

Ward 8 Neighborhood Planning Assembly Draft Minutes

Wednesday, October 26, 2023 7-8:30pm

Sharon Bushor Room, Floor 1 City Hall



Start Time (Commence): 7:05pm **Finish Time (Adjourn):** 8:01pm

Note Taker: Fosca Bechthold (NPA Public Engagement Coordinator)

Facilitator/Moderator: Romeo von Hermann

Steering Committee Members in Attendance: Romeo von Hermann, Bill Church

Introductions

Speak-Out

Bill Church:

- NPAs should be a space that offers a less political way for people to come together and do good work (not a political process)
- Maybe make Ward 8 a student ward

Councilor Hannah King

- Ward 8 NPA should include students AND long-term Burlington residents, not just students → idea of them working together

Burlington Neighborhood Code presentation – Sarah Morgan

- Increase housing within already existing city neighborhoods through neighborhood-scale solutions → new & more types of housing
- Comply with VT HOME Act of 2023, which introduced new statewide zoning requirements for duplex, triplex, 4-unit buildings
- Code will allow duplexes in all residential areas (currently not allowed in much of city neighborhoods)
- Joint committee meetings & other events → find out more on [city of Burlington planning website](#)
- Questions:
 - o Bill Church: how would you define neighborhood? Is calling this the “neighborhood code” false advertising?

Public Safety Update, Councilor Doherty

- City council passed a resolution calling drug crisis a public safety emergency
 - 3-4 components
 - Public safety & public health will have to be addressed at every city council meeting
 - Requests from state government to support the city of Burlington with addressing the opioid crisis
 - Reaffirming city's policy commitment to addressing substance abuse & harm reduction policy approaches
 - Going to have public forums about this issue
 - Not going to be a quick fix

Ward 8 City Councilor King & East District Councilor Doherty Updates