

MINUTES

Park, Arts and Culture Committee Meeting

Thursday, January 9, 2014

7:00-8:30 PM

Contois Auditorium, City Hall

Participants

Committee Members: Councilor Karen Paul, Ward 6 (KP) (absent)
Councilor Bryan Aubin, Ward 4 (BA)

Staff: Kirsten Merriman Shapiro, Special Projects Manager, CEDO
Nate Wildfire, Assistant Director, CEDO (NW)
Peter Owens, Director, CEDO
Jesse Bridges, DPR

Others: Jim Lockridge, Resident

1) Approval of agenda & draft minutes from 9/11/13

- Meeting came to order at 7:08 PM
- No vote on draft minutes as no members were at the last meeting
- Agenda approved with changes: discard item 5 (Memorial Auditorium discussion) and replace with City Hall Park

2) Public Forum

- No public comment

3) Waterfront Access North (Merriman-Shapiro)

- The project is over budget – there are many reasons, some of which being design changes, continued litigation, estimates now being a bit old and low since labor costs have now rebounded post-recession
- We do not want to delay any longer since the resources of our partners have time sensitivity; doing everything in our power to advance the projects as much as possible
- The estimate is over enough that we can't value engineer our way out of it; will need to find ways to bring new resources to the table
- Staff will continue to keep the committee updated

4) PIAP Update (Wildfire)

- 9 final proposals have been presented to TEUC and PACC, as well as Council

- The Mayor will hold a press conference on Monday the 13th at 2:00 PM at ECHO to announce his project slate and the project allocations
- This has been an amazing experience with input from so many different people, organizations – and a real learning experience, as this is the first time this has happened this way in the state of Vermont – very humbled by the energy and creativity

5) City Hall Park (Kraft)

- Proposal to support resolution to go before City Council on Jan 27 with presentation from Parks and Rec, BCA, and architects
- Will review history and preview next steps (fundraising, design, etc.)
- Draft resolution has already gone to legal and final draft will be done in about a week
- Changes – less importance placed on vending, added the support of the police department, will be doing a new report back in May – very similar to prior resolution drafts
- Really want to refresh for new council, with new mayor and staff at parks – get everyone up to speed again
- Most on-the-ground decisions are really up for public discussion – not very much set in stone at all right now – but there are big concepts that have been there for a while
- Construction season unknown for now, which will be based on budget
- Note: Page 2 of the resolution was missing from the presentation – it will be sent by BCA to attendees

6) Parks Lighting Standard (Bridges)

- Process led by Jen Francis to get a consistent lighting standard for parks – aesthetics, energy efficiency, maintenance, and creating a cohesive identity for the parks
- A number projects make this a bit time sensitive
- Worked with various consultants, including the parks master plan design group
- See MEMO for details on the proposal
- Looking for PACC review and endorsement before adopting as the standard
- **Unanimous vote to endorse the proposal**

7) Parks Project Update (Bridges)

- Penny for Parks - have now done 60 projects and expended over \$1M; have eliminated the backlog, and now moving forward with what we have
- Will continue to replace playground equipment (Star Farm and Oakledge probably next); a fundraising group exists to look at Oakledge as a regional park
- Court resurfacing continues to be a focus and priority – but under the lens of evaluating priorities, etc.
- Building challenges are starting to crop up – will be addressed over time
- We will really have another year of knocking off the smaller low-hanging fruit projects
- Bigger projects are coming down the pike
- Safety, signage, lighting remain priorities in the near future
- April and May will be the Parks Commission discussions about the next Penny for Parks budget
- Bike Path project is in full swing – hoping to hit the ground in September in the Urban Reserve
- Tuesday Park Commission meeting – will have a presentation on the bike path progress
- Will be taking the Parks Master Plan draft to different groups for review and comment in late February/March

- o Working on a stormwater chapter that looks at the hydrology of the parks – will give advice on how to place park elements and program based on hydrology – higher level of discussion and thinking that hasn't really been done anywhere
- Roosevelt Park Pavilion
 - o Currently does all signage and repair there
 - o It is a currently underutilized space
 - o Has two restrooms that are not maintained since we don't resources to place someone there
 - o The concept now is to convert the space to a teen center/Boys and Girls Club – multifunctional space
 - o There's a need for evening space, especially for older kids
 - o Will get consistent eyes on the park; will leverage private dollars to go to the park; and will add new lighting and storage for little league and their programs
 - o The restrooms will be publicly accessible when the building is staffed – adding new restrooms to the park
 - o Really great to add some teen centers in collaboration with partners
 - o This would be a lease of City space
 - o NOTE – Jesse Bridges brought a plan set to review
 - o Will be looking to renovate the Schmanska barn as a temporary place to relocate the shop
 - o This will go to BOF in early February

8) Confirmation of next meeting date

- Thursday, February 13, 6:00-7:30 PM

9) Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 8:03 PM

CITY OF BURLINGTON, VERMONT
CITY COUNCIL PARKS, ARTS & CULTURE COMMITTEE
c/o Department of Parks and Recreation
645 Pine St., Suite B • Burlington, VT 05401
802-865-7144 VOX • 802-862-8027 FAX
www.cedoburlington.org • www.enjoyburlington.com

Councilor Karen Paul, Chair, Ward 6
Councilor Vince Brennan, Ward 3
Councilor Bryan Aubin, Ward 4
Inquiries: Jen Francis, Parks Planner
802-865-7248
jsfrancis@ci.burlington.vt.us

AGENDA

Park, Arts and Culture Committee Meeting

Thursday, January 9, 2014

7:00-8:30 PM

Contois Auditorium, City Hall

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 1) Approval of agenda & draft minutes (TEUC) from 12/11/13 | (5 min) |
| 2) Public Forum | (10 min) |
| 3) WAN Update (Shapiro) | (10 min) |
| 4) PIAP Update (Wildfire) | (10 min) |
| 5) Tentative: Memorial Auditorium Discussion (Pine) | (10 min) |
| 6) Parks Standard Lighting (Bridges/Francis) | (10 min) |
| 7) Parks Project Update (Bridges/Francis) | (10 min) |
| 8) Other items | (5 min) |
| 9) Confirmation of next meeting date | (5 min) |
| 10) Adjournment | |

Non-Discrimination The City of Burlington will not tolerate unlawful harassment or discrimination on the basis of political or religious affiliation, race, color, national origin, place of birth, ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, veteran status, disability, HIV positive status or genetic information. The City is also committed to providing proper access to services, facilities, and employment opportunities. For accessibility information or alternative formats, please contact Human Resources Department at 865-7145.