

**Ward 4/7 NPA Meeting Agenda
Wednesday February 26, 2020
130 Gosse Court, Miller Center**

- 6:45-7:00 Transition from Community Dinner and Socialize
- 7:00-7:10 Ground Rules - Introductions - Announcements
- 7:10-7:50 Elected Officials: (5 min per person includes Q&A)
 State Legislators - Commissioner K. Sowers - Councilor F. Paulino
 Councilor K. Wright - Mayor M. Weinberger
- 7:50-8:00 BFD Ballot Question Re: NNE Ambulance Staffing
 Chief Locke - K. Blake (President, Burlington Firefighters Assoc.)
- 8:00-8:20 Candidates Forum: Ward 4 City Council Seat
 Ericka Redic - Sarah Carpenter
- 8:20-8:50 Candidates Forum Uncontested Seats: (5 min per person includes Q&A)
 Ward 4 Clerk S. Millichamp - W4 Commissioner M. Gulick
 W7 Commissioner M. Ivancic - W7 Councilor A. Dieng
 Ward 4 Inspector of Elections N. Detzer
- 8:50-9:00 Candidates Forum: Ward 7 Inspector of Elections
 Jeff Comstock - Jacob Schumann
- 9:00 Adjourn

Ward 4

Jim Holway, Loaldo Dr., 865-44711238
Jeff Clark, Cumberland Rd., 734-0993
Alex Farrell, Little Eagle Bay, 503-5242
Eric Corbman, Northshore Dr., 399-2602
David Driscoll, Killarney Dr., 598-1234
Jenna O'Donnell, Leonard St., 508-367-0266
Erik Monsen, Curtis Ave., 503-2600

Ward 7

Linda Deliduka, Village Grn. 864-5114
Ryon Frink, Cayuga Ct., 258-1244
James Loop, Morrill Dr., 598-8260
Matt Hurlburt, Morrill Dr., 862-5337
Jeff Comstock, Plattsburg Ave., 233-0823

GROUND RULES Listen to others speaking | Respect the agenda and process Share your opinion politely
| Treat people respectfully

For more information about Wards 4 and 7 NPA visit their CEDO webpage

<https://www.burlingtonvt.gov/CEDO/Neighborhood-Services/NPAs/Wards-4-and-7-NPA>

Watch the meeting live at <https://www.facebook.com/NorthEndNPA/>

Twitter: @northendnpas

Request to present at an NPA at this link: <https://tinyurl.com/NPA-Present>



Neighborhood Planning Assembly Draft Minutes

NPA:
(choose one)

Wards 1 & 8	Wards 2 & 3	Wards 4 & 7	Ward 5	Ward 6
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Date of Assembly : 02 / 26 / 2020 Start Time: (Commence): 7:00

Location: Robert Miller Center Finish Time: (Adjourn): 9:00

Note taker: Sydney Hinckley Please forward these official minutes to: Phet Keomanyvanh

Steering Committee Members in Attendance:

Jeff Comstock

Eric Corban

Linda Deliduka

Matt Hulburt

Jeff Clark

Discussion Topics

- *These can be copied from agenda items*
- *Content of discussion not required*

Actions Taken / Decisions Made

- *Immediately following Agenda Item*
- *Generally includes: electing a new steering committee member, voting as a body to send a formal communication to the City, decisions to spend money.*

Agenda Items and Actions:

Please Remember to Enter Adjournment Time!

Meeting Begins at 7:05 PM

7:05-7:13 Ground Rules - Introductions – Announcements

- Listen to other people speaking
- Respect Agenda
- Share your opinion politely and treat people respectfully
- Cindi: This Friday, public meeting about Champlain Park near August 1st about pocket park.
- Ali: Mayor Weinberger turned 50.
- March 19th, New North End Book Club will be meeting at Roots.

7:10-7:50 Elected Officials: (5 min per person includes Q&A)

State Legislators – Sen. Tim Ashe, Bob Hooper, Councilor F. Paulino, Councilor K. Wright - Mayor M. Weinberger, Councilor Ali Dieng

- Senator Tim Ashe: Midway point of legislative session. Overrode Governor Scott's Veto and will lift the wages of thousands of people. Firearm Safety: Still trying to find a path forward with this. Burlington stepped out before a lot of other cities about water quality and that has formed statewide efforts in water quality.
 - What's the status of H610? Ashe follows up that the house just passed it and senate will be looking at it. Will get taken up in about two weeks.
- Mayor Weinberger: Summarizing ballot items, like Public Safety Tax. Voting Yes on Ballot Item 2, will mean that the New North End will get a new ambulance. There will be 9 new firefighters to staff, and it will be a 3.5% tax increase, a little less than \$70.

- Nancy asks question about 2.5 million dollars be used for from Burlington Telecom. Mayor Weinberger discusses that 7 million be returned and different ways of spending and costs. City Council decided not to invest, and community member asks about how they were going to spend that money.
- Councilor Kurt Wright: Discusses that Higher Ground is potentially moving to South Burlington and the challenges with that. City needs to work together with the Memorial Auditorium and the Motel. Council just passed creating a Council on Aging and helping Senior Center support. Discusses the City Council's choice about Burlington Telecom and thoughts about investing the \$2.4 million dollars.
- Councilor Franklin Paulino: Update about Contois Meeting tomorrow, Burlington Telecom update, Moran Plant, ADUs (Accessory Dwelling Units).
 - Community member asks question about Burlington Telecom and losing seat at board of directors, resources, and investment. Would you please reconsider your vote?
- Councilor Ali Dieng: Burlington Telecom – City Councilors voted not to invest, 8 – 3. There are so many risks that many people do not tell you. For more information, please visit my website: alidieng.com. Go to BoardDoc.com to review information about Burlington Telecom. Discusses stability, safety, taxes, and the City did not request advice from a telecom company/specialist. March 9th, Migrant Justice. March 3rd, please vote and make sure you vote for an elected official that reflects your values. Franklin Square updates.
- Representative Bob Hooper: Discusses S54 Bill about Marijuana and minimum wage increase bill. He also discusses House Government Operations with Desolation Principle, Use of Deadly Force, and Incorporating Domestic Violence in terms of Gun Control. S47 about campaign finance and created bill concerning public to private owned buildings and their taxes.
 - Community member asks question about Public to Private Properties and why taxes aren't being paid? Hooper further discusses this.

7:50-8:00 BFD Ballot Question Re: NNE Ambulance Staffing Chief Locke - K. Blake (President, Burlington Firefighters Assoc.)

- Chief Locke discusses the Public Safety Tax and what that includes. We need another community to support us with firefighting at least once a day. We cannot handle 460 calls and it would be a 3 cent increase to hire 9 firefighters to staff the new Ambulance. New North End is the highest percentage of calls out of the 5 districts. We have 20 on duty and that would go up to 22.
 - How much of that funding will go to training? \$100,000 will go towards training for paramedic, firefighter, and EMT.
 - Can you speak to why there is a tax increase and not out of the City Budget? City Budget is really lean and on top of wage increases, benefit increase, and no operational budget capacity to increase taxes.
 - When you have to bring in other community services, is there a cost of service? No cost, but yes we typically lose money. We work under a system called Mutual Aid and we use more than we give. Our system is at capacity and these other towns have increasing numbers of calls.
 - Why do we show up with Firefighters and Ambulance's EMTs? We use something called Critical Thinking, we need the bodies and resources/training to get that done and to show up being prepared.

8:00-8:22 Candidates Forum: Ward 4 City Council Seat Ericka Redic - Sarah Carpenter

- Sarah: Lifelong Burlingtonian and for the last 20 years I worked at the Vermont Housing Finance Agency, and before that with Cathedral Square Housing. Helped with affordable housing and after retirement and wanted to spend time getting involved with the Burlington. Lots of experience in public finance, running large organizations, interested in housing, senior services, and water quality, working with neighborhoods about regional issues.
- Ericka: Has accounting business and has 20 years experience in this field. She helps businesses recover from bankruptcy and sees Burlington as a business in the way that every business has expenses. I do not want to raise taxes and will bring fiscal responsibility to the table. Running as an Independent and am a liberal conservative.

- What do you think good community engagement is and how are we doing here? What we could do better with? Ericka answers the importance community engagement and radical responsibility. It is not the government's responsibility to take care of us, but we aren't getting out there and talking to our neighbors. Who has invited your neighbors to this meeting and why aren't we doing better? I think we should all do better ourselves. Sarah answers community dinner, problem solving together, and supporting each other through nonprofit groups and bringing together voices to know what we need. Pleased to hear the Council of Aging exists - we used to have one. She talks about sitting down with working groups and mentioned that this end of town is not seen as a real community, but we need to make our voices heard.
- F35 and Southern Connector Input? Sarah: F35s are out of the City Councilors' hand and we have an active base in the city of Burlington. I'm not sure how City Council will make those choices and it has to do with the Federal Government. I have not followed up about the Southern Connector, but the proposal needs to be more sensitive about the neighborhoods around it. Ericka: Has mixed feelings about F35, but does support the military. I do have concerns about the plane, runway issues, and you can direct your questions to Senator Leahy if you have concerns/comments. I would love to see the circle to be complete, Southern Connector, could you imagine how much more we could do with this in the New North End?
- Community member asks questions concerning candidate's platforms and what issues they disagree about. Sarah: Need to understand data and need to see all sides of the story to be a good advocate. I think open dialogue and open discussion about issues is important. We shouldn't have facts hidden. Ericka: Considers herself emotional, empathetic, and loves data, as an accountant. Most importantly, those facts don't mean anything until we address the initial issues. Taxes increase and then we talk about Affordable housing, not before. Act 250 is awesome and if we care about affordable housing we have to address the problem, not put a band aid on it.
- Closing Statements: Ericka: Forbes rated us 46 out of 50 for business. We need to become more business friendly. City leadership believes that we should be spending money on what we want to have. Look for someone with common sense solutions to make it easier to live here, not harder. Sarah: Agree that we need common sense, but we need data to back up. School Budget is driving our taxes and the way we get our State Aid should be looked at. People are not leaving Burlington, they are coming. The state is different than the city, in the way of who's coming/leaving. We need to partner with the City to find solutions.

8:22-8:39 Candidates Forum Uncontested Seats: (5 min per person includes Q&A)

Ward 4 Clerk S. Millichamp - W4 Commissioner M. Gulick W7 Commissioner M. Ivancic –

Ward 4 Inspector of Elections N. Detzer

- Noah Detzer running for Ward 4 inspector of elections. Moved to Burlington 3 years ago and teaches in Milton and wants to start as the inspector of elections.
 - What are we doing to prevent interference in elections? I don't expect that the Russians will interfere, but that would be my job to protect Ward 4 of that.
 - What inspired you to run? Got really involved with Bernie's campaign and was Town Chair in Hartford. Interested in helping campaigns and believing in the process. I've been doing a lot of work behind the scenes and wanted to take more of an active role.
- Ivancic: Serving my first term on the board and brought a lot of positive changes. Created groups to target specific issues, have supported the school board process of budget, and choosing the superintendent. Please come to our public forum to meet our three candidates for superintendent.
 - What are the good qualities for a superintendent? Our organization within the district isn't very strong, and this position is for someone really strong. Would like us to become a flagstaff district. Burlington is unique with parent involvement and there is a feeling of community.
 - Asked about pupil weighting? Pupil weighting, a lot of our students are over 1 point and several students are EL so they are considered similarly as free in reduced lunch, although they require more services.

- Have the three candidates been made public? Go to bsdvt.org. Are there any local Vermont candidates? Yes, 2 are live in Vermont.
- Pre-School in High School Renovations? Why can't the school use the older building?
- Millichamp: Feel honored to be nominated for Election Clerk and the importance that the election is run honest and fair. This is such an honor and met with Jim Holway and spoke with people at City Hall. I will meet volunteers and be there all day on Tuesday.

8:39-9:00 Candidates Forum: Ward 7 Inspector of Elections Jeff Comstock - Jacob Schumann

- Jeff Comstock: Been working at the polls over the last two years and this will be our third town meeting day. Been a resident of the New North End for over 20 years and grew up in South Burlington. Lived in Burlington for most of my life.
- Jake Schumann: Lived in Burlington since 18 years old. Don't like coming to NPA meetings, but like seeing people I know. I have done a lot of things for the city since I have lived here in 2002. Worked in boards and developed a get out and vote campaign. Draws distinction about being involved with the community and he is the site coordinator at the Dog Park. I like working in the polls and quickly helping community members. Running as a progressive, but also got the democratic party endorsement. However, I should mention that someone lodged a complaint about me to Code Enforcement.
- Jeff Comstock: Address complaint and tells community that he put in the Code Enforcement request and my question for the city clerk's office. How is it possible for someone to put your name in the ballot if you were not in the area. Your eligibility as a resident on a piece of land that was not considered vacant was unclear and I wanted to follow up.
 - Community member mentions Comstock's question during last election day and if it was appropriate or not? It was a family that come in and brought in their absentee ballots and they were submitting them without a signature.
 - Who's your boss? Jeff - Tom Flurry and works in collaboration of the three inspectors of the ward. Jake – there are four different people throughout the city that have different roles, but you are our boss.

9:00 Adjourn