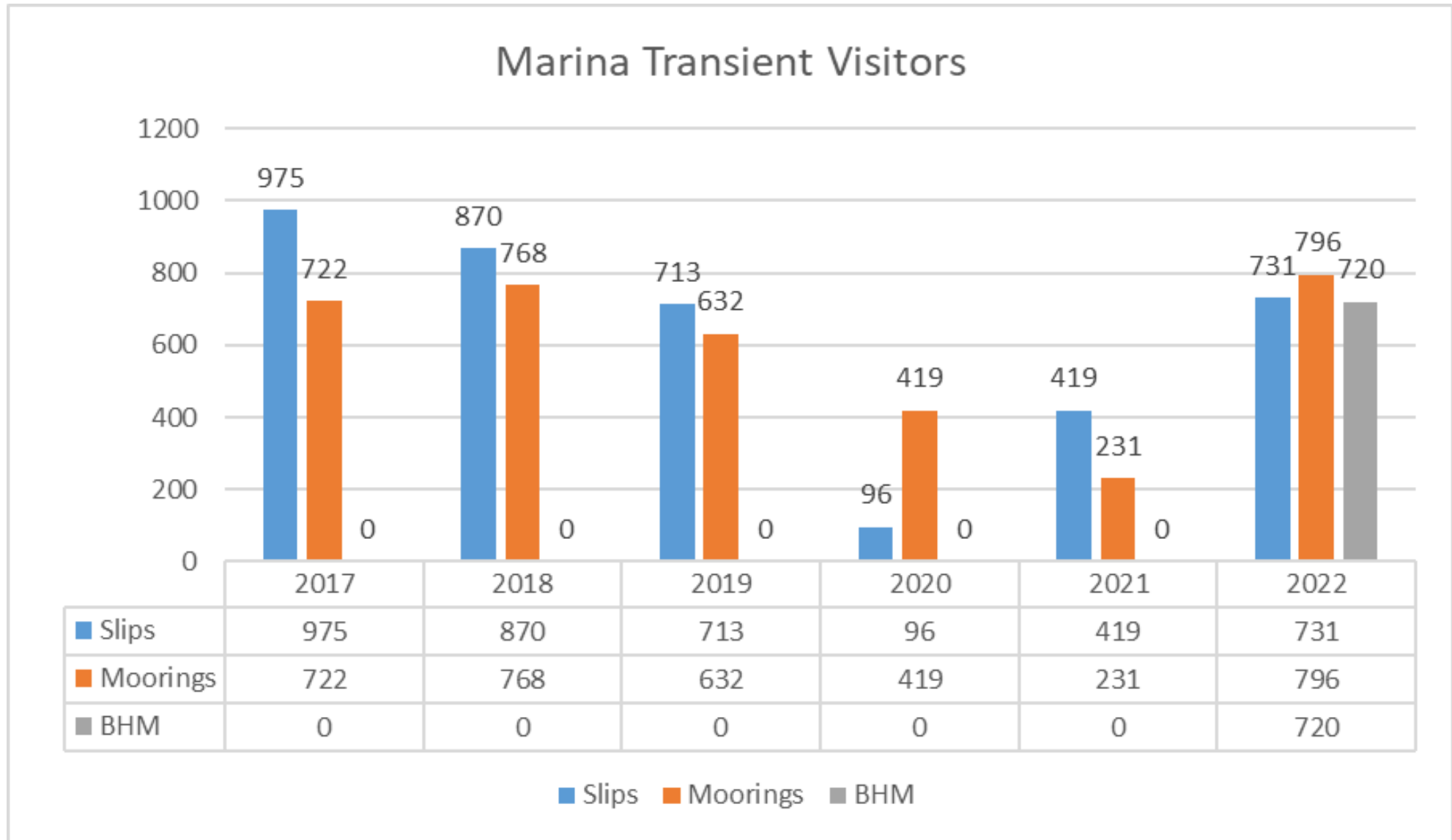
BURLINGTON
**PARKS
RECREATION
WATERFRONT**



Waterfront

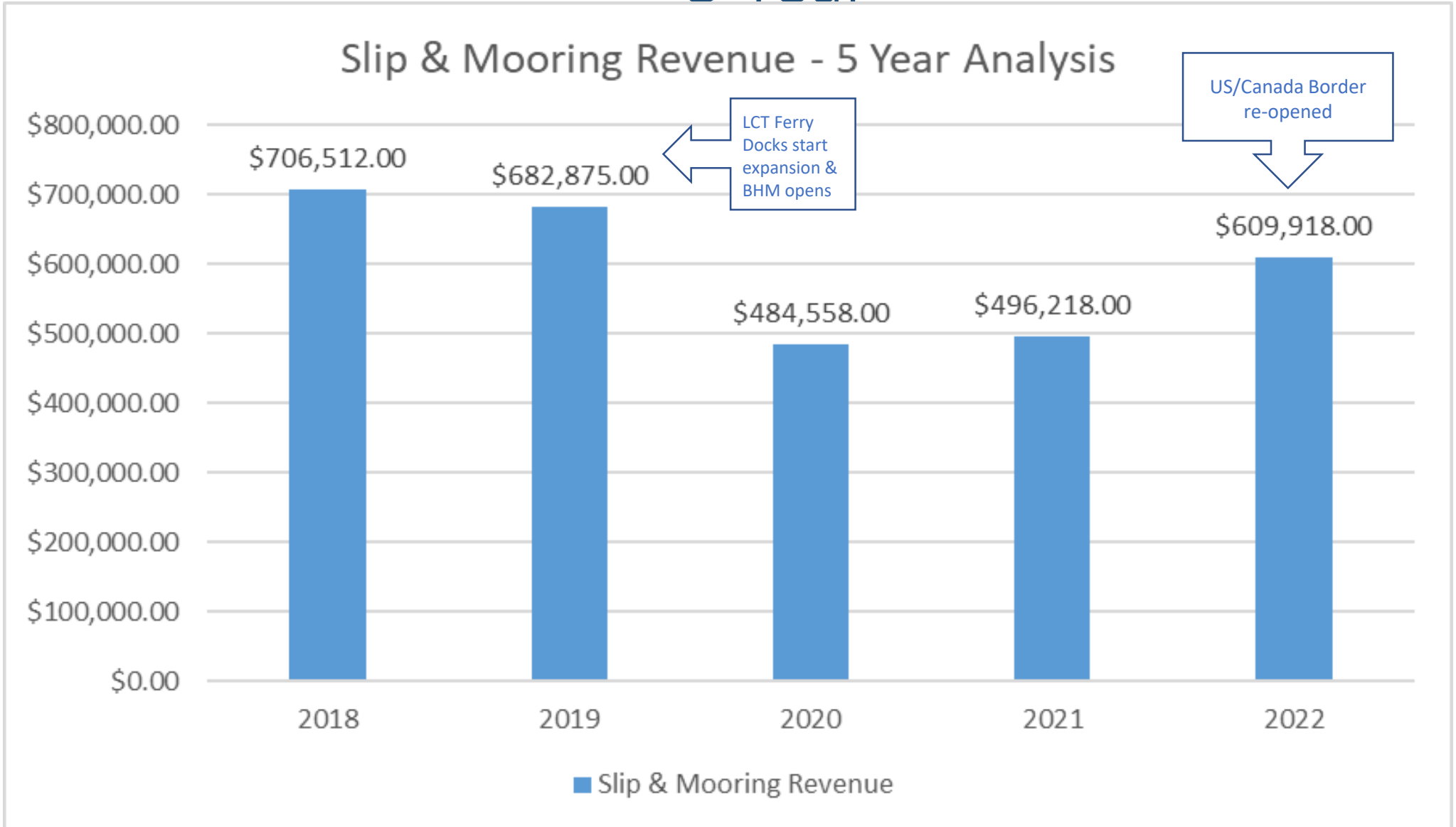


Marina Usage





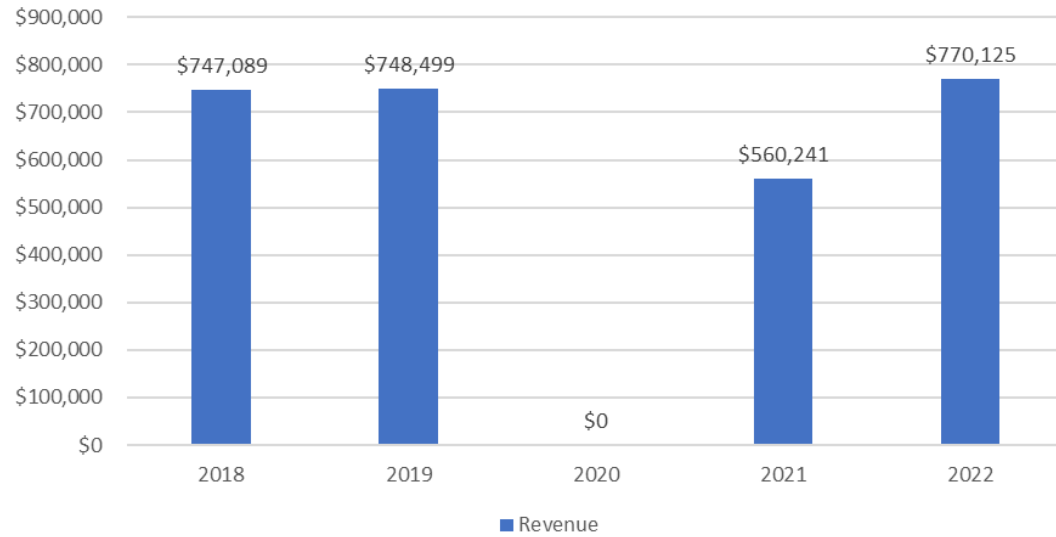
Marina Slip & Mooring Revenues – 5 Year



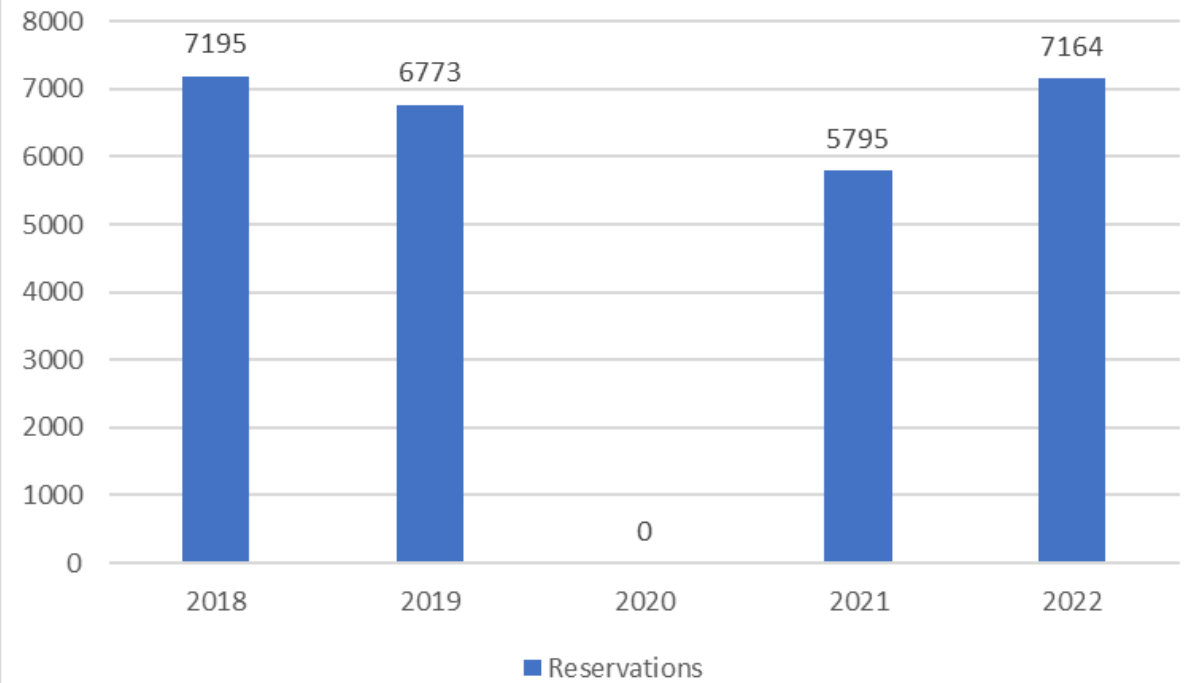


Campground

Campground Revenue



Reservations





Site Bookings: Tent vs RV



Average % Occupied sites May - June

Full Hookup 73%

Tent 38%

Water & Electric 59%

Average % Occupied sites September - October

Full Hookup 90%

Tent 36%

Water & Electric 80%

Average % Occupied sites July - August

Full Hookup 94%

Tent 71%

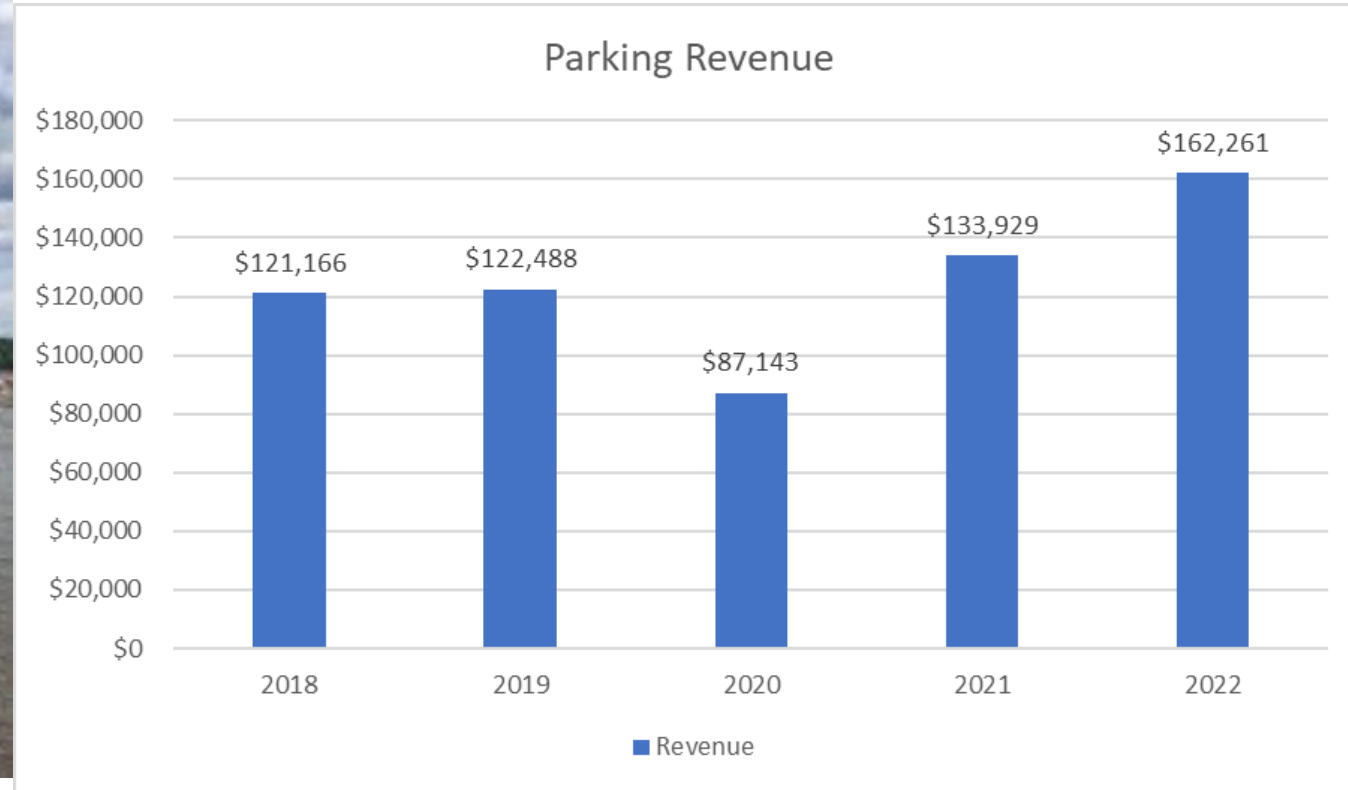
Water & Electric 91%

*Percentages also include our 2 Overflow sites as well as the Handicap site

*Weekends are almost all full after mid May.

*July 1 –Labor Day are Prime Rates

North Beach Parking



SUMMARY OF OPPORTUNITIES

Monthly Parks Commission update – May 2023

Stories

Good morning!

My family was visiting Burlington from out of state on Friday when we stopped by one of the parks to enjoy the nice weather. I believe it was you who gave my son some bubbles to play with, which was very much appreciated. We were impressed that the parks were able to do this, but even more so, we were impressed by the ranger and police presence that was there.

While visiting, you and a fellow ranger had to deal with an individual who was less than friendly regarding his unleashed dog. My husband is law enforcement in NY, so I always feel for anyone in this field who's job it is to interact with individuals who feel that they have been wronged, even though it is those individuals who are breaking rules, ordinances, or laws. I just wanted to say that your department, along with the officer who was present, did a great job at trying to diffuse the situation.

I hope that you will please pass this email on to your superior, as you all deserve recognition for a job well done. We don't always get the thanks that we deserve - so thank you.

Kindly,

Jennifer Tatro

Department accomplishments and notable staffing developments since the last report

- May Work Anniversaries – Chris Beaudry (36), Mulu Twelde (3 PT), Neil Preston (1), Andrew Romano (1), Deryk Roach (12), Ritchie Snow (38)
- **Ray Bickings**, HVAC specialist, passed his VT plumbing test giving us a licensed plumber on our Central Facilities team

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

- Green Up Day on Saturday, May 6
- Kid's Day at Roosevelt Park on Friday, May 19



Ray, our new licensed plumber, working his magic to get the North Beach boiler in operation



- Kid's Day at Waterfront Park on Saturday, May 20
- Vermont City Marathon on Sunday, May 28
- The Leddy Beach Bites schedule is full with musicians and food vendors!

Recreation Division Update

Staff is busy planning for summer including seasonal staff training, program activities, and schedules. Summer staff hiring is nearly complete and we're excited to onboard the 2023 Summer Staff next month!

Recreation Programs & Camps

- The first round of *AfroFusion* Dance program, hosted by Pamela Tetteh of M.E.L.A. Creations, will be rounding out the program with a dance recital June 3rd at Roosevelt Park. The group is comprised of middle schoolers and high schoolers from AALV
- AALV youth members have also been participating in weekly piano lessons.
- North End Yoga is offering a new spring session beginning in May.
- We will be offering an AARP Smart Driver Course in May with 20 participants.
- Afterschool Circus Fun is wrapping up for the winter/spring session.
- Hoop Yogini-Finished up in April and Karla Jones will be leading classes at the Core Adult Center.
- Tai Chi with the YMCA-Began another session which includes members of the YMCA.
- April Vacation Camp- Our licensed vacation camp took place at the Miller Community & Recreation Center with 35-40 participants each day. Activities included outside play, skating at Leddy Arena, hiking and nature activities at the Bishop Booth Conference Center at Rockpoint, and end of the week s'mores on Friday.

Leddy Programs & Camps

- Our new Recreation Specialist, Madeline Gross started work on April 24. We are excited to have her on board and she has jumped right into summer program prep!
- April Vacation Cool Camp took place last week. Highlights from the week included an interpretive nature walk put on by our Urban Park Rangers, a nature scavenger hunt, paper airplane construction and flight contests, and glow stick skating in the dark.

AfroFusion Dance Program



Vacation camp at Leddy Beach



CORE Adult Center

- The center was closed on April 10-14 & 17-21 while staff cleaned, organized, and revamped the program spaces. The spaces now reflect more of a community center with an Older Adult Presence.
- Along with our program, space rearrangement, monthly activity sign-ups will begin on May 1st. Each month participants will be given a form with the month's activities and trips to mark off the activities they will be attending along with SSTA bus transportation and a hot lunch. This format aligns with BPRW's system for signing up for classes.
- Some Highlights from our two weeks of programming in April:
 - Off-site trips included Hannaford's, Ray's Seafood and Sam Mazza's Green House. On-site classes included Gentle Yoga, Reminiscing, Sewing, Singing with Tom and Healing with Naomi. We also had two practices for the Senior Moments Production of "Treasure Island."
 - On Wednesday, April 26th Hannaford's Dietician Callie Flynn presented a program around aging and healthy eating.
 - On Friday, April 28th a group of UVM Nursing students introduced coloring with Mandala's. It was a very relaxing experience after lunch.
- Our garden group worked in the 5 raised beds on Friday the 28th. We are getting the dirt ready when the weather warms for planting.
- Treasure Island will be performed on Thursday, June 1st & 1:00PM at the Old North End Community Center on the 2nd floor at the Very Merry Stage.

CORE Adult Center participants getting the gardens ready for the season and taking part in an art program



Recreation Events

- Our department announced two events for our annual *Kids Weekend*. We will be partnering with Burlington Boys & Girls Club for an event in Roosevelt Park on Friday, May 19th and are happy to be returning to Waterfront Park for a Kids Day Event on Saturday, May 20th
- Planning has begun for our Annual July 3rd Fireworks Celebration. We are expecting a great show this year and are expecting even larger crowds at our parks and beaches as we continue to see upticks for events as the country comes out of Covid recovery mode.
- We are happy to announce an additional sponsor for July 3rd Fireworks Celebration this year. We welcome National Life as one of our new July 3rd partners.

Athletics

- Burlington Youth Lacrosse boy's division will host their first games at Leddy Park the on May 6, while the girl's division will host on May 14.
- Itty Bitty Soccer, led by Dragomir Parvanov from Soccer Sparks, starts on May 2 at Calahan Park.

- The 1st Annual BPRW Round Robin Pickleball Tournament took place the weekend of April 29 & 30 at the Miller Center. We had 32 total teams - five in both the Women's and Men's 3.5-3.9 Division, eight Men's 4.0+, 11 Mixed 3.5-3.9 and three Mixed 4.0+.

Recreation Facilities Division Update

Leddy Arena

- May 1 is the start of our spring shutdown at Leddy Arena. While one might think this is a quiet time for staff, we actually have many projects and activities planned. The spring shutdown is a time to complete maintenance and repair projects that cannot be tackled during our busy season, such as painting the rink area, deep cleaning locker rooms and restrooms, safety improvements and preventative maintenance on the refrigeration system. We also use this time to take advantage of training opportunities for staff. This year Stan Bajuk will attend the NEISMA conference in Boston and Scott Hannigan and Josh Cushing will attend the NARCE conference in Buffalo. The NARCE conference will include a three-day course for each of them - Josh will attend Ice Making & Painting Technologies course and Scott will attend the Ice Maintenance & Equipment Operations course. These courses are part of a three-course series which will allow our staff to become Certified Ice Technicians.
- Leddy Arena wound up the skating season with our annual spring Ice Show on April 29 with approximately 40 skaters performed in 27 different numbers. Thanks to the Champlain Valley Skating Club and Leddy Arena skating professionals who stepped in to help produce the event, in the absence of an Arena programmer.
- Speaking of programmers, in May we welcome the arrival of Maddie Gross, our new Recreation Specialist. Maddie will oversee our summer figure skating school as well as the Arena's very popular summer camps, including Rise & Shine Camp, Cool Camp, KinderKamp, and Hat Trick Hockey Camp. We all look forward to working with Maddie to bring some new fun programming to Leddy!
- In May we hope to fill our vacant Arena Maintenance Worker position so that we are fully staffed for our reopening in June! Unfortunately, our posting has not generated any applications to date – so if you know someone who might enjoy working maintenance at the rink, please encourage them to apply!

Miller Center

- The Miller Center hosted BPRW's first pickleball tournament April 29-30. 32 teams competed in five categories over two days of play. Butter Bar & Kitchen sponsored this great new event and we hope will become an annual tradition! In addition to our regular user groups, May events include a celebration of life gathering, baby shower, birthday party, family reunion, a co-op annual meeting and Wellness massages for BPRW employees!
- May BPRW activities at the Miller Center include Yoga, Tai Chi, Balance, Mobility & Core, American Sign Language, Afterschool Circus Fun, Line Dancing, AARP Safe Drivers Course, and our pickleball, walking and table tennis drop-in programs.
- CEDO and BPRW have once again drafted a plan to provide cooling centers this summer at the Miller Center, CORE, Leddy Arena and the Fletcher Free Library. Leddy Arena's studio rink also serves as a rain site for several of the Department's athletic camps.

CORE

- May ONE Center events include an engagement party, a record release party and several Very Merry Theatre performances including "When We Were Very Young" on May 2, "The Velveteen Rabbit" on May 3, "Doctor Doolittle, Jr" on May 11, "The Spongebob Musical" on May 19-20 and "Les Miserables - School Edition" on May 26-28.

- In all of our facilities spring is a time for reorganizing and deep cleaning spaces to prepare for the busy summer camp season.

Recreation Facilities Administration

- Other activities keeping the Superintendent of Recreation Facilities busy this spring include serving on the National Recreation & Parks Association (NRPA) Awards and Scholarships committee - in April and May this committee reviews hundreds of applications for various NRPA award categories - and continuing to serve as Treasurer on the Vermont Recreation & Parks Association Executive Board. In addition, Melissa is serving on the VRPA Pickleball State Tournament committee which will take place this summer and is also working on contracts for several maintenance and repair projects at Leddy and CORE.

Park Division Update

Park Administration

- Preparation for Green Up Day on May 6th with Steve Bachand
- Coordinating the use and preparation of our recreational fields.
- Welcoming new BRPW employees Daniel Schmidt and Tyler Walton to the Parks team!

City Nature Celebration was a success!

Conservation Program

- **Community Gardens**
 - All gardens are full
- **Trails and Greenways**
 - Greenway will be getting some shoulder work and line striping this month as well as the start of regular maintenance services for runners, walkers and bikers on the path.
 - Planning for summer projects is underway.
- **General Conservation**
 - Successful hiring process for the Conservation Field Coordinator Position. Daniel Schmidt will be joining the department in July.
 - Development of public access plan and public opening of the Redstone Cottage at Kieslich Park.
 - Seasonal hiring underway



North Beach boiler – up to code!

Central Facilities Program

- HVAC Team both completed Natural Gas Certification class...and passed with flying colors!
- Working with Parks Facilities team to learn the intricacies of the City Hall Park Fountain.
- North Beach boiler trouble shooting and electrical upgrade...everything is now up to code!
- Graffiti removal of City Buildings to include the band shell and commemorative placards in Battery Park.
- Installed upgraded wayfinding signage in City Hall.



- Project awarded for City Hall Elevator Modernization.
- New steel display and information boards installed for Clerk Treasurer's Office.
- Carpet installation has started at the Police Department. This will be a multistage project.
- Working with our new partners at Energy Efficient Investments, we've started planning upgrades for City Hall, the Burlington City Arts, and Leddy Arena.
- Memorial Auditorium temporary fence project awarded.
- Offices moved for City payroll and Innovation & Technology departments.
- Site evacuation plan made for Elmwood with Fire Marshall.
- Planning started with City Engineer for Champlain Parkway fiberoptic architecture.
- EV charger installed at North Beach for City vehicles.
- Working with CT team for specialty ergonomic monitor equipment.
- New signage ordered for City workout rooms.
- Planning for additional door readers in City Hall.
- Additional shelving ordered for City Attorney and Election spaces.
- Planning for replacement BCA storefront.
- Ongoing improvements and maintenance at Elmwood Temporary Shelter. 2nd guest being moved to permanent housing.

New carpet at the police station



Trees team planted 238 trees this spring!



Trees and Greenways Program

- Responded to resident requests as needed.
- Completed spring tree planting city wide, 238 trees!
- Delivered compost and wood chips to all community garden sites.
- Began spring cleanup of park landscape spaces including Waterfront Park, Skate Park, Water Works Park and Pease Lot.
- Assisted Branch out Burlington with preparations for annual tree sale and planting at City Tree Nursery.
- Presented tree care workshop sponsored by Branch out Burlington.
- Installed watering bags on all trees planted this spring and fall of 2022.

Park Facilities Program

- A, B, C and D dock systems have been moved into place. Power and water connections will be next on the list.
- I want to recognize Kurt Hawkins and the crew they had some beautiful sunny days but also worked through just as many rainy days.
- North Beach campground boiler for the showers was not running properly our Central Facilities HVAC team Ryan Alger and Ray Bickings took it apart made some repairs it is now running better than ever a big thank you to them.

- The campground bathrooms, showers and water systems are ready for opening day.
- Schifilliti bathrooms and concessions Callahan bathrooms and concessions Leddy bathrooms are all ready for opening day.
- Oakledge upper and Lower shelters are ready for opening day.
- We spent a couple of days painting over and cleaning graffiti in many of our parks we still have much more to do.
- We are in the beginning stages getting the City Hall fountain running.
- Tyler Walton has been hired for our Buildings and Events maintenance worker position.
- With spring we are seeing more requests for memorial bench plaques.

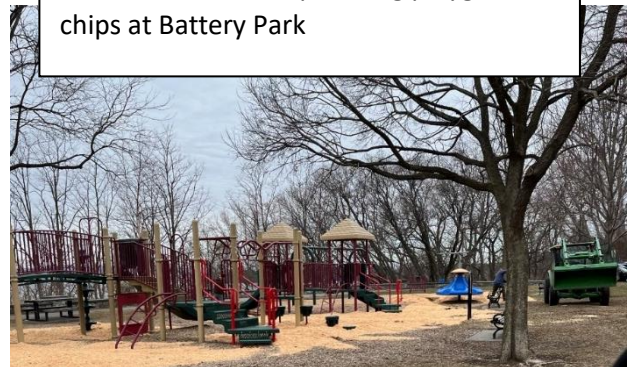
Park Facilities team working on the City Hall Park fountain



Cemetery Program

- Sold 8 new lots for burial in the month
- Staff performed 1 Full burial and 2 cremation burials in the month April
- Continued burial card entry in Pontem – process includes research into actual lot ownership, correct names of the deceased, and updating maps as well as logging information in Pontem. We are through "SHE"!
- Performed grounds and equipment maintenance
- Purchased 1000 American flags for Veteran graves which arrived mid-month
- Contacted Veteran Flag project volunteers. All but one will be returning to place flags with us again this year and a local business, Ceres Collaborative, is likely going to take on the task as part of their community volunteer program.
- Continued working on maps for newer sections (Single 1, 3, 5, and 7) using GIS

The Grounds team spreading playground chips at Battery Park



Grounds Maintenance Program

- Performed daily trash/cleaning of all parks
- Installed new basketball rims at Leddy Park and Appletree Park and Smalley Park
- Supported Elmwood Pod community
- Performed playground maintenance and replaced the slide at Baird Park
- Performed equipment maintenance in preparation for the season
- Began mowing and trimming operations in late April
- Installed new tennis nets at Calahan Park
- Purchased and assembled new adult lacrosse goals at Leddy Park



- Repaired plow damage
- Prepping baseball fields

Planning Division Update

○ Projects Progressing:

- **Champlain Street Park Redesign:** Request for Proposals to be issued this month. Applied for a grant to help support the anticipated cost of implementation.
- **Dewey Park Annex Refresh:** Coordinating artist' refresh of the street mural in May. Received the preliminary survey plat for review.
- **Leddy Park Comprehensive Plan:** Public meeting being scheduled for June 1 to garner feedback on the proposed vision and design. Had an onsite visit with bike park design subconsultant to review newly identified area for the bike park.
- **Leddy Pause Place and UVM Fitness Equipment Pad:** Aiming for construction to start in coming weeks during arena closure. Look out for the Greenway detour in this area during construction!
- **Oakledge for All Universal Access:** Construction restarted in earnest; but awaiting scheduling of subcontractors for final pieces of the playground, including the family slide and play surfacing. Will be meeting again soon with Oakledge for All to plan a grand opening. Stay tuned to hold a date in your calendars!
- **Pomeroy Park Playground:** Internal designing will begin imminently. Community input will be sought in the coming months as the process unfolds. Ongoing.
- **Roosevelt Park Tennis Courts:** Awaiting a construction start date.
- **Roosevelt Park Comprehensive Plan:** Work on the public outreach strategy continues and will be aiming to start with students. Proposal being reviewed for contracting later this month.
- **Schifilliti Path:** State partners are doing a final review of construction documents. Aiming to bid the project this spring for fall construction. Ongoing.
- **Survivors of St. Joseph Orphanage Project:** Continuing to support the Voices of St. Joseph Group with technical support for their fundraising efforts. Their exhibit is now at the Vermont Law School – visit it if you can!
- **Urban Forestry Plan:** Met with UVM Spatial as a potential partner for the project – very promising meeting!
- **Waterfront Park Wayfinding:** Working with partners who submitted a community request for a tactile sign at Waterfront Park. Site visit to be scheduled with partners and members of the Burlington Advisory Committee on Accessibility (BACA). Ongoing.

Max presenting at the Champlain Park community event sponsored by CVOEO



UVM Drone flight at Schifilliti field

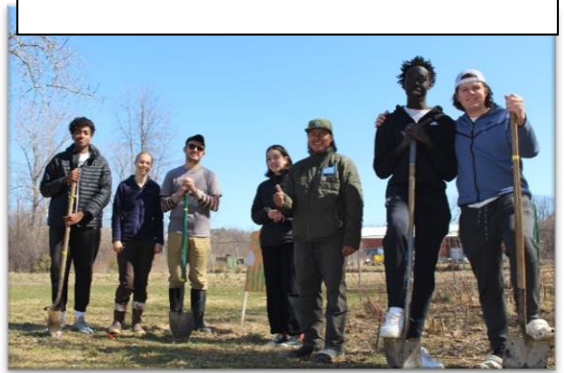


- Projects supporting other divisions/ departments: (abbreviated)
 - Dredging of the Marinas
 - Playground Equipment and Compliance
 - Great Streets/Main Streets
 - Frame Phase 2
 - Barge Canal Reuse Planning
 - Battery Street Corridor Study
 - South End Planning

Waterfront Division Update

- **Parking:** DPW and BPRW has updated ordinances allowing for DPW to enforce and ticket our parking lots for parking violations. This is key to shifting payment and enforcement over to DPW for our Waterfront surface lots.
 - North Beach parking will open May 1 under the new format. There will be no gatehouse and users will pay via their mobile phone. We have staff hired to assist users for this and monitor the parking lots for adherence to our new payment methods. This brings this lot into the greater system.
 - Oakledge Lot will open for paid parking on May 15. Perkins and Pease are open and accept payment year-round. DPW will be enforcing all lots.
- **Rangers:**
 - Our Rangers have been a part of the BPD initiative to have a heavier presence in City Hall Park this Spring to deter unwanted activities.
 - The Rangers are now equipped to ticket for municipal violations listed in our BPRW ordinances. The first touch will remain educational to gain compliance, but this gives our Rangers an option of the situation escalates.
 - Urban Rangers have hired seasonal staff, and some will start as early as mid-April, with others staggered to start as the local Colleges end their semesters.
 - Rangers will be making early intervention this Summer if tents are spotted in our Parks. They are educating people within tents that there is no camping in our parks, and connecting them to appropriate social services via the City's Community Service Liaison (CSL).
- **Campground:**
 - The Campground opens May 1 for the 2023 Season!
 - Hiring is almost complete. With the earliest start date of all operations, staffing is a significant challenge in the first few weeks open. We'll need to address this challenge and/or consider moving the start date until May 15, as we have not been able to adequately staff the Campground in the beginning in the last few years without relying on extensive hours worked by the Manager.

Ranger Andrew helping with the Champlain Elementary Tree Planting



Alec prepping for opening day at the campground



- Lifeguards remain a concern for recruitment, we are seeing far fewer certified applicants. Currently we only have 3 hired, not enough to stand towers at the beach. Consistent reach-out has occurred to other agencies hiring Lifeguards, who feel the same pressures.

- **Marina:**

- The new Marina Manager, Rob Peterson, is digging in and getting the Marina ready for the 2023 season. Perkins Pier and Boathouse Marina open on May 15.
- We are adding two new commercial boat businesses to the Boathouse docks for the 2023 season. These are both powerboats that will be providing small-craft cruises on the lake. There has also been a change in ownership for the sailing vessel that provides free sails to people with cancer and their families. Sail Through Cancer will be taking over and still provide this wonderful service to our community.
- We will be working with our Planning Division to embark on a feasibility study this Spring about the future of the Boathouse facility. It is already past what should have been its expiration, and we need to find solutions to keep this vital public building and facility into the future, while exploring additional opportunities to provide even more services and benefits to our community in that location.

Park Facilities team getting the docks in place for the season



- **Events**

- We are in contract mode for all Summer 2023 events. This is a tedious but necessary process to ensure all Producers comply with State and local regulations within Waterfront Park.
- Richard is meeting with every Event Producer, as we are now underway in significant planning steps for each event sequentially, with the Marathon leading off the event season for 2023.

Admin Division Update

- Worked with CEDO and Business Workforce Departments on the successful addition of Roosevelt Park pavilion and completion of the annex work at the Red Stone Cottage into the ARPA funding.
- Working on quantifying the qualitative data in the off-leash survey with the Dog Task Force
- Working with Betty's Bikes for our first lease at FRAME
- Successfully updated ordinances for DPW parking enforcement and adding the Rangers for enforcing at-large dogs
- Active involvement with national association work to include NRPA and American Association for Recreation Administration (AAPRA)
- Organized and lined up speakers for a monthly "Lunch and Learn" for P&R Directors across the state
- Marketing is working on park sign revisions for construction and project updates.

Having the opportunity to enjoy activities our department offers, such as City Nature Celebration brings me great joy!



- Marketing continues to promote youth and adult programs, events, campground, RFPs, hiring, and Parks messaging widely across all channels.
- Marketing is supporting recruitment efforts for seasonal positions through social media and job fairs.
- Summer Camp promotions continue with a focus on multi-lingual translated materials and a second push for camps that have openings.
- Launched a new “micro-site” [summer guide](#) for summer programs, events, beaches and information.
- Put out a [press release](#) for City Nature Celebration, a partnered event at the end of April.

Commission notes

- No additional notes

The 238th tree of the season and the start of the planting season



The Park Facilities team has had a lot of work to do cleaning up the graffiti in our parks – pictures of Oakledge and FRAME





MEMO

Date: May 9, 2023
To: Parks Commission
From: Cindi Wight, Director

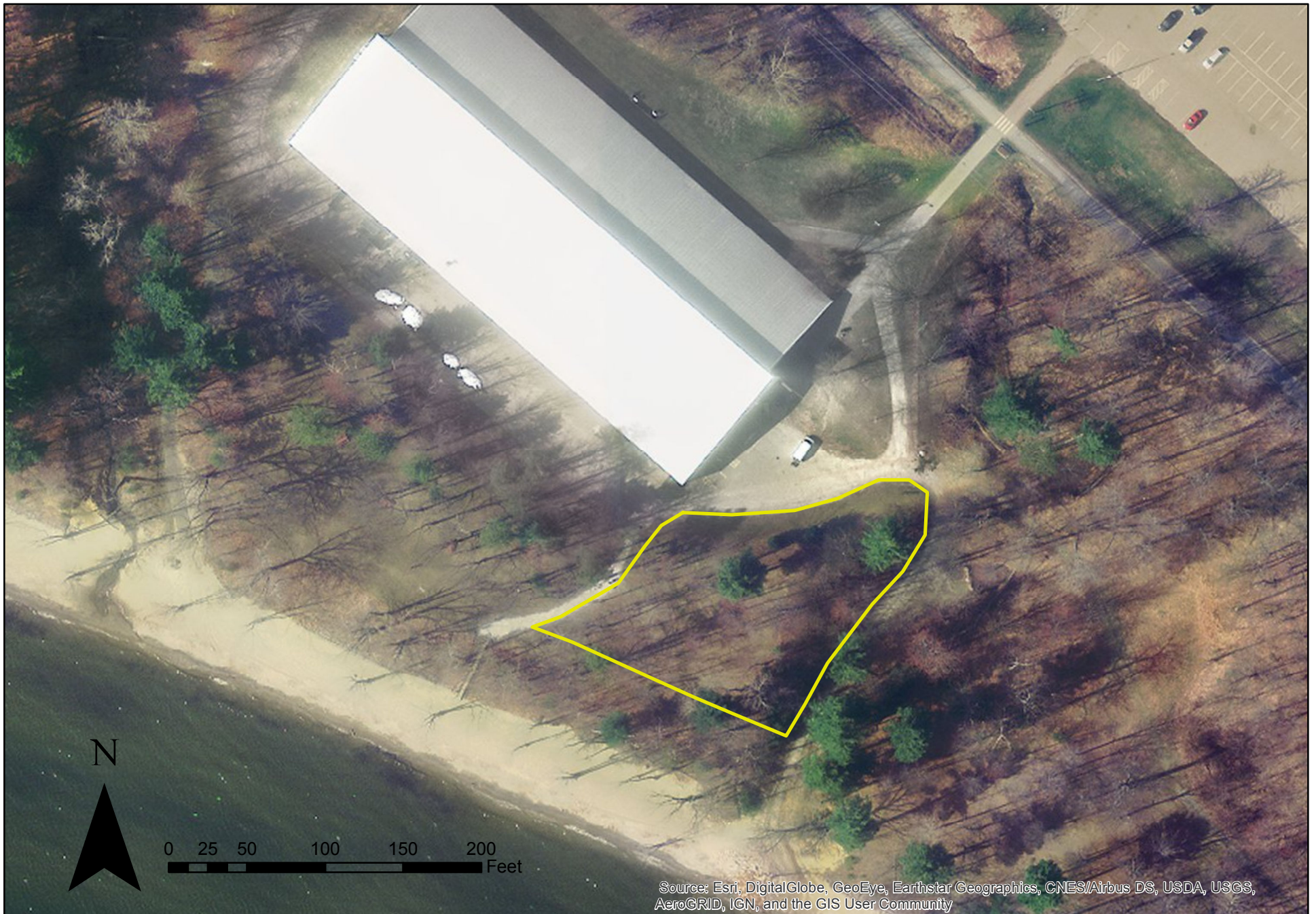
Subject: Smoking in Parks

History

On February 6, 2017, the City passed the most recent update to the rules regarding smoking in parks. The changes more broadly prohibit smoking in parks and beaches where before the prohibited area were focused on specific locations within parks (bleachers, playgrounds, beaches, etc). The change also allows the BPRW to designate specific areas within Oakledge, Waterfront, Battery, North Beach and Leddy Parks where smoking shall be permitted.

The areas identified in 2017 by past director, Jesse Bridges are attached to this memo.

Designated Smoking Areas - Leddy



Designated Smoking Areas - North Beach



Designated Smoking Areas - Oakledge



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

Designated Smoking Areas Waterfront & Battery Park



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community



**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
Minutes
May 9, 2023
Parks and Recreation Commission**

Commission Present: Duke, Johnson, Keech, Lantieri, Morrigan, Wiseberg, and Etter

Staff Present: Wight, Moreau, Kaeding, Peterson, Cotton, Bushnell

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

Approval of Agenda

Motion to adopt the agenda with the following changes: Begin meeting with Harbor Commission to be followed by Coach of the Year Presentation to be followed by consent agenda was made by Lantieri, second by Keech, motion carried.

Harbor Commission

The meeting of the Harbor Commission was called to order at 5:33pm

Approval of Agenda

Lantieri moved to approve the agenda, Keech seconded, and the motion carried.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion to approve consent agenda was approved by all.

Information Item: (20 min.) Waterfront BTV Stat Presentation, Erin Moreau, Waterfront Superintendent and Harbormaster

Moreau reports that North Beach Campground opened May 1st 2023 and there were already campers visiting on opening day. The Marina opens May 15 along with all other facilities in parks such as restrooms. The first event of the year will be Kids Day and there is a good slate of events scheduled for the summer. The waterfront is roughly 75% booked with events compared to pre-covid levels.

STAT presentation – last one was in November 2021? Always good to see statistics, gives good indication of what they do. Facility maintenance team just put in all docking systems, way to go! Marina usage – theme for presentation is recovery. Trending going back up after tough years during pandemic. Transient visitors information coming from Burlington Harbor Marina, really good indicator of people coming back to Burlington and visiting by water. Still recovering in 2022 because boarder was closed, but started to see resurgence. Good to see trending up. Last year was the first year we knew it was going to be open for full season. While we don't know yet if we'll get back to peak, we will be able to look at transient numbers from the many marina areas on the waterfront. How many people are coming by boat to Burlington. Hoping to get LCTs numbers in the coming years. Will be able to leverage to marketing figure out where to put our dollars. Lots more availability and that's a good thing. We were turning boaters away. Seeing larger numbers over all is a good thing. Alec spoke about the campground. 10 people were waiting on Monday May 1 to come in. People are calling and coming in. Weekends are booking fast, really positive showing. With 5 year trend, we are



back in force in 2022 with visitors from Canada making up the majority of visitors. Visitors from almost all 50 states and Puerto Rico. Reservations jumped dramatically compared to 2021. Shoulder season – May through June, does not show weekend capacity, handicap, and overflow locations – 73% occupancy. 90% in July – August, 90% booked September-October. Looking to improve occupancy have to turn away folks because we don't have enough sites for full hook ups. Want to convert some tent sites by adding electric and hoping to add more full hook up sites too (most popular option).

Beach parking – people coming out every year. We'll see how it goes this year with new parking enforcement. Rates were raised in 2022 as costs also increased. DPW taking over parking, working on transition right now. Going to be a few issues that pop up during transfer, but it will ultimately be a good move. Have to do a lot of communication with community to make sure people can understand access. Still have physical assistant at gate to assist. Will be trained by DPW. Department depends on revenue.

How critical are full hookup sites? Why are we supporting full hookup sites with our climate plan? Has a hard time seeing full hookups fit the ethos of what we represent and what people want Burlington to be?

Erin – to be clear – we're not taking away tent space. We're trying to accommodate demand for RV/trailer camping. Assessing demand, realizing we haven't done a renovation since the 1950s. A full hookup site means utilities running to site, not paving, not over developing. There is a siting study for the campground, trying to be really mindful of use. We have a small defined space, how do we accommodate the demand that we're seeing. Perkins is a small craft marina because we want our waterfront to be accessible. But to be accessible we need to accommodate what's coming to us. How many lean-tos? 3. Plan calls for more cabins and lean-tos. Wants us to be unique, not like everywhere else where everyone can park their RV and watch their TV. Erin – we are unique – we have urban camping, very different identity from remote state parks. We are different and are going to get a different type of camper. They want to be connected to e-bikes and brewery tours, can inform eco tourism. It's not affordable to spend \$300 a night on a hotel room, but you can bring your sprinter van for \$50 a night and do it economically and environmentally friendly. They don't want to have to close the beaches, so stormwater and space use are foremost in their mind. Nathan thanks.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55pm. The Park Commission reconvened at 5:55pm

Presentation: Coach of the Year, Jen Cotton, Athletics Program Manager, BPRW (verbal)

Darcy McDonough is coach of the year Soccer coach, basketball, flexible, all over the city. Super caring and supportive through growing pains. Really admired her hard work, trying to connect with team/players. Throughout the season they bonded and they made it to the championship game! Kids wanted to keep playing at the end of the season, and that's what's important. Darcy rented Miller out for her team, kids and families were so grateful. Hopes she'll be back in the fall and winter to coach again. Shared videos and comments from players.

Public Forum (Time Certain 6:00 PM)

Public forum opened at 6:04 pm

Kate Marvin – Dog park. Emailed info to Cindi last week. Questions – had a hard time finding info on enjoyburlington.com about plans and with dog task force/boarddocs. Knows that there is education on dog poop/beach closure education. Big issue is increased liability – has BPRW had discussions regarding increased liability. There was a way to submit information more than once on survey, someone could



skew info potentially. What is current assessment of increased liability – has lots of discussions with community, vets, pediatricians. Have strong objections to this proposal. Dogs off-leash, owners ignoring off-leash. It's being done really blatantly now even though there is a leash law. If we have new areas that aren't enforced it will become a complete free-for-all/chaos. Wondering about other fenced spaces.

Abby – thanks for sharing thoughts and opinions. No proposal out there yet. Dog taskforce is still compiling info. Agenda item is just a progress report. Taskforce will come out with final report and recommendations. Will follow up afterwards and make sure she has access to info she's looking for. Public forum closed at 6:13pm.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion to approve minutes from April 2023 Commission meeting and other items on the consent agenda by Johnson, second by Wiseberg, motion carried.

Morrigan would like pronouns changed to they them on minutes.

Burlington Burn Club, founder moved to PA but others are committed to keeping space alive. Feel important to have access and learn and make sure following safety protocols.

Action Item: (15 min.) Bicycle Events on Greenway, Cindi Wight, Director, BPRW (attachment) Sarah Cindi had someone reach out about wanting to do a bicycle event on the greenway. BPRW decided it's not the safest use of the space. Asking if Parks commission would support BPRW restricting bicycle events on greenway. Aaron has big problem blanket restriction. Doesn't want to see blanket restriction because where do bikes belong. Jason – doesn't believe mass bikes belong on path. Aaron thinks it's crazy. Where do bikes go then? If there's a bike event with 25 people they're forced to go on the main road? We're here to support these things. Jason – why don't they just go for a ride. Aaron – maybe they want to organize, it's where bikes belong. Lee – as someone who has used a lot of roadways, a huge part of any race is traffic control. HUGE endeavor. Just contemplating any sort of single use event of the bike path – if we wanted to make this happen, the amount of people needed for traffic control because of all the entry points would be astronomical. Yes, it's a bike path and makes sense for bike event, but to make people feel more comfortable with blanket ban, maybe someone needs to look at what it would take for a single use event. Tons of logistics to keep it safe. Goes towards resources needed for a mass bike event on bike path that has no foot traffic would be massive. Nathan comes from similar perspective – private exclusive use of public right of way for some amount of time. In other instances where there are bike or roadrace events, it's never full exclusive use for more than a mile or so of the space. All the logistics make it extremely complicated, but then restricting bike path for private use feels against the purpose of the public waterfront. Who benefits? Registration fees go to private business. Idea of exclusive use at odds with BPRW ethos. As opposed to blanket ban, limit space that can be restricted or similar. Harley – agrees with Nate and Lee. Finds the idea of having bike path only used for bikes is not accurate to its daily use. Doesn't know if it's a great precedent to set. Likes the idea of bike exclusive event along specific stretches so it wouldn't be as disruptive or limit numbers to make it less disruptive. Abby – general guidance that says we're restricting bicycle specific group activities, but wouldn't preclude commission from approving bike specific activity. This sends out general guidance that we are not looking for those applications. Aaron – how many events have been requested. Cindi – first one. Aaron – so based off of one request we're going to ban? Have there ever been foot events that are exclusive? Cindi – only the marathon. Aaron – doesn't look at revenue. Robert – revenue funds other projects. Aaron – why can't we take this on a case by case basis? No one will approach us if



they see this. Abby – is this a solution looking for a problem or would this be useful. Cindi – BPRW can still say no to people. No pressure. You don't have to vote on it. If we say no and person doesn't like answer they can go to mayor. Nathan – root of what we're thinking about is exclusivity. Maybe we should have a policy on exclusivity as opposed to kind of event. What about when a big group of bikes is on path? There's no policy that would make them separate or stop. If there's only ever been one request, we know that there have been mass bike rides on path. They haven't been disruptive. Maybe it's not about curtailing bike events but rather about exclusive use. Robert – why did they request. Cindi – permit to use bike path for commercial purposes. Abby – issue is safety. We have criteria looking at requests. Bike path is multi use, curtails public, open path. Doesn't have to be absolutely no bike rides, but be clear that it can't impact safety. Robert – path can't sustain a large group of bicycles safely. Abby – table. Revisit when necessary. See if this is something that really solves anything or should BPRW team just turn down unsafe requests. Nathan – Is it possible to get a list of bicycle events permitted and non? Cindi – they don't go on bike path, police support for those. Unsanctioned ones take over streets. Not on bike path. Lee moves to table, Harley seconds, all in favor.

Discussion Item: (20 min.) Review Draft Annual Commission Report (verbal)

Overview of meeting by meeting, things that PC did. Issues, passed items, presentations. Didn't hear about any changes need to bulk of report. If anyone has anything send to Abby. Challenges, what do we want to work on over the next year? Nathan – has idea. Thinks that an evergreen challenge for commission (all commissions really) how do we use this body to best serve the public? How do we make sure that the meetings and their work is serving the needs of the public? Really hard to track. Isn't necessarily a body that has robust public participation, but all have lots of thoughts on how they can make inroads in public benefit. Abby – good summary! Little bit of power, but influence...how can we bring positive value to the city and the residents. Handful of items that we can try to help drive to improve things for residents/city. Looking at parks/safety – how that impacts. Maybe a project we can dive into. Lee – wants to explore how to address sharps in public places – attended council meeting a couple weeks ago where public spoke about needles in baseball dugouts. Wants to approach by public input phase to start. Will speak at NPA. Hopes to develop commission, lots of community interest. Joint yearly meeting between conservation commission and parks commission. Harley – if we want to engage more with public, the more we know about other commissions the more we can share. It can be really overwhelming to look into things at first. The more we can share with folks the better. Abby – commissioners all have really different interests, how can commission be effective in those areas, send commissioners out on specific items. Nathan – annual retreat – looking holistically at the year. Around that time maybe define roles and projects as people get clear on who cares about what and who to go to about what. Abby – strategic retreat in the morning – late summer, focus on strategy and what is work plan, who is doing what? Send out doodle poll? Send Abby days and times of days. Would like to do sooner rather than later. July meeting is usually canceled. Hard to see doing retreat before August, send Abby general availability. Cindi – we would hire someone to facilitate. In the mean time, Abby will incorporate things we're interested in doing (issues). Participation and access to rec and youth programs Abby adds to list of priorities. Lee – do we have a policy or doc regarding basic function of meetings? Policies, procedures, decorum, values, that sort of thing? Would like to see that/how we talk to each other. Cindi – we can include that as part of retreat.

Discussion Item: (15 min.) Updating Ordinances – Park Use, Cindi Wight, Director, BPRW (attachment)

Cindi sent out CHP use ordinance. Ben Traverse has been working on aligning practices. Ran past staff, Zach Williamson (books CHP), all are on board. Any questions. Update of special use permits. Aaron – who measures the sound. Cindi – literally uses decibel meter at event. Has to have back up. Takes



samples at set times. It can spike periodically, but it's not measured the whole time. North Beach – has issues, curious if it would be a valuable tool to have decibel levels or durations reduced so they have more control? Cindi – Erin was involved in conversation. Has reviewed policy. Events at North Beach are not encouraged, so it's minimal impacts. Aaron – rules for waterfront – “as administered by water resources” what does that mean. Cindi – huh? That's weird. Must be old/legacy. Needs to change. Jason – anything changing for Oakledge? Do people still need to request permits or... Cindi – just simplified language. Wouldn't have amplified sound without entertainment.

Standing Item:

Report on PACC Dog Force

Continuing work on ordinances. Off-leash group is working through survey comments.

Report on Parks Foundation

hasn't had meeting yet, meeting this week.

Director's Items

Always fascinating. There are designated smoking areas in the parks. Who knows how they're marked? Get into next time. Aaron – why is there no smoking in CHP? Cindi – it's small? That's her best guess...send people to the sidewalk.

Commissioner's Items & Volunteer Hours

Nathan, Champlain St park, pass update, future update. Park looks great right now. Just spent half hour between work and meeting in the park. Was event last month in the park, Abby came. Good volunteer presence. Good news story about good work in the parks! Next fun thing is – community lunch in Champlain Park, time TBD, lunchish. Will be on FFP. 10 volunteer hours. Harley – did an hour at Callahan community garden. Prepped for upcoming season, moving to shared leadership model, everyone taking a position to cover. Looking forward to work day coming up soon. Lee – no hours. Most folks being housed under voucher program will be released onto streets as program ends. City has been stepping up enforcement, especially with substance use, expects influx of people sleeping in parks. It's coming, but please approach with empathy. There is nothing fun about being in that position, they're just trying to survive. Trying to expand sheltering capabilities. Not a great solution right now, approach with empathy. Jason – Oakledge looks great! Put in exercise equipment yesterday, knows every inch of the park. Is there an ETA on when it will be finished? Cindi – slide, can't schedule surfacing until they install slide. Jason – still working on lots of stuff. Slide is the last piece. Jason – also just heard about gate. When is that happening? Cindi – June is estimate. Did 3 hours on green up day. Aaron – no hours. Coaches for BPRW soccer team. Abby – 5 hours, event at Champlain park was really cool. It looks great!

EXPECTED EXECUTIVE SESSION

Aaron moves to go into executive session. Lee seconds. Jason opposed all else in favor. Abby moves into executive session with a 10 minute time limit.

Real Estate Matter

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn around 7:35 pm.



DR