



Ward 5 Neighborhood Planning Assembly Draft Minutes

December 21, 2023, in-person at 645 Pine St. & on Zoom

Start Time: 7:02pm

Finish Time: 8:33pm

Note taker: Lena Greenberg

Steering Committee Members in Attendance:

Rodger Brassard, Joe Dery, Terry Rivers, FaRied Munarsyah, Jason VanDriesche, Lena Greenberg

Agenda Items and Actions:

Public forum

- Carolyn Bates - Caroline Street, sharing about her work photographing street murals
- Samuel Lurie - Austin Drive, concerned about the closure of the new bike path on the Champlain Parkway. Construction was already disruptive, and now there's a new bike path but it's blocked off. The road makes sense to keep shut down, but we need the bike path, and it's unsafe to be on Pine Street. This path was part of what made this challenging project more amenable to the community.
 - Ben Traverse - reached out to Norm Baldwin, city engineer, and will follow up with the question on FPF with an answer.
 - Office of City Planning has been here a number of times, the Planning Commission and ordinance committee has been working on Neighborhood Code. Proposal that the PC has warned for a public hearing on January 9 at 6:30, location tbd but likely a hybrid meeting. After that public hearing, if the matter is approved by the Planning Commission, will move to City Council for a vote.
- Tiff Bluemle - Locust Terrace, State Rep for part of this ward and ward 6. Our reps have been waiting to understand what we'll be seeing in the coming months; generally we receive a budget adjustment in December. The whole budget has to be approved by the House or Senate by the end of January. We expect that this next budget session will move very quickly. There are financial pressures, *and* there is unspent ARPA money. Expect weekly posts about what's going on, and we'll be asking you to voice your opinions! We don't hear enough from you all!
- FaRied Munarsyah - Ledgemere Street, volunteer with the People's Kitchen, gathered lots of donations of toys but we also are hearing a lot of demand for toys and blankets. If you have new toys to donate, contact FaRied 802 491 3491, or drop off at 44 Ledgemere Street.

Petra Cliffs

- Update on redevelopment plan
- Currently exists at 105 Briggs Street, has been there for 25 years.

- Petra Cliffs has been maxed out on physical space; they have had a long-standing plan to expand. Handys own their building and only wanted to sell for too much money.
- City Market bought South End property, then sold that other parcel in 2019. PC went through the whole proposal, lots of delays.
- New spot is 75 Briggs Street; street-facing entrance on Briggs Street, 64 parking spots and two electric chargers. New facility would double what they currently have. 13k square feet and 51ft tall. Will expand climbing and will also have yoga and other training spaces. Looking into solar and heat pumps to get the building off the grid/fossil fuels.
- City Market was delayed because of brownfield management; what will happen with this? They're going to cap it and cover things up - they have a full corrective action plan. Got a brownfield revitalization grant from the state. Used to be oil storage and enameling and all sorts of toxic stuff. 18 inches of clean fill on top of the old stuff. Under the building there will be a radon drain.
- Did you explore any shared parking with City Market? Encouraging shared parking among compatible uses. Only eight bike parking spots. There is no real plan to have a crossing to get from one side of the parkway to their facility.
- Sidewalk will continue from where City Market to the climbing facility.

Discussion of what we do when harm occurs at an NPA

- Last month we passed [a resolution](#). What are we going to do when harm is happening in the NPA?
 - Carolyn - during the meeting, if we have people responding with their 'pain level' about how bad the harm is
 - Terry - using nonviolent communication skills
 - Fosca - organizing a de-escalation training for steering committee members in late January will provide SC members with tools we can use. We do have to follow open meeting law. If something's really out of hand, you can adjourn the meeting for a short period of time, and restart it again, or for the night. Besides that, there are some limitations to what you can do, and you can't kick folks out.
 - Training will be led by Community Justice Center
 - From online: Using techniques of restorative practices, ask person who is being harmed how they want to proceed
 - Jason: multiple levels
 - Checking in with the person who has been harmed, proceeding
 - Pausing the meeting, having folks step out for mediation, restarting the meeting
 - Things going off the rails, adjourning the meeting
 - Imminent danger, 'need to call the police'
 - We need a structure for how we handle this - who does what?
 - Joe - there isn't really a good way to pull people aside
 - Process for how we address harm
 - Identify de-escalator for each meeting
 - Pause the meeting
 - Check in with the person who has been harmed
 - Step out with the person who is harming

- If the person refuses to engage, or the engagement doesn't result in de-escalation, meeting is adjourned.
 - If the harm is addressed/de-escalated, we can reconvene.
 - Next steps on this are we'll include it in the by-laws amendment that will happen in the next couple of months.
- Neighborhood Doing Assembly!
 - We're going to review the things that came up at our August social - we organized them into a few categories. Took some time for each item and shared what we're excited about doing!
 - Next steps - send out on FPF and ask folks to vote!