



CITY OF BURLINGTON, VERMONT
CITY COUNCIL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT &
NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE
c/o Community & Economic Development Office
City Hall, Room 32 • 149 Church Street • Burlington, VT 05401
802-865-7144 VOX • 802-865-7024 FAX • www.burlingtonvt.gov/cedo

Councilor Zoraya Hightower, Chair, Ward 1
Councilor Sarah Carpenter, Ward 4
Councilor Joe Magee, Ward 3

Wednesday, March 1st, 2023
6:00 – 8:00 PM
****Virtual meeting only****

Attend via Zoom by clicking the link below:

<https://zoom.us/j/91595365572?pwd=Q0VzSFhhNG5CWkgxZFpNUUxGYzZ5dz09>

Meeting ID: 915 9536 5572
Passcode: 605303
Telephone: +1 929 205 6099

To participate in public forum please email Chanel Bastian before or during the meeting: cbastian@burlingtonvt.gov. Comments can also be made during the meeting by using the raise hand function or the chat function.

Draft Agenda

1. Approve agenda
2. Approve minutes: 12/15/22
3. Public Forum
4. Update on the Camping Ordinance – City Attorney's office
5. Community Resource Center and Elmwood Shelter update – Sarah Russell, Marcella Gange - CEDO
6. Other Business
7. Upcoming agenda items
8. Adjournment

The programs and services of the City of Burlington are accessible to people with disabilities.
For accessibility information, call 865-7144. For questions about the meeting,
contact Christine Curtis at ccurtis@burlingtonvt.gov

Councilor Zoraya Hightower, Chair, Ward 1

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Committee members: Chair Zoraya Hightower (ZH) Sarah Carpenter (SC), Joe Magee (JM)

City staff: Chanel Bastian

Other Attendees: Marcella Gange, Sarah Russell, Gail Rafferty, Linda Oats, Hayley McClenahan, Joel Baird, Steve, Cindi Wight, , Sarah Russell, Jess Hyman, Christopher-Aaron Felker, Mary Tierney, Andrea Rogers, Bill Church, Mike Hoey

CDNR Meeting
Wednesday, March 1st, 2023
6:00-8:00 PM
Virtual Zoom

Draft Minutes

Meeting started at 6:03PM

1. Approve agenda
 - a. MOTION by Councilor Magee, SECOND by Councilor Carpenter to approve the agenda
VOTING: unanimous; motion carries.
2. Approve minutes: 12/15/22
 - a. MOTION by Councilor Magee, SECOND by Councilor Carpenter to approve the minutes from 12/15/22
VOTING: unanimous; motion carries.
3. Public Forum
 - a. Jess Hyman- Fair Housing Project CVOEO, April is Fair Housing Month, CDNR committee is invited to celebrate in some way. See <https://fairhousingmonthvt.org/> for more information
 - b. The public was invited to hold their comments until the relevant agenda item
4. Update on the Camping Ordinance – City Attorney’s office
 - a. MOTION by Councilor Magee, SECOND by Councilor Carpenter to add item 7.5
“Executive session to discuss the full report from the City Attorney’s office report regarding the Camping Ordinance”
VOTING: unanimous; motion carries.
 - b. Hayley McClenahan, City Attorney’s Office, presented the current draft ordinance
“Burlington City Ordinance Chapter 22- Section 7 Camping in lands enumerated as parks or other municipal lands” and shared the changes between the draft proposal and the current policy
 - c. ZH gave a brief overview of the work related to this issue done thus far as well as some responses received from the public and survey results

- d. The group discussed the draft document as presented and agreed that based on feedback received between meetings, the committee would likely be choosing to go in another direction related to camping and look at some proposed alternatives like designated camping spots
 - i. Public Comments :
 - 1. Bill Church asked what would be done to combat open air drug use? ZH responded that this issue is separate from the one at hand and SC suggested that the committee use a future meeting to highlight the work being done by Burlington CommStat
 - 2. Joel Baird commended the councilors for the number of diverse opinions they were considering. They also suggested that camping and homelessness requires a regional response
 - 3. Gail Rafferty recognized the importance of a place for folks experiencing homelessness that did not want to utilize a shelter. They also asked why an executive session was being used? Hayley responded that it was based on client-attorney privileged knowledge that was to be discussed
 - e. Next steps: inviting folks with lived experience to a meeting to provide testimony
- 5. Community Resource Center and Elmwood Shelter update – Sarah Russell, Marcella Gange – CEDO
 - a. Sarah Russell provided an update on the Elmwood Community Shelter, 29 folks currently moved in (current capacity). CHT is fully staffed and providing significant onsite coverage. Residents have given positive reports.
 - i. A community meeting will be held on March 13th at 5-6:30
 - b. Sarah also discussed the Emergency Cold Weather Shelter that was held at the Robert Miller Community Center put together by CEDO in response to the emergency cold weather temperatures. The shelter saw about 60 people in 3 nights and utilized assistance from American Red Cross, CVOEO, the Burlington Community Liaisons, and many more folks
 - c. Marcella Gange provided an update on the Community Resource Center, managed by CVOEO and located at Feeding Chittenden. Operating since January 2021 – created by the CEDO in response to the closure or reduction in available daytime warming spaces for people experiencing homelessness or housing insecure.
 - i. Community Resource Center 228 N Winooski Ave @ Feeding Chittenden
 - ii. Funded initially by State CDBG COVID funds, then ARPA, and now congressionally directed spending supported by Sen Leahy. –
 - 1. Cost approx. \$350,000 per year – benefiting from space at Feeding Chittenden and food and other supplies from Feeding Chittenden.
 - 2. Marcella recognized the operating partner CVOEO –Feeding Chittenden is a program of CVOEO
 - 3. Funded through August 2023, have some residual ARPA funding and will be seeking additional funding for next Winter and beyond
 - iii. Opened Winter 20/21 January – April 2021
 - 1. 621 unduplicated individuals and 2742 visits in those 4 months
 - 2. Reopened November 2021 – today.

- iv. 947 unduplicated individuals and 5978 visits in those three months
- v. Daily average is 120 visits per day – and CVOEO welcomed more than 160 on one day.
- vi. We know that currently around 30% of guests are unsheltered 30% are unhoused and others are housing insecure / seeking retention services and other supports.
- vii. Of guests at the CRC we know that just under 20% are members of BIPOC communities. This reflects the types of racial disparities in experience of homelessness that we know exist. The CCHA 2021 update on racial disparities in experience of homelessness reported that black community members were seven times more likely to experience homelessness than white community members.
- viii. Food is an important service at the CRC and CVOEO is serving more than 2,000 meals per month
- ix. Overall the CRC is providing a safe and warm/cool environment with access to hot food and drink, telephone, internet and computer access, and referral to homeless, housing, and other essential service and supports including Safe Harbor medical clinic, recovery services, and other CVEO services such as tax preparation assistance, housing advocacy, access to identity docs etc.

6. Other Business

- a. No other business was discussed due to time

7. Upcoming agenda items

- a. Next meeting will be decided by email as well as the setups of the next few meetings in order to determine how to move the item of camping along

7.5 Executive Session to discuss full report from City Attorney's office regarding the Camping Ordinance

- a. MOTION by Councilor Carpenter, SECOND by Councilor Hightower, to find that premature general public knowledge of contents of the atty client communication would clearly place the Committee and/or Council at a substantial disadvantage; MOTION by Councilor Carpenter, SECOND by Councilor Hightower, to enter executive session pursuant to 1 VSA 313 (a)(1)(F) to receive attorney client communications made for the purpose of providing professional legal services to the Committee.

8. Adjournment

- a. SC makes a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by ZH
VOTING: unanimous; motion carries.
- B. The meeting adjourned at 8:21PM