



**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
Minutes
April 6, 2021**

Commission Present: Farrell, Lantieri, Traverse, Johnson, Todd, and Hurley

Staff Present: Wight, Sauve, Cahill and O'Daniel

The meeting was convened at 4:42p.m. by Traverse

Introductions by Traverse of Commission members and staff for public.

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Consent Agenda

Traverse asked to waive the reading of the consent agenda and motions into the record for approval.

Todd wants to make sure the recordings and minutes are available for the public. Parks is working on that.

Approval of consent agenda by Todd, second by Johnson, motion carried.

FY21 Project Updates: Sophie Sauve, Parks Comprehensive Planner

Sauve opened by explaining she would be sharing an overview of projects that are active and what's coming up soon. What's happening, what we're busy with and where you can jump in. She shared her screen with a map of where there are active projects.

Planning Team has decided to use their icon process so that the public can see and be involved. Lightbulb is "collecting Ideas" from the public and staff, pencil is "design process" and "check mark" is complete.

311 North Avenue – Lightbulb Phase. Ongoing projects are the Stone House Rehabilitation, roof repairs and the management plan. Upcoming in FY22 is work on the natural trail and multi-use pathway.

Wight spoke to the Stone house saying that we have the architect on and he's working on how to highlight the historical structure and make it a special place for our conservation program and the public. One example is the plan to open up the original front porch to bring back the historical look and also open up the front for public use (bathroom). This allows for public access, which is part of the requirements for the funding, and the ability for staff to simultaneously be safely behind locked doors. Everyone feels like the architect really hears us.

Parks team is coordinating with a contractor to repair some spots in the skate park.

Arms Forest - trail design-build, ongoing projects. On-site meeting soon to determine trail work.



Battery Park – Chief Greylock we well as other projects are being looked at. The team has come to the conclusion that the best plan is going to be to make a master plan for Battery Park as a whole.

Greenway – changes that will start happening downtown between college and maple. Bike path is closed between College & King currently. Contractor has been selected and will hopefully have more details at the next meeting. We will be bidding out the Oakledge work in the coming weeks.

Boathouse – currently in the scoping study. Not a funded project yet, but needs to be addressed so looking for funding. Need to have someone focus in on the space and evaluate what needs to happen there.

Calahan Park – In the beginning phase of the Master Plan – at the community needs and wants stage. Meeting with the gardeners next week for focus groups as well as neighbors and other staff members who know the park's maintenance needs.

Champlain Park – on the horizon. Playground redesign and replacement. After construction bidding season they will begin working on the design of that park.

Ethan Allen Park – will be going through a Master Planning phase mid-way through FY22.

Community Boathouse Marina – RFP for a gangway lift, our maintenance teams will be focusing this.

Leddy Park – stairs to the beach and ADA access. We have been reworking some of that design and are putting it out to bid. The stairs are actively in progress – design is in process and that work should start soon. We are also working on the pause place and exercise equipment. And we're looking forward to a shelter and other upgrades.

North Beach Campground – construction should start next week on the current projects. The pump out road and improvements are in the works. The maintenance building has come down. The pull through and main road way designs are being worked on now.

Oakledge Park – A large portion of the funding is coming from the federal government, but that process has been very slow. We have been assured that the funding is coming, but this project will more than likely not be happening this summer. We will be working to get everything in place and ready for that.

Perkins Pier – We are finished with the first third of this project. We had a meeting with over 100 attendees. John Adams-Kolitz did a great job answering all of the questions in real time and delivered the answers in a positive way. Planning team had a great time going through that process with the community. It helped us understand some of the priorities that the public has as well as cross reference them with our priorities. It was a great meeting. Looking forward to the second meeting on May 18th, which will be more focused on design. We are working with the consultants on what was taken away from the meeting. They are a very visionary group. It would be great to have everyone attend the next meeting!

Schiffiliti Park – The City was awarded a grant through VTrans to put a pathway through the park. We have a three year project ahead of us with that, and we are currently at the very beginning. Max is



working on an RFP and what it means to work under a VTrans grant. We are also planning to transition one of the baseball fields to a softball field.

Schmanska Park – The barn renovation is complete! There was extra money after the renovations, which we are planning to put toward the walk way and potentially ADA parking.

Smalley Park – Playground re-design is in process.

Starr Farm Park – The dog park fence replacement was done last year. Concrete pads have been bid out to be done at the dog park and for the fitness equipment that will be installed at Starr Farm.

System Wide – Paul has had a vendor come out and do some significant playground replacements. He has operated a lean budget and has purchased kick mats underneath swings. He has done really fantastic work on the playgrounds. Overall restroom designs – On the horizon! Example, Upper Shelter at Oakledge. We are continuing to work on signage and wayfinding. We are also responding to community needs that we can address within our budgetary constraints – picnic tables and benches are a few examples. Opened the floor for questions.

Todd gave kudos for the Perkins Pier meeting and is hoping that those same successes will happen with the upcoming Calahan meeting. Staggering amount of projects that the Planning Team is balancing. Todd then asked about the Moran frame – how does that factor into the projects?

Wight responded that that is a CEDO project. It will most likely become a BPRW project down the road. When they are looking at future funding that is when they will reach out to the community for input. Basic things have not been funded yet – water, electricity, bathroom, top soil, bird deterrent etc. Images that were put out about a year ago were more “what this space could be” with funding/fundraising in the future.

Traverse has never seen photos of the inside of the Schmanska barn and asked if there is a way we could see the interior? Would be good to have them on the site if the barn is going to be rented in the future. Traverse also wanted to echo what Andrea said about the Perkins Pier meeting – it was amazing and he is looking forward to the Calahan Park meeting. Traverse also asked if coming into the NPA meetings is there any particular feedback from the public that would be helpful or are these more of a space to inform the public of what’s going on?

Sauve responded that the Planning Team was thinking of it as more informational, including using it as a space to talk about Penny for Parks and answer questions about it. It hasn’t been very competitive and would like to have more people involved in that moving forward.

Wight mentioned that that meeting can also be used as a space for what we might have missed addressing in parks in their Ward.

311 North Avenue Management Plan: Dan Cahill, Land Steward



Cahill opened with an outline of this portion of the meeting. First, an overview of the management plan – what are management plans and why we do them. Then he was hoping to open it up to a discussion and hear reactions from Commissioners. One of the documents shared ahead of time was the current layout and design of the bike path connector trail and is happy to answer questions about that.

311 management plan specifically has a requirement within our easement with the VT Housing and Conservation Board, which is one of the primary funders for the acquisition of the property. They granted \$500,000 towards the purchase. They hold an easement on the land and one of their requirements within that easement is that we provide a management plan and it also goes through a public input process. So coming before you all is part of the public process and speaking with the Conservation Board and this body before we go fully public with that is sort of a soft launch because you are such an invested stakeholder group that we're anticipating getting some great feedback that will help sharpen it a little bit more before bringing it to the larger community.

Management plans are documents that help us define best practices and codify the values of our park master plan, open space protection plan and help reflect those in the natural areas and natural communities that are there and get into some of the assessment of what is on site. In a space like 311, which is a little bit more than a natural area – it's an urban wild, with significant features like the path that connects through, gardens, and the stone house. The house will have its own plan, the management plan is about the land and the areas in and around the house, but it does point towards the programming of that space as well and speaks to how it connects to the use of the land. Cahill then opened it up for discussion.

Todd is impressed with the volume of this material. Very comprehensive and reading this is a great way to get a sense of how deeply Parks is connected with all of the different uses of nature, constructed space and use of the spaces. Todd then asked about the interface with Cambrian Rise – what does that look like? And specifically Abnaki programming and BIPOC engagement and how we're reaching out to communities as part of that.

Cahill responded to the last question first. In regard to working with the BIPOC community and thinking about belonging and inclusion, we're trying to be really creative in our thinking with new ways to activate the trails and the space and invite more folks in and new voices to the table. This month we're launching a poetry walk "call for poets". For the next few weeks there will be an open application process that is centering on indigenous and black perspectives. The idea is that we'll have a poetry walk that will be an annual show, and an annual process of bringing in more perspectives and showcasing different voices each time. Poetry is one of the most profound ways humans can reflect on experiences so we thought it being a natural area, creating a poetry theme that weaves in the ideas of healing and nature and how that's revolutionary. That has been a long process of working with community stakeholders (REIB, CEDO, Library, Vermont Releaf Collective). We've all been working together as a steering committee to guide the process. That's one example of thinking creatively through programming to create broader sense of identity in the space. Signage about the management plan will also hopefully allow for the community to see and learn about the opportunities to engage in the discussion about the management plan and the space. Having land acknowledgment more integrated into our documents and processes is an important frame to help continue to ground and acknowledge the history and everyone's place and presence. We know there's a lot more beyond that and a lot of that comes through with relationships. This connects to a lot of the learning opportunities and introspective personal work to learn how to be in community more authentically and directly with



different people as well. It's important we integrate as many voices as we can to try and capture everyone's experiences. We should be looking at our role not just as current stewards of the land, but also stewards of the history of these spaces as well. There's a really dynamic history here on this property and we're a part of that right now. The relationship with Cambrian Rise is emergent and ongoing. The senior housing just opened up and a building manager has been hired and we have started having meetings with them. We're trying to build that relationship and opportunities. The most magnetic thing that everyone wants to talk about is garden space! We're excited to have the opportunity to keep doing that creatively with the limited space that we have, both with garden spaces but then also working on that healing process with restoring and regenerating the land there with native plants and plants that provide food for people and wildlife.

Traverse brought up the process of naming the land and the re-naming of Texaco Beach. Is there a way to combine those and find a way to honor the history through that as well in the renaming process?

Cahill responded that that has been discussed and thinks that an intentional process and thinking about how to do that the right way would be great.

Todd asked if Cahill was looking for specific things from Commissioners.

Cahill responded that if you know of anyone who would be interested in this process, please extend the opportunity to them when we send the packet out. Just know we're about a year out from building the trail so we have some time. We've been having a lot of discussions and have working really closely with the folks at Cambrian Rise throughout the design process. It's going to be a very intensive building process as far as what it looks like to build an ADA paved path and a put in a storm water conveyance pipe in an area that is essentially sand. We are excited about the access and improvements it will bring and also the opportunities to think creatively about the regenerative plantings and what we can do in the space. It will be a big change and just wanted to note that. We're seeing a lot of the opportunities, but it's going to feel disruptive to the people who are currently using the space.

Farrell asked if while we are thinking the proposed improvements is there a particular area that Cahill would want the commissioners to weigh in.

Cahill said that he is working with the marketing team to find a way to make the input more open ended for people to weigh in on. Some sort of google form potentially. We're anticipating the most feedback will be for the gardens and top of the trail and trail experience. We want to hear from people who use the space but also others. Best case scenario is an informed process and enhanced through public discussions and processes. This is a great chance to get feedback as we as have actionable engagement with volunteering etc.

Todd asked if the Commissioners can help by explaining the long term process and the plan that 311 is undergoing when people have emotional responses to changes – we can help facilitate the understanding of the process. Act as positive PR people and engage the community about what is happening. How can we do that as Commissioners to help assist with that?

Cahill responded that there's this process and also providing more FAQs or some information that helps guide and ground and bring to life all of the hard work, time, intention and thought that has gone in



from a lot of people. And we want that to extend that and get more ideas from more people. We want folks to feel like they understand, can get the information and can ground in it.

Wight said that if you're seeing feedback on things we're posting, it would be helpful to share that longer range vision of – yes, it was sad to this big change happen but we're really excited to see what the space is going to be like now. Being able to make connections and let people know that the work we're doing to heal the land after is going to be intentional would be helpful.

Cahill mentioned the 311 tree re-homing process to save some of the smaller trees that are in the projected path and how we're engaging with community members to create new spaces for those trees. These are hard things, but letting people know that they are full of expansive opportunities will be important. He also the native planting plan to put into action after the trail has been built.

Oakledge 50th Anniversary: Ben Traverse, Chair, Parks Commission

Traverse began by sharing that this year is the 50th anniversary of Oakledge Park. He and Lantieri put out a call on FPF to Ward 5. Over 20 people reached out and wanted to take part in the planning efforts. They scheduled the initial planning meeting and over a dozen people attended to talk about ideas and events to celebrate. Emma and John from BPRW attended as well.

Lantieri explained that the main outcome from that first meeting was that instead of going for one big event, having smaller events throughout the year would be more conducive to the space. We haven't totally shaped out what the specifics of these events or the exact time line yet, but have come up with some basic buckets for the events. Which are: community stewardship (Green Up Day) how can we give back to the space? History discussion, with two different veins: the larger history of the park, Abnaki roots and how to integrate that story beyond the 50 years and the acquisition of the land by the City, the history of the people who have memories of the land. Sports and recreation and other sports leagues that use the space – inroads into that would be great. Public art and music. Natural events: nature tours, lake health, bird watching etc. And a specific focus on diversity and inclusion – how do we tell the indigenous story and how do we tell the story of the diverse population of people who use the park – (CEDOs One World Market). Oakledge for All. Those are the broad strokes of what this could look like. First concrete event is Green Up Day on May 1st. From there it's pretty open at this point.

Todd is seeing this as another space to solicit people's opinions and let people know about the upcoming meetings for community input. Broadcasting of what's happening.

Public Forum (Time Certain 6:00PM)

Public Forum was opened at 6:00pm

No one was present for the public forum.

Public forum was closed at 6:01pm

FY22 General Fund and Capital Budget: Cindi Wight, Director



Wight was hoping to bring the General Fund budget to the commission tonight, but with the Federal monies coming, we have submitted one budget but we are now submitting a 2nd budget. It would be too early to share this because we have been directed to do another round with the budget and I have not met with CAO Shad on that yet. Wight noted that with the Federal funds coming it can help support the lack of revenue and budgets, it is looking like the City will be able to fully fund our budgets as we need it. This should allow us to bring all of our budget lines back to FY19 levels.

Wight then moved onto the Capital Budget and wanted to note that this is still in draft form. It has not been shared with the mayor yet, so it is not ready to be shared widely yet. She shared her screen for the FY22 Capital Budget and went through it line by line. Shows projects, what staff person is focusing on it, where the money is coming from, the budgeted money for it and a notes section. Categories are: Penny for Parks, Central Facilities Projects, Parks Special Projects, Bike Path, Trees Capital Projects, Conservation Legacy Fund, Bike Path Maintenance and Other. If all goes well we're spending about \$3 million on Capital Projects.

Farrell understands this is still tentative but is there a priority list for things if not everything can happen.

Wight responded that things that are "shovel ready" are generally a higher priority. We're hoping to get all of them done! It's more of a capacity piece on the staff side of things.

Todd asked if it would be helpful to hire another staff member.

Wight explained that their salary would likely take away from the funds allocated for the projects, so it would be a catch 22. We are putting forward a list to the CAO around our public restrooms – enhancing our seasonal ones so they are safer and adding more year round ones. In order to do this we will need another staff person, which would be part of the proposal.

Traverse asked if there has been any indication about how much of the federal money coming in is coming to the department and if it will go towards lost revenue?

Wight responded that she is anticipating that we'll be about \$1 million short of our normal revenue for FY22 but we can budget as we normally do because of the federal money supporting our department. We also saved about \$200,000 this past year because of open positions that we were not allowed to fill, so if we have expenses we can spend the money now. It is a challenge because it is already April and you have to do budget adjustments, which takes time, as well as getting the supplies ordered. One example that we're hoping to pull around is making the Disc Golf course permanent. We have to have the money saved in this current fiscal year spent by June. Once we knew the federal money was coming we could spend some of our savings and then we don't have to find savings to make up lost revenue in FY22.

Traverse responded that if the Commission can be of any support in your efforts here to secure additional funds, I'm sure we would be happy to consider any memos you send out.

Director's Items

Important to recognize when we have new staff – Kim has come to us from DPW. We also hired for the arborist technician! Hopefully by the end of this week one of the Rec Specialist positions will be filled



and will be posting the other open Rec position soon. It will include a piece about connecting with the BIPOC community.

Governor updates today – July 3rd is on! Starting in July there will be no restrictions. Recommendations but no restrictions.

We received an Arbor Day grant because of significant plantings in wards 2 & 3. The public in those neighborhoods will be receiving a mailing about it soon.

Kudos to Paul Morris, the Grounds Manager, for his focus on our playgrounds. Has taken it very seriously and has brought a manufacturer in to inspect all of the playgrounds. He has also been working on MOUs with the Little League programs in Burlington who use our fields. He'll be going to year 2 of maintenance management school in January 2022. He's hoping to attend the May meeting.

Mayor's focus and State of the City – racial equity and justice that we're thinking through how we fit into that and what is our role. Urban Park Ranger program could be a way. It would fall under Alec. It's about education of our rules and providing that presence in our parks. They would be out and about in our parks!

Met with Chief Stevens to begin thinking about the indigenous population and different partnerships they could have with the City. We are going through the different partnerships they have currently to see where we could plug in. Potentially having a parking pass that would allow Abnaki to park for free.

Naming of spaces. Whose voice are we going to get in this if we involve the same voices we always get. So we're rolling that one back for now.

Green Up Day – if anyone has a group there is a list you can sign up with Paul. Bags will be available to use!

Farrell saw the RFP for a Leddy food truck and thinks that's great.

Wight responded that it will be open until 4/12 and we're excited about it. There's the potential to have them along the south side of the arena or along the bluff. Looking at potentially extending electricity and updating the Leddy kitchen.

Report from Commission on Volunteer Hours

Lantieri had 1.5 hours, Traverse had 1.5 hours

Commissioner's Items

Traverse – Cindi is up for reappointment and will be circulating a letter to review that the Commission will be sharing with the Mayor's office.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 6:40p.m. by Traverse.



MEMO

Date: May 4th, 2021
To: BPRW Commission
From: Meghan O'Daniel, Community Garden Outreach Coordinator & Customer Service Associate
RE: Keepsake House Event Sound Waiver for May 29th, 2021

Request for waiver at Battery Park to allow amplified sound for a live music performance called "Roots Less Traveled".

Keepsake House is an organization that focuses their efforts on creating meaningful connection and community through roundtable-style concerts and conversation about their artists' work. They hope to leave listeners with a deeper love for and understanding of the art made: a keepsake to hold on to. They are committed to supporting independent artists across genres, backgrounds and time zones and are particularly committed to seeking out BIPOC and LGBTQ+ artists to be a part of their shows. Their shows are purposefully affordable and accessible to community members. They are requesting to have amplified sound during their event and have already booked the park.

Staff contact for the event is Hailey Savage.

This event will feature 4 independent songwriters, with conversation interwoven throughout the musical performances. The artists are: Frank Song Jr., Marcie Hernandez, MIKAHELY, and Sabrina Comellas – all Burlington based artists except for one, who is from Brattleboro. The amplified sound will take place between 6pm and 8:30pm. They are expecting between 50 - 70 people to attend. They have a COVID-19 mitigation plan in place.

It is on a day with no conflicting events.

Staff Recommendations:

Allow waiver for amplified sound.



MEMO

Date: May 4th, 2021
To: BPRW Commission
From: Meghan O'Daniel, Community Garden Outreach Coordinator & Customer Service Associate
RE: Ice Cream Window Event Sound Waiver for May 30th, 2021

Request for waiver at Battery Park to allow amplified sound for a live music performance.

Ice Cream Window and the Dynamic Flavors is band that is celebrating the release of their new album with a performance. They will be performing songs from it and many of their other hits. They have been working on this album for 2 years and will be playing their final show together. They are requesting to have amplified sound during their event and have already booked the park.

Staff contact for the event is Julian Foster.

The amplified sound will take place between 6pm and 8pm. They are expecting around 100 people to attend. They have a COVID-19 mitigation plan in place.

It is on a day with no conflicting events.

Staff Recommendations:

Allow waiver for amplified sound.



MEMO

Date: May 4th, 2021
To: BPRW Commission
From: Meghan O'Daniel, Community Garden Outreach Coordinator & Customer Service Associate
RE: Church at the Well Event Sound Waiver for May 16th – September 12th, 2021

Request for waiver at North Beach and Leddy Park to allow amplified sound for a weekly church service.

The Church at the Well is looking to hold their services at an outdoor location from May to September in order to keep their community members safe while transitioning back to in person services post-COVID. They are requesting to have amplified sound during their event and have already booked the North Beach Shelter for May 16th and have a hold on the Leddy Tent for the rest of the Sundays through September 12th (except for June 27th). They are requesting the 9am-2pm rental, leaving the afternoon rental open for other users.

The reservation will take place from 9am – 2pm, with amplified sound happening from 10am to 11:30am. Their music will not be amplified, just the speaking portions of the service so that the attendees can hear. They are expecting between 100-150 people to attend each week and have a COVID mitigation plan in place.

Staff contact for the event is Tasha Lehman.

The requests are on days with no conflicting events.

Staff Recommendations:

Allow waiver for amplified sound.



MEMO

Date: May 4th, 2021
To: BPRW Commission
From: Meghan O'Daniel, Community Garden Outreach Coordinator & Customer Service Associate
RE: Vermont Dance Alliance Event Sound Waiver for June 12th, 2021

Request for waiver at Leddy Park to allow amplified sound for a live dance performance.

Vermont Dance Alliance is a statewide nonprofit that believes that dance is a transformational art form. By providing a network of resources for dance artists and educational opportunities for movers and audiences, they expand the visibility and accessibility of dance in Vermont and bolster the creative economy of the state. This will be their 5th annual summer program called "Traces", and they have chosen to tailor the event around the theme of water conservation, proving that together we can make a difference in protecting water in our communities. By placing emphasis on dance as a collective form of activism, VDA will continue to encourage an atmosphere of nondiscrimination and open dialogue through the dance medium. They are requesting to have amplified sound during their event and have already booked the Leddy Tent. They are planning to incorporate the lake into the event.

The event will take place between 10am and 1pm, with amplified sound happening throughout that. There will be a workshop from 10am – 11am that merges dance with water conservation themes and education followed by a display of 6 commissioned dances. This will be an intimate event, with low sound levels. Not all performers will be using amplification, but if they are it will be a battery powered amplifier and the music will range from classical to experimental. This event is free to the public and they are expecting around 50 people to attend. They will leave no trace.

Staff contact for the event is Hanna Satterlee.

It is on a day with no conflicting events.

Staff Recommendations:

Allow waiver for amplified sound.

MEMO

Date: April 27, 2021, 2021
To: Parks, Recreation & Waterfront Commission
From: Brendan Kaplan
RE: Marina Long-Term Transient Weekday Slip & Mooring Rate

In an effort to adjust to new boating trends due to the impact of the pandemic on travel, we propose the following rate option to encourage more long-term transient reservations during our season. This option would allow us to discount the per foot rate if a boater wants to reserve for a longer stay with us, therefore increasing our occupancy rate. We saw a drastic decrease in reservations during the 2020 season and propose a new long-term transient rate available throughout the season (May 15th to October 15th). This will also allow us to remain competitive within the harbor.

Proposed New Rate Option

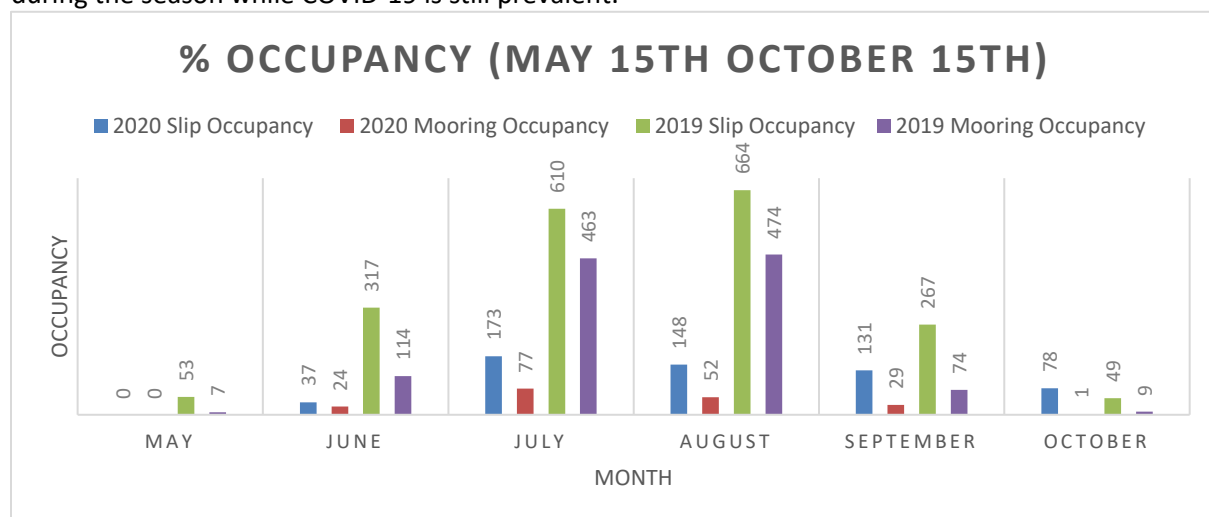
Current Overnight Rate: \$2.25/ft for a slip & \$1.25/ft for a mooring

Proposed Monthly Rate Option: \$23/ft for a slip and \$15/ft for a mooring, per month.

Valid throughout the season, with a minimum of a 30 consecutive day stay, granted by the Manager based on current occupancy level of slips and moorings.

Note – We already have a late season rate in effect from mid-September to October 15, reducing the overnight fee to \$1.25/ft for a transient slip. We propose to keep this rate as well, and would default to this existing rate after mid-September.

The below chart outlines the fall in occupancy we saw in the 2020 season (May 15th to October 15th). Occupancy numbers are similar for May and part of June. Our intent is to increase occupancy and revenues during the season while COVID-19 is still prevalent.





PARKS & RECREATION AND HARBOR COMMISSION

Tuesday, May 4, 2021, 5:30PM

Remote Meeting via Zoom

To Join the Meeting on a Computer

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81253236413>

To Join the Meeting on a Phone

Number: 1-301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 812 5323 6413

HARBOR COMMISSION AGENDA

- I. Approval of Agenda
- II. Discussion Item: (45 min.) Ferry Scuttling, Andrea Todd, and Ben Traverse, Commissioners, BPRW (verbal)
- III. Action Item: (15 min.) Marina Long-Term Transient Rates, Brendan Kaplan, Marina Manager and Deputy Harbormaster
- IV. Adjournment

* * * * *

PARKS COMMISSION AGENDA

- I. Approval of Agenda
- II. Consent Agenda
 - A. Action Item: Approval of Minutes of April 6, 2021 Meeting (attachment)
*waive the reading, approve the minutes and place them on file
 - B. Action Item: Approval of Sound Waiver for Keepsake House Event (attachment)
*waive the reading, approve the request for sound waiver and place on file
 - C. Action Item: Approval of Sound Waiver for Ice Cream Window (attachment)
*waive the reading, approve the request for sound waiver and place on file
 - D. Action Item: Approval of Sound Waiver for Church at the Well Event (attachment)
*waive the reading, approve the request for sound waiver and place on file
 - E. Action Item: Approval of Sound Waiver for Vermont Dance Alliance Event (attachment)
*waive the reading, approve the request for sound waiver and place on file
 - F. Action Item: Approval of Sound Waiver for Black Perspective Event (attachment)
*waive the reading, approve the request for sound waiver and place on file

III. Public Forum: (Time Certain 6:30PM)

Please see page 2 of the Agenda packet for details on how to participate in the public forum for this meeting.

- IV. Information Item: (15 min.) Grounds Work Tracking, Paul Morris, Grounds Maintenance Worker, BPRW (verbal)

- V. Action Item: (15 min.) FY22 General Fund Budgets and Directors Report, Cindi Wight, Director, BPRW (attachment)
- VI. STANDING ITEMS:
 - A. Report from Commission on Volunteer Hours (verbal)
- VII. Director's Items (attachment)
- VIII. Commissioner's Items
- IX. Adjournment



Guidance for Participating in a Virtual Parks Commission Meeting

As social distancing measures to preserve public health and safety continue to be required to prevent the spread of COVID-19, are recommended as a standard practice, the Office of Parks, Recreation & Waterfront will be supporting the Parks Commission to conduct their meetings on-line via Zoom. Here is information about how to join a virtual meeting, and what to expect while participating.

General Guidance for Public Participation

Please remember that in this digital meeting environment, meetings are open to the public and anyone may be watching or listening even if you cannot see them. Meetings will be recorded, and both the recording and chat content of the meeting will be maintained as a public record.

Please ensure your display photo and screen name are professional, such as using your first and last name. Please test your audio and video prior to the start of a meeting, and familiarize yourself with how to join a meeting by your chosen method. And finally, please be patient with us. Technology doesn't always work as planned, and we are all learning how to hold a successful virtual meeting!

How to Join a Virtual Meeting

Zoom allows participation via either computer or telephone. Each agenda for a meeting that will be conducted virtually will include details about how to join via either of these options, including a web address, phone number, Meeting ID, and password.

If you participate via computer, you have the option of seeing Commissioner videos and any presentation materials that may be shared. If you use either a standard phone or cell phone to call in, you will only hear the audio portion of the meeting. If you join via a smartphone, you may have the option to download the Zoom app, which will enable you to see and hear the meeting.

How to Participate in a Virtual Meeting

During meetings, only Parks Commission members and limited staff members will be viewed on video. Members of the public attending a meeting will be muted, except when invited to speak during public forum or a public hearing. Whether members of the public can speak at other times during the meeting is the discretion of the Chair.

If you want to speak during public forum, please take the following steps to assist us in making this process run as smoothly as possible:

- Email staff at jputzier@burlingtonvt.gov by 5pm on the day before a meeting to indicate your interest in speaking. You do not need to provide your comments. Staff will enable your microphone as your name is called from a list of interested speakers.
- During a meeting, you can text (802) 922-3381 and a staff will enable your microphone and invite you to speak when your name is called.
- If you are interested in submitting your comments in writing instead of speaking during the meeting, you may do so by 5pm the day before a meeting, they will be forwarded to the Commissioners ahead of the meeting.



MEMO

Date: May 4th, 2021
To: BPRW Commission
From: Meghan O'Daniel, Community Garden Outreach Coordinator & Customer Service Associate
RE: The Black Perspective Event Sound Waiver for May 21st, 2021

Request for waiver at Battery Park to allow amplified sound for a live music performance.

The Black Perspective's core values are all inclusive and in support of all minorities including all colors, races, religions, genders/gender less, disabled, LGBTQAI+, with the main goal of elevating all BIPOC of VT and giving them a voice and fighting for their equity and equality. They are requesting to have amplified sound during their event and have already booked the park.

Staff contact for the event is Mohamed Shariff.

This event will feature live performances. The amplified sound will take place between 5:30pm and 8:30pm. They are expecting around 50 people to attend.

It is on a day with no conflicting events.

Staff Recommendations:

Allow waiver for amplified sound.

SUMMARY OF OPPORTUNITIES

Monthly Parks Commission update – May, 2021

What are the top issues on your mind?

- FY22 Budget
- Federal and State grant fund opportunities

Department accomplishments and notable staffing developments since the last report?

- Welcome to Michael Donnachie as the newest member of our Tree Team!
- Tess Weafer will join us in June as our Recreation Specialist based at Leddy.
- Leddy softball scoreboard installed! It was a joint effort with BPRW, Burlington School District and the BHS Boosters. The City provided labor and a portion of the cost through Penny for Parks.
- Gene Aube, continues to be the hero for Burlington youth, rescuing another kite while working in Oakledge Park.

COVID-19

Vermont Forward – The State is now on the Vermont Forward Plan with some of our areas still having individualized guidance outside of the Vermont Forward plan. They include:

- Sports/Organized sports
- Childcare
- Event venues

In addition, adult outdoor sports teams and leagues may resume games, meets and competitions, subject to the restrictions noted below. Adult indoor sports teams and leagues may resume games, meets and competitions, subject to the restrictions noted below on Friday, April 23, 2021.

Vermont Forward Plan: <https://accd.vermont.gov/covid-19/vermont-forward/business-operations>

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

City Nature Celebration: April 22 – May 6
<https://www.citynaturecelebrationvt.org/>



Green Up Day: May 1

<https://enjoyburlington.com/event/green-up-day/>

Calahan Park Master Plan Public Meeting: May 13 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

<https://enjoyburlington.com/event/calahan-park-master-plan-public-meeting/>

Kids Week: May 15 – May 22

<https://enjoyburlington.com/event/kids-week/>

Perkins Pier Re-Imagining: Second Public Meeting: May 18 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

<https://enjoyburlington.com/event/perkins-pier-public-meeting-2/>

Recreation Division Update

- Recreation staff are busy planning for summer programs and hiring summer seasonal staff. The Recreation & Nutrition Program has hired Marissa Cobeo as our Summer 2021 Director. Marissa has been working in the program for five years, her last three as a site director. WE are happy to have her onboard in the director role this summer.
- The Recreation Division is happy to announce that Tess Weafer has accepted a Regular Full-time position as a Recreation Specialist. Tess is a graduate of UVM and has spent the last five years working for Harvard College, Amherst College and Notre Dame H.S. in Boston. She begins the first week of June and will be organizing and overseeing camps and skating programming at the Leddy Park Arena.
- Our Licensed Child Care specialist, Susan Carter, has received a **CRRSA** Grant to assist us with financial support our licensed Champ Camps, PAL Camps and Vacation Camps through the end of Calendar Year 2021. The award is over \$20,000.
- Recreation Division staff are currently partnering with staff from Fletcher Free Library applying for a State of VT “Summer Matters” grant for an additional \$25,000. This grant money would be used to expand our Summer Recreation & Nutrition Program.
- Our department is close to finalizing an agreement with the Burlington School District to utilize Federal Covid-19 school assistance funding to financially support summer transportation, an expansion of the Summer Recreation & Nutrition Program (sites at City Hall Park and CP Smith Elementary School) and supporting staffing and enrichment programs for PAL Camps.
- Champlain Senior Center is now the **CORE Adult Center**. Staff held an Open House on April 28th and are preparing to reopen the center on May 1st for Congregate Meals and on-site programming. Additionally, all CORE Adult Center Programs will be included in our Civic Rec online offerings beginning in May.
- Jen Cotton, our Athletics Supervisor, is working with conservation staff and community partners to finalize plans for making the temporary 9-hole disc golf course at Schifilliti Park permanent.
- Recreation Team members continue to deliver Meal Kits for the Burlington School District. Each kit contains 7 meals and our team has been delivering an average of 60 Meal Kits every Wednesday since early December to families living in Northgate Apartments and CHT and BHA apartment complexes throughout Burlington. Our Recreation Team has committed to continue assisting with these meal deliveries through the remainder of the school year.
- Events Planner, Emma Allen, is busy planning Kids Week activities. Kids Week replaces Kids Day for the second consecutive year due to Covid-19. This year the “week” consists of with smaller neighborhood

park events planned at Roosevelt Park, City Hall Park & Schmanska Park over two weekends. There will also be a Citywide scavenger hunt for families and online activities on the app GooseChase.

- Our July 3rd Fireworks event is going to happen this summer. Staff are meeting regularly with other City Departments and all of our community partners to strategize ways to make this event welcoming and safe for Burlington residents.

Recreation Facilities Division Update

- Leddy Arena will shut down April 26 for eight weeks, reopening June 21. During this time one maintenance staff member will be reassigned to the Grounds Crew. The remaining two staff will paint most interior spaces, repair rink and board system and nets, complete preventative maintenance projects and take well-earned time off!
- Leddy and Miller both hosted April vacation camps with 20-22 campers per day at each site.
- The Arena staff looks forward to welcoming a new Recreation Specialist to Leddy this spring. In the meantime, Emma Allen has done a superb job managing learn to skate programs and vacation camps. This summer Leddy will offer 18 sessions of summer camps, 17 of which are already full, many with wait lists. If State guidelines for summer camps change, we may be able to open up camps to more participants.
- Pickleball sessions will be suspended in May due to the lack of indoor play. We expect players to return to Miller in the fall and will look to provide summer opportunities if demand exists.
- Demand for gym time remains very strong – in May the Miller gym is scheduled every night until at least 8pm, Saturdays 8:15am-8:15pm and Sundays 8:45am-8:15pm. Sara Holbrook Teen Center and Burlington School District continue to offer daytime programming, in addition to some daytime private gym rentals.
- Outdoor free adult fitness programming at the Miller FitLot will start May 10, courtesy of a grant from AARP.
- The CORE hosted Second Gentleman, Douglas Emhoff on April 21. Mr Emhoff was in Burlington on part of his tour to discuss targeted vaccination outreach efforts to underserved populations. In the CORE gym, Mr Emhoff enjoyed a performance by local musician, Irene KeruBo Webster, a Kenyan immigrant who lives in Burlington and wrote a song encouraging locals to get vaccinated. Big thanks to Migmar Tsering, our CORE Site Coordinator, who coordinated the relocation of Very Merry Theatre that day and ensured that CORE was sparkling clean and ready for Mr Emhoff's arrival.
- BPRW staff is working with Champlain Housing Trust and the City Attorney to draft a management agreement under which BPRW will manage the first floor event space at the ONE Center.

Park Division Update

Park Administration

- Seasonal Parks Job Descriptions were posted
- Transition Planning for Park/Central Facilities
- Completed 2 bench donations Waterfront Park
- Preparing park information for asset management integration including workflow diagrams and GIS updates
- Help relocate Ice Cream Bob to Waterfront Park

Conservation Program

- Developed draft management plan for 311

- Supporting the emergent [Grow Wild Initiative](#), which aims to increase native plant populations on public and private lands. The neighborhood partnerships to reclaim previously mowed or unkempt areas.
 - 800 native trees and shrubs being planted this spring across 9 sites
<https://enjoyburlington.com/manhattan-drive-project/>
- Initiated updates with vendor(s) and Conservation Board for Open Space Plan. This work is in partnership with the Conservation Board and Burlington Wildways and seeks broad community and stakeholder involvement in identifying Burlington based nature based solutions to climate change.
- Working on collective management of invasive species plan with regional stakeholders. Pilot area – 600 acres in Burlington’s interval.

Central Facilities Program

- Clean up and organization started in basement areas of City Hall and Library
- Planning of outdoor space maintenance and outdoor summer seating for CHP
- Helping to move Burlington election materials into new space built in City Hall
- Working to fill Central Facilities Specialist position
- HVAC technician continuing to regulate high quality PMs for City buildings
- Moving forward with elevator modernization at Library and Parks Bay Renovation at 645 Pine
- Final push being made to install new HVAC components for City Hall renovation
- ADA door buttons installed at 200 Church
- The Boilers at Memorial have been shut down for the season.
- City Hall and Fletcher Free Library Air conditioning systems have been charged and ready for use.

Park Facilities Program

- North Beach Campground and Beach house water systems are on.
- Callahan Park Concession and irrigation has been turned on.
- Leddy Park Concession and irrigation has been turned on.
- Schifilliti Park Concession and irrigation has been turned on.
- Perkins Pier restrooms have been turned on.
- A, B, C, and D dock systems have been installed water and power still need to be connected.
- Rock Point and WVPD Community Gardens water has been turned on.

Trees and Greenways Program

- Completed large tree removals in Oakledge Park in preparation for bike path and playground upgrades.
- Transplanted three large maples from Perkin’s Pier to Skate Park Lot for Bike Path realignment.
- Began spring landscape cleanup of Waterfront Park and City Hall Park.
- Completed outstanding tree work orders.
- Completed delivery of wood chips to all community garden sites.
- Planted 230+ trees primarily in Wards 2 and 3
- Welcomed Michael Donnachie as a new full-time member of our tree team.
- Press event at Riverside Ave with the Mayor’s office celebrating the Arbor Day Grant

Grounds Maintenance Program

- Seed and Spring fertilizer agronomic planner started in April
- We have begun supporting an influx of 34 reservations for fields and courts per week for the last 2 weeks

- All fields have been opened for youth athletics
- Courts have been cleaned and nets put up for play
- First seasonal employee in Parks Division was hired (hooray!) Jay back on board for full time trash duties
- We will be welcoming a new seasonal on May 1st to the mow crew
- 2 MOU's signed with 2 more in negotiations
- Gearing up to support 21 volunteer crews throughout the parks and green spaces across the city with an estimated 362 volunteers for GUP Day
- Equipment maintained and ready for the summer grind
- We have received 2 new full size kwik goals to add to support soccer programming Starr Farm
- We completed the install of 225 playground Mats for all playground swings
- Completed the dispersal and spread of 200 yards off wood chips
- Completed 24 high frequency playground inspections
- Completed 11 low frequency playground inspections
- More of a breakdown below:

table 1. April Grounds Division Work Tracking

Activity	% time	Total Hours
Trash Removal	24.44%	122.25
Mowing Operations	3.50%	17.5
Athletic Field Maintenance	21.99%	110
Driftwood Removal	5.60%	28
Transport of Materials/Equip	4.20%	21
Park Assets Maintenance	1.30%	6.5
Brush/Tree Maintenance	6.00%	30
Equipment Repair/Maint.	3.20%	16
Playground Maintenance	13.79%	69
Road/Lot Maintenance	5.00%	25
Building Maintenance	3.60%	18
Leaf Removal	1.00%	5
Inspections	3.20%	16
Total hours (including activities below 1%) =	100.00%	500.25

Planning Division Update

- Upcoming Outreach:
 - Presentation to NPAs: completed throughout the month of April
 - Calahan Master Plan Public Outreach #1: May 13th, 2021 @7pm
 - Perkins Pier Siting Study Public Workshop #2: May 18th, 2021 @7pm
- Projects Progressing
 - 311 North Avenue trail coordination: on hold until 311 management plan outreach is completed
 - Arms Forest Trail Improvements: implementation of a section of trail kicked off this month

- Bike Path Realignment: Maple to College Street – including improvements to the College Street Intersection
- Bike Path Realignment: Lavalley Lane shift coordination with VTrans
- Bike Path Design for the rest of Oakledge: bids posted for construction of section from Blanchard Beach (just north of culvert) to Austin Drive
- Calahan Park Master Plan: public survey circulating – please distribute widely!
- Leddy Park Stair Replacement: in fabrication phase
- North Beach Pump Out and Turnaround: construction started
- North Beach Pull-Through Design: design options being reviewed by staff
- Oakledge for all: permitting and coordinating construction documentation with bike path project
- Perkins Pier Siting Study: design has started and alternatives will be shared at the public meeting
- Projects starting soon
 - Leddy Park Pause Place
 - Schmanska Walkways
 - Schifilliti Park Softball conversion
- Projects supporting other divisions/ departments: (abbreviated)
 - 311 Stone House
 - Chief Greylock
 - Perkins Pier Moorings
 - Playground Equipment and Compliance
 - Roosevelt Donor Project

Waterfront Division Update

- The Waterfront staff is shifting to Spring operations and will focus on the following projects over the remainder of winter and heading into Spring:
 - In partnership with the Planning Division, continue to improve North Beach Campground, according to the Master Plan. The team has reviewed plans for future pull-through sites, in the location where the barn previously was located. These would satisfy the needs of current RV's – large sites with easy drive-in access, electricity and sewer tie-ins.
 - The Event Manager remains in connection with Event leaders throughout the State, and provides current updates to the Governor's Office about this upcoming 2021 event season. Two July events pulled out this summer but look forward to a return in 2022.
 - The Information Center Building RFP was publicly posted in early January after receiving legal approval. This RFP solicits a vendor to provide Information Services in the small building located within the Pease parking lot. We received one proposal, which met all required criteria. BPRW has drafted a contract with Lake Champlain Chamber and Vermont Rail Systems to co-manage the Information Center building. This contract will go in front of the BOF/CC in May.
 - The Skatepark Vendor RFP was awarded to Maven in April.
 - The North Beach boardwalk improvement work by Youth Build has started, with expected completion in Spring 2021.
 - Waterfront staff focus has shifted gears to preparing for the 2021 season. Some updates:
 - North Beach Campground reservations are open and live! We had a robust response on our opening day and many weekends are already sold out. The campground opens May 1st.
 - Waterfront seasonal positions are listed on our HR website and we are already accepting applications. Waterfront staff will spend the next 1-2 month reviewing applications, setting interviews and building our summer teams.

Admin Division Update

- Budgets
 - We presented our 2nd draft of the General Fund budget and anticipate feedback within a week or two. The weeks of May 10th and 17th, departments will present budgets to the Board of Finance.
- Stone Cottage – The architect is currently working on the estimate for the project and will meet with us mid-May to review. It has been an incredibly positive experience working with our architect, Jay White.
- May anniversaries
 - Chris Beaudry (33 years), Bruce Campbell (4 years), Ritchie Snow (36 years), Diana Wood (6 years) – almost 80 years of department history in May!
- Cost Recovery
 - The Cost Recovery project is in the final stages with the consultant. We are setting cost recovery goals for each category. We'll come back to a future Commission meeting to review the goals and show how the background software works in helping us understand what areas receive the most taxpayer support and any changes we will look to make in our pricing.
- Waterfront Park Concession
 - We awarded the one-season Waterfront Park concession to Sense of Fun, LLC otherwise known as Ice Cream Bob's shack. The Board of Finance approved the lease with the understanding it is only for one season and that it will not be a permanent new addition to Waterfront Park.
- Cain Overlook
 - We met with a potential architect at the Cain Overlook to work through a scope of work with the final outcome a potential redesign of the space including necessary repointing of the masonry.
- Our April full staff meeting includes a guest speaker, Barbara Heller, who will review the Master Plan values and talk about the culture of agencies. Barbara was the lead consultant for the Master Plan in 2013-2015.



**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
And HARBOR COMMISSION
Minutes
May 4, 2021**

Harbor Commission Meeting

Commission Present: Farrell, Lantieri, Traverse, Johnson, Todd, Hurley

Staff Present: Wight, Moreau, Kaplan, Morris, Kaeding and Putzier

The meeting was convened at 5:30 p.m. by Traverse

Farrell made motion to move Transient item before Scuttling item, second by Todd, motion carried.

Traverse gave outline of how meeting would run, after Scuttling would take comments and questions from Commission and then Public, asked public to use raise hand sign if wanted to speak.

Introductions by Traverse of Commission members and staff for public.

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda by Farrell, second by Todd, motion carried.

Marina Long-Term Transient Rates

Moreau welcomed the commission and introduced herself, introduced Kaplan, Marina Manager & Deputy Harbor Master to Harbor Commission as started last year right at same time as Covid and had not had a "normal" working season. Overall scope is Canadian border is still closed and really impacts transient boaters, 70% of July users are Canadians, due to that must look at business model and needs. Local transients would like to stay in slips longer and would like to capture more revenues and boaters to stay in Burlington longer.

Todd asked if spoke with private marina and asked for comparison between private and ours and was told not fully open and saw two or three weekends that had events so have not had a full functional year and have not filled many transient slips. Thanked for creative thinking and asked how plan to advertise and was told post on site and spoke with individual boaters and public and had a lot of interest.

Hurley asked if a number of people do this and if it will help fill the gap, asked how many people will want to participate in this type of transient boating. Kaplan said since will not be able to fill all slips during week and on all weekends the long term transients will fill those spots. Trying to capture when ramping up and winding down on capturing as much revenue as possible.

Todd offered to help get the word out as well and promote advertising this opportunity.

Lantieri asked if a number of nights are reserved at a mooring and was told yes numbers in green are for each night that stayed in 2019 and in purple was how many for mooring. Wanted to know what the maximum number would be if at close to peak and was told 44 overnight transient slips would be 1200.



Motion to approve long term rates by Farrell, second by Todd, motion carried.

Ferry Scuttling

John Paul and Jonathan Eddy spoke to the public and commission to give more information, permitting is not something this commission has any jurisdiction over.

Jonathan Eddy co-owner of Waterfront Diving Center and John Paul, CORE Engineers, will give presentation and then open for comment.

Eddy stated would like to create artificial reef, 10th vessel 11th in Lake Champlain, four within 2 mile radius of Burlington harbor. Some asked how dive center stays open in Burlington and he said ultimately because of the historic dive sites. Feels will add a great dynamic to divers and proposed location will be with other shipwrecks and will attract others from other states and will get visiting divers and economically impact economy. Engineers approved permit and state permit approved, next approval needed is from Burlington. Needed to get other two permits before approaching Burlington. Just need approval from Burlington not a permit. Sent Q&A to all prior to meeting and stated was concerned many had gotten misinformation and would like to address information.

Paul introduced himself stating he was with CORE Engineers and was in charge of major vessel operations. He went through all the previous issues that were of concern; one piece of information was the Adirondack not being historic enough, stated it was built in 1913 and then came to Vermont in 50's and is a historic vessel in that respect and now almost all of them are gone. Been ferry crossing for over 150 years in some form or another. Paul said sinking vessel is a good way to preserve he said rather than others that would be cost prohibitive and when you dive on shipwreck it is fascinating. Said impeding navigations was a concern and just not true as others are near already and had not generated any issues. Stated the biggest concern is toxins and pollutants and have to follow very stringent policies and have to abide by and is reviewed by DEC and Coast Guard before sunk. Said very big project to get ready before sinking. Last item of concern for others was Ferry Company is donating to State and paying for the sinking of the vessel and felt that some just believe cheap way to get rid of and stated not true it is very expensive to do.

Eddy said the project is about \$175,000 to do and not all the cost of the fees that the process will take and the other option is \$70,000 to just scrap the vessel. Social media and the press he felt was being very unfair. Feels an exciting project and great for the Lake. Another criticism was not enough outreach, started November 2017 was first organizational meeting and from that the next 18 months was completing applications and organizations in due diligence, was then interviewed for media stations and people were aware that this project was taking place, did have public outreach, sent to government agencies, had public notice in seven days, March 5, 2020 meeting and after meeting the mood was very positive. In addition to outreach had short questionnaire that was on historic preservation site for a year. If were in favor or opposed less than 12% were opposed. Said a legislature in southern Vermont said not enough divers and stated over 600 divers registered currently but 200+ that dive unregistered. Expect additional 200-300 divers to visit with this new vessel and would be a good draw. Asked to take into consideration the misconceptions that are out, would like to consider the proposal and opened for questions.

Dubillier spoke said familiar with lake and job to introduce the lake to others and locals and very passionate about the lake and familiar will all the ship wrecks that are currently in the lake. Believes in



cemeteries being public places and the ability to join public place and enjoy opposed to way this project is being done and how it is done. Happened by accident not intentionally, skeptical of the cost analysis as by company involved and not 3rd party, skeptical of company publicity of sharing publicly when it was not a comfortable feeling at the Police department. He was one at the meeting that was opposed. Concerned with if the cleaning process can happen adequately. Concerned with sacredness and the precedence and the reception and the monitoring process.

Kay Frances Schepp, South Burlington resident, stated she was a therapist and people go to lake for peace, how long will the ferry be safe at the bottom of the lake. Then will it be trash in the lake.

Eddy responded to Dubillier comment LCMM said 60% of vessels were scuttled, about 300 in Lake Champlain and most were scuttled and he gave several examples. The cost, skepticism is understandable but all costs are line itemized and available to the public and had several estimates from providers and the information is verifiable. In terms of location of meeting, it was selected due to location and readily available.

Paul spoke to the environmental issues and explained that oil and grease, all have to be taken out and all must be eliminated, cleaning bilge and scrubbing, Coast Guard inspects. Asbestos is issue and was taken out and those have all been removed. PCB's most common is electronic components and all have been removed from vessel and only other source found, tested lead and other and came back with minimal, well below levels. Paint that is loose must all be scraped off, will remove floor tiles and hurricane roof, removed sewage tank and others. Explained that he had been to other dive sites that are well over 100 years and still very viable.

JP McCormack, asked if other locations had been considered with better clarity and if the location is set, asked if somewhat in navigation lane leaving harbor and asked if the buoy could be lighted or more easily lit and reflective. Eddy said looked at several other locations such as Shelburne Bay, very busy and lots of activity and in the way of other boat traffic, out near Juniper Island but is really subject to prevailing winds and unsafe and further ride on a rough day. Chose location did because Apple Tree Bay provide depth range and the terrain and wind from diving perspective. In terms of quality, there are others and variation in visibility it is a good environment.

Paul said the temporary buoy that was out had a light on it and could get the light permitted or allowed if the public would like.

Todd asked what parts of water ecology was evaluated and 3 other sites were listed and asked if any reports were available on the other sites that have them. Lastly asked what communities and engagement with indigenous communities have been involved in the process.

Eddy said regarding ecology, as divers they fish and love habitat and the lake is covered with fish, anecdotally fish are attracted to vessels. From fishery point of view benefit and talked about location and they thought location was good, also spoke with others that do sonar and shows different geological features and did due diligence to look at ecology and do not know of any other long term studies, have been no issues around pollution or habitat. Todd asked if anything had scientifically been studied with any results done and Paul said part of the problem is what causes the changes and you can calculate the volume of vessel but fairly small and when rain happens it overrides anything else and you



can't get an accurate read. You would have to isolate just one factor to get anything real accurate or conclusive and that is why it has not been done.

There has been no indigenous community outreach that has currently happened and Eddy and Paul said they would be happy to welcome all.

Eddy stated that UVM does not have funding to do special studies but divers would love to help and he would also extend to others that are concerned with the lack of studies that are done.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 6:56 p.m.

Parks and Recreation Commission

The meeting was convened at 6:56p.m. by Traverse

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Consent Agenda

Traverse asked to waive the reading of the consent agenda and motions into the record for approval.

Approval of consent agenda by Todd, second by Hurley, motion carried.

Public Forum (Time Certain 6:30PM)

Public Forum was opened at 6:30pm

Seeing nobody from the public, Public forum was closed at 6:30pm

Grounds Work Tracking

Traverse thanked Morris for a great Greenup Day and Morris welcomed and said it went very good.

Morris said by tracking everything it really has made things so much clearer and helped to manage the budget. Next he began a power point and began to show how he has been collecting information from staff and is working on a better system to get the information that will streamline better. Explained where expenses and job duties are spent and what duties happen during what times of the year. Showed by pie charts and broke out within all the different job functions. Showed month to month what work is done and what time of the year is more geared toward what is happening.

Lantieri asked out of how many total hours are work hours and Morris said he could pull that information and it is representative of time in work and some take time off, get seasonal staff, 500 plus hours a month and it does not include himself and is not entirely representative without himself.



Farrell said works in data in his day job and great way to keep track and asked if he saw any surprises or feedback and was told trash is insane and how much of the pie is focused on this one item, also have one full-time staff person dedicated to trash 40 hours a week.

Todd gave kudos to Morris and said maybe neighborhood cleaning crews could help having the data to back up the need.

Johnson asked if an ability to collect data to contribute with volunteers would help and Morris said it was tracked by groups signing up to contribute.

Lantieri it would be great if the new tracking system could break down by location and if that was reasonable to have as a part of the planning process.

FY22 General Fund Budgets and Directors Report

Wight stated still did not know some of the information on budget, went to BOF and few pieces learned that some items are not finalized. Some assumptions, general one for commission but not true assumptions as have not gotten final approvals. When starting presentation showed the org chart and the teams, then the fiscal changes; Park Ranger program is looking good in terms of getting in place and more on the education side, envision them do naturalist program, history major would be a great attribute for this position. Continue to make investments in electric equipment. Anticipating another 1 million from FY21 but still short changed for FY22. Nor more skeleton crews, will have all seasonal employees back working.

Gave 7 system themes; People, Wellness, Connection, Stewardship, Service, Community and Impact, with a focus on three, People, Wellness and Stewardship.

People- Community and partnerships-recognizing culture, racial equity, working with Fletcher Free Library and Burlington City Arts, Trash and connecting with BI-POC communities.

Wellness-Enhancing recreation opportunities and programming; achieved through scholarship funding, focus on popular summer events, continuing winter equipment rentals at North Beach based on popularity during pandemic, collaboration with BCA with City Hall Park programming and coordination.

Stewardship- Protecting and preserving our environment; extensive tree planting in ROW, parks and natural areas, finalizing 311, adding pollinator plantings at Lakeview, commitment to electric first with all equipment purchasing.

Staffing Changes- Also added two new FTE's with urban parks.

Lantieri asked about Rangers position and would this be under BPRW or the same program that happened with folks in yellow shirts with younger people and was told that program was under the Police department and the Ranger program would be very different.

Todd very excited about positions and asked for racial equity clarification and Wight said Rec Specialist position and another position and want that position to build relationships with BIPOC community and going to places where can be most connected and can find interests and the position that was



previously held had started to do but then pandemic and want to work on establishing relationships first and then building programs.

Traverse asked if city wide assessment will be revenue neutral and if it will affect the PFP fund, Wight said the PFP is on the grand list and legal is trying to figure out and her take is that would be getting more. Felt they would go up but legal is looking at approved funds that were based on the grand list and if they can be increased. Traverse said general consensus was support for the PFP and such to keep increase toward BPRW capital fees based on the grand list and the approval and support of the increase.

Lantieri said a good step toward inclusion for the new Rec Coordinator is a good tool and important to think beyond one position but in the network of the goals of the position.

Wight then gave an update; Sr. Center is back open again, still have masks and spacing, Kids Week has lots of different activities going on and a scavenger hunt, had big tree planting in ROW, 230 trees in ONE, 800 native trees and bushes in conservation areas. Perkins Pier and Calahan meetings coming up, will pass on more information later. During public presentations as your role as commissioner, if you know you will have a certain question, email ahead of time so that can be prepared and will be happy to get answers. New Arborist Technician began, was in Colorado previously, filled Re Specialist position and they start in June. Lastly Calahan Park, CPS does all day activity at end of school year and asked if you would like a formal request going forward every year as they have just been doing it for many years.

Traverse only concern is that technically they are supposed to get a waiver and if complaint came it would be difficult, proposed a blanket permit and Wight said may have had one in the past, will follow up with O'Daniel.

Wight said mask/no mask is a big discussion for the summer and if receiving federal funds need to follow Vermont Forward and City is really grappling with as children are not vaccinated at this point. Would like to try to be consistent as a City as much as possible.

Todd asked about the public meeting and the possibility of getting questions in advance and what the format will be. Wight said probably not releasing anything ahead of time but if could she would send to commissioners a head of time, but felt typically that is not how it is done.

Traverse said with masks he would not want kids that are at higher risk to be excluded from programs because at risk due do masks not required. Wondered if it would make more exclusionary.

Report from Commission on Volunteer Hours

Lantieri had 5 additional hours, Todd had 4 hours extra, Farrell had 1, Johnson 6 (Garden Coordinator), Traverse had 6, Hurley 2 additional.

Commissioner's Items

Lantieri attended meeting last week became recommendation of barriers to spaces and programming on how to improve, such as seeing representation in meetings and meeting spaces, times, locations, compensation, information dissemination, registration for recreation programming information dissemination, difficult navigating City systems, laws usage using public spaces.

Recommend opportunities for parents and adults, create transportation opportunities, reframe when possible what kind of work is done and straight forward, building off and collaborating when cultural



events are happening, looking to see if fees associated can be eased and final have present and participating in City.

Todd said they would also like to be asked if they have any events coming up as a community and named an event that is coming up that is important to them. Another piece that came up was engaging another high school student and from green up day some requested they would like to see some other additions within the parks and she will mail the list to department.

Farrell said Park Foundation talk was just a continuation of past with new members, nothing new.

Johnson said that he had begun being a site coordinator at Myrtle Street gardens. People very conscious still about COVID-19.

Trusted community voices meeting was good, reminder hired 5 individuals that represent 5 communities and they have events on calendars. Lunar New Year was listed as a big event and encouraged all to be involved. Schools being a good avenue for information. Had an awesome day Saturday at Oakledge for Green up day, painted over one of the retaining walls, and would love to see murals in future.

Wight thanked the commission for being so engaged and active.

Lantieri asked about the difference between Cemetery, Parks, and PACC and Wight suggested getting together maybe once a year and that PACC is more City Council oriented and goes to City Council for approvals.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 8:07 p.m. by Traverse.