



Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 5:30 PM, 645 Pine Street Front Conference Room, Public Works/Parks Building OR REMOTELY via ZOOM

**5:30 pm, 645 Pine Street Front Conference Room, Public Works/Parks Building OR Remotely via ZOOM:
Please click the link below to join the webinar:**

You are invited to a Zoom webinar.

When: Feb 13, 2024 05:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Topic: Parks Commission Meeting

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://zoom.us/j/98969913211>

Or One tap mobile :

+19292056099,,98969913211# US (New York)

+13017158592,,98969913211# US (Washington DC)

Or Telephone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 305 224 1968 US

+1 309 205 3325 US

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 931 3860 US

+1 669 444 9171 US

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 689 278 1000 US

+1 719 359 4580 US

+1 253 205 0468 US

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 360 209 5623 US

+1 386 347 5053 US

+1 507 473 4847 US

+1 564 217 2000 US

Webinar ID: 989 6991 3211

International numbers available: <https://zoom.us/j/98969913211>

1. Agenda

Subject

1.1. Motion to amend/adopt agenda

Meeting

February 13, 2024 - Parks & Recreation Commission - Tuesday, February 13, 2024,
5:30 PM, 645 Pine Street Front Conference Room, Public Works/Parks Building OR
REMOTELY via ZOOM

Category

1. Agenda

Department

Type

Recommended Action

2. Consent Agenda

Subject **2.1. Approval of Minutes from January 9, 2024**

Meeting February 13, 2024 - Parks & Recreation Commission - Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 5:30 PM, 645 Pine Street Front Conference Room, Public Works/Parks Building OR REMOTELY via ZOOM

Category 2. Consent Agenda

Department Parks, Recreation, & Waterfront

Type Action

Recommended Action waive the reading, accept the communication and adopt the minutes from January 9, 2024 of the Parks Commission

Subject **2.2. Approval of Request for Special Use Permit and Sound Waiver at Calahan Park for GBGSL Jamboree**

Meeting February 13, 2024 - Parks & Recreation Commission - Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 5:30 PM, 645 Pine Street Front Conference Room, Public Works/Parks Building OR REMOTELY via ZOOM

Category 2. Consent Agenda

Department Parks, Recreation, & Waterfront

Type Action

Recommended Action Waive the reading, accept the communication and approve the request for special use and sound waiver at Calahan Park

Subject **2.3. Approval of Request for Special Use Permit at City Hall Park for Clothing Giveaway by Outrage Ignite Church**

Meeting February 13, 2024 - Parks & Recreation Commission - Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 5:30 PM, 645 Pine Street Front Conference Room, Public Works/Parks Building OR REMOTELY via ZOOM

Category 2. Consent Agenda

Department Parks, Recreation, & Waterfront

Type Action

Recommended Action waive the reading, accept the communication and approve the request for Special Use Permit at City Hall Park for Wildfire Outrage Ignite Church

Subject **2.4. Approval of Request for Special Use Permit and Sound Waiver at City Hall Park by Black Lived Experience in Vermont**

Meeting February 13, 2024 - Parks & Recreation Commission - Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 5:30 PM, 645 Pine Street Front Conference Room, Public Works/Parks Building OR REMOTELY via ZOOM

Category	2. Consent Agenda
Department	Parks, Recreation, & Waterfront
Type	Action
Recommended Action	waive the reading, accept the communication and approve the request for special use and sound waiver for use at City Hall Park by thriving Black Vermont community

3. For Approval and Recommendation to the Parks Commission

Subject	3.1. Conservation Legacy Fund Grant Requests
Meeting	February 13, 2024 - Parks & Recreation Commission - Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 5:30 PM, 645 Pine Street Front Conference Room, Public Works/Parks Building OR REMOTELY via ZOOM
Category	3. For Approval and Recommendation to the Parks Commission
Department	Parks, Recreation, & Waterfront
Type	Action

Subject	3.2. Conservation Legacy Fund - Arms Forest
Meeting	February 13, 2024 - Parks & Recreation Commission - Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 5:30 PM, 645 Pine Street Front Conference Room, Public Works/Parks Building OR REMOTELY via ZOOM
Category	3. For Approval and Recommendation to the Parks Commission
Department	Parks, Recreation, & Waterfront
Type	Discussion

Subject	3.3. Leddy Park Comp Plan Report
Meeting	February 13, 2024 - Parks & Recreation Commission - Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 5:30 PM, 645 Pine Street Front Conference Room, Public Works/Parks Building OR REMOTELY via ZOOM
Category	3. For Approval and Recommendation to the Parks Commission
Department	Parks, Recreation, & Waterfront
Type	Information

Subject	3.4. Volunteer of the Year and Process
Meeting	February 13, 2024 - Parks & Recreation Commission - Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 5:30 PM, 645 Pine Street Front Conference Room, Public Works/Parks Building OR REMOTELY via ZOOM
Category	3. For Approval and Recommendation to the Parks Commission
Department	Parks, Recreation, & Waterfront
Type	Discussion

4. Public Forum (Time Certain 6:00PM)

Subject	4.1. Verbal Comments
Meeting	February 13, 2024 - Parks & Recreation Commission - Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 5:30 PM, 645 Pine Street Front Conference Room, Public Works/Parks Building OR REMOTELY via ZOOM
Category	4. Public Forum (Time Certain 6:00PM)
Department	Parks, Recreation, & Waterfront
Type	Procedural

5. Standing Items

Subject	5.1. PACC Dog Force Update (verbal)
Meeting	February 13, 2024 - Parks & Recreation Commission - Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 5:30 PM, 645 Pine Street Front Conference Room, Public Works/Parks Building OR REMOTELY via ZOOM
Category	5. Standing Items
Department	Parks, Recreation, & Waterfront
Type	Information
Recommended Action	

Subject	5.2. Park Foundation Update (verbal)
Meeting	February 13, 2024 - Parks & Recreation Commission - Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 5:30 PM, 645 Pine Street Front Conference Room, Public Works/Parks Building OR REMOTELY via ZOOM
Category	5. Standing Items
Department	Parks, Recreation, & Waterfront
Type	Information
Recommended Action	

6. Director's Items

Subject	6.1. Update from Director
Meeting	February 13, 2024 - Parks & Recreation Commission - Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 5:30 PM, 645 Pine Street Front Conference Room, Public Works/Parks Building OR REMOTELY via ZOOM
Category	6. Director's Items
Department	Parks, Recreation, & Waterfront

Type	Report Information
------	-----------------------

Recommended Action

7. Commissioner's Items & Volunteer Hours

Subject	7.1. Update from Commissioner's & Report on Hours
Meeting	February 13, 2024 - Parks & Recreation Commission - Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 5:30 PM, 645 Pine Street Front Conference Room, Public Works/Parks Building OR REMOTELY via ZOOM
Category	7. Commissioner's Items & Volunteer Hours
Department	Parks, Recreation, & Waterfront
Type	Information

Recommended Action

8. Adjournment

Subject	8.1. Motion to adjourn
Meeting	February 13, 2024 - Parks & Recreation Commission - Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 5:30 PM, 645 Pine Street Front Conference Room, Public Works/Parks Building OR REMOTELY via ZOOM
Category	8. Adjournment
Department	Council and Board
Type	Procedural

Recommended Action



PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
Minutes
January 9, 2024
Parks and Recreation Commission

Commission Present: Bergmann, Duke, Etter, Johnson, Keech, Lantieri and Morrigan

Staff Present: Wight, Adams-Kolitz, Madalinski, and Putzier

The meeting was convened at 5:34 p.m. by Duke

Approval of Agenda

Duke asked for a motion to adopt the agenda, motion made by Morrigan, second by Keech, motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the consent agenda by Lantieri, second by Morrigan, motion carried unanimously.

City Public Pool

Duke wanted to discuss the idea of opening a public pool in Burlington, heard of citizens looking for an option in Burlington and a segment of the community not having access and some of the challenges that beaches are less available due to closures in summer. Stated interested in hearing thoughts from commissioners regarding this idea and if any commissioners interested in working on with her would invite them to help start developing.

Morrigan thanked for bringing forward to discuss felt clear the warm weather is getting warmer which means more beach closures and need to acknowledge the need to regulate body temperature. Would like all Burlingtonians to have access and one solution to explore is having some type of water feature, like a splash pad in each neighborhood. All would need to be able to access by foot or public transportation.

Keech did not support and felt the Lake is the single best City asset and talking about access that goes along the Waterfront and has access, feels a pool would take maintenance and upkeep, cost lots of money, example of waste of money and feels the City not looking at holistically.

Bergmann feels a good idea if researched properly and done correctly would welcome and happy to participate.

Etter asked if any change in how measured for closures and felt a large spike and Wight said she felt they were chemical issues not Lake specific issues, had many bacteria closures but the two spikes were chemical related. Wanted to make sure using good data, felt pools can be big money pits and having many would want to be careful. Sees many backyard pools and rarely used, wants to make sure it will be well used before putting in lots of funds into.

Duke felt good ideas and the start would be to gather information before any plan could be acted on, looking at finances, quality of life and ability to access and the ability to learn to swim. Asked for others to join and come back at a later date.



Etter felt ok to look into but not to escalate before taking too much into consideration.

Duke suggested getting together with Bergmann and come back to commission with something more formal at the next commission meeting.

Public Forum (Time Certain 6:03PM)

Public forum opened at 6:03pm by Duke.

Joanna Albazar, roller-skater, said she was at the meeting to represent the State of Vermont skaters and a growing demand for skating, and explained the problem of not always having the safest spaces at a skatepark, or on the bikepath, have attempted to skate at basketball courts but often occupied. Created a petition and collected over 350 signatures from Vermont and neighboring states and it is very popular, hosted about a year ago and sold out in 7 hours. Hoping to have something that is accessible any time for all. Felt opened the possibility for youth programming and bipoc community use and want for every one of all income levels and very important in Latino communities and will help with many minorities, gives the opportunity for adults to make friends also.

Aleisha Taylor from Joy Riders, partnering with others to grow and nurture the skating community, most have a story of past with roller skating. Has been doing bipoc skating at ONE center and has been very popular. Lots of opportunities to get so many together and looks forward to working with staff to find a space that is accessible for everyone and thanked.

Albazar also stated received some donations of skates and funds and if they can continue to offer their collection to get people on skates they would really appreciate doing, want to pay it forward.

Jason Stuffle- part of the East End Coalition, park is Schmanska and have done several projects, past summer traveling with family and saw multi person swings and swinging bench and also spoke in favor of a roller skating space. Was in support of both projects.

Leanna Parker- asked for ADA approved port-o-lets in all parks and realized it was a challenge to use bathrooms with an infant and also thought of how difficult it must be for others with wheel chairs and other disabilities and what a help having them would be to all.

Public forum closed at 6:18pm

Penny for Parks Community Requests and Recommendations

Madalinski introduced himself and began to run through the requests that did not make it on the final report, Update North Beach Campground bathroom, already on list to do but don't currently have funding and are looking for other funding sources.

Path Improvements at Ethan Allen Park, planning to replace playground in 2026 and will add additional funding at that time to address trails and also DPW is looking into sidewalks.

Repaint the pickle ball lines at Oakledge, already have funding and will do with other monies, since small value working with contractor to do in the spring.

Additional lighting in Ethan Allen Park, made multiple requests for more information and could not reach so could not move forward with request.



\$32,000 available, all but \$2,000 spent and will roll forward for next year, ranked in order of importance. #1 was ADA Accessible Port o Lets in all Parks, can't spend on any operating expenses so unable to use PFP monies for this project, looking for other funding resources and the ability to update and increase the budget to support the units, and did not want to allocate at this time as unable to get accurate number.

#2 allocate up to \$25,000 for roller skate space, Oakledge does not have the best soil and space is slim, Roosevelt could be potentially good space, could not use those two locations but would work with to locate the best site to start and work on moving forward.

#3 replace some belt swings with multi-generational swings, got quotes and very easily installed by grounds crew, along with swinging benches, recommend allocating \$5,000 for swings and benches.

#4 and #5 not allocating funds to, one for additional lighting at Lakeside Park and the other for Pickle ball at Schifilliti Park/Miller Center.

Morrigan said she is very concerned with accessibility issues and very aware of how affects persons and asked for confirmation of that item not being approved and Madalinski stated it had to do with permissions and the legality of spending Penny for Parks funds on this item. Looking at getting an increase in general budget to cover and have in all parks.

Sauve mentioned in previous conversations to vendors that the supply of them might not be immediate as the access to getting them might not be readily available also.

Keech asked if the roller skating was just an outdoor venue and was told the derby still exists but getting discount rate and if someone with better or bigger profile came in they get booted, it is considered a liability etc. and working with bigger group and making a non-profit and coop facility for the derby and to offer Thursday through Sunday for the public to utilize, currently the facilities using are Talent and Integrated School, but limited to spaces.

Etter asked if PFP funds were not used are they rolled over and was told by Madalinski that the funds would get rolled over if not used. Supported ADA bathrooms, not sure that every single one had to be but would like to be balanced out. Wight stated that this is just a portion of PFP funds, have some put aside and this is funds set specifically aside for community requests and always bring the full list for PFP projects about \$580,000 a year to the Commission.

Motion to approve the request for funds from the PFP account up to \$25,000 for roller skating space, add multi-generational swings and or swinging benches at Schmanska Park for \$5,000 by Keech, second by Lantieri, motion carried unanimously.

Parking Fees

Wight said the Waterfront Parking fees are done by Commission and then approved but would be too late for when the season begins.

Changes are; new winter season fee, increased car and trailer day pass, added 24 hour, changed event rate to market rate and added a new pass for second vehicle for boaters.



Etter asked when the last rate increase was and Wight said it was increased last from her records was 2013.

Motion for 2 minute break by Morrigan, second by Keech, motion carried at 6:35pm

Motion to approve fees as recommended by Johnson, second by Lantieri, motion carried unanimously.

Recreation Data Report

Nancy Stetson data and analysis, took opportunity to look at who is participating, looked at 30,000 registrations, saw year by year at least 5000 or more, then it showed number of unique participants and again had surpassed, then looked at how the registrations split among the different types of registrations programs. Next showed the ages of the participant's majority in the 6-12 year range. Summer meals program was not tracked the same as it is a drop in program and show the number of free meals served to children under 18. Numbers that dipped were a direct result of how serving, have to hand to the children as opposed to giving to parents in 2021.

Then looked at where participants were coming from based on the type of programming and then did data on scholarship by program type and which type of programming had the most scholarships as well as scholarships by neighborhood with ONE being the highest. Tried to find if all areas of Burlington were being served equally by population. Rogers said when looking at the Old North End, many of the participants are involved at Roosevelt and Boys and Girls club and King Street have many opportunities for participants.

Introduced Felix who also worked on the data producing pieces.

Morrigan thanked, liked that even if not in BPRW programs was still in other programs.

Standing Items:

Report on PACC Dog Force

Wight said February 12 will give to City Council and likely in the front part of the meeting.

Park Foundation Update

Director's Items

Wight said another meeting encouraged to attend 1/24 PACC BTV waterfront presentation from a variety of projects, Meaghan Tuttle will present from planning perspective, Samantha Dunn on FRAME project, leases the City Holds that require public access, Moreau and Peterson will talk about marinas, Sauve will talk about PP plan and Moore will talk about wastewater plant and potential expansion, feels really informative meeting.

This time of year think about volunteer of the year award, typically internal process, asked commission if you have any interest in the choosing process, could also be unsung hero award. Asked if anyone wanted to comment on now. Will make a formal agenda item at a later date. Letting all know continued discussion on the Ranger Program and making sure stay safe, doing rolling campground reservations, every month a new opening and had no crashes of the system, went well.

Morrigan asked if there was support for staff around the changes with the environment and conditions at work currently and Wight said yes can talk with supervisor and do have AEP for all employees, also after large encampment removal do have some time after to process emotions and feelings and thanked



for asking and working also with HR to put together an encampment removal team and they would get a bump in pay. Morrigan also suggested talking to Chief Lachance to debrief after a challenging move.

Keech began to asked questions about the idea of a pool and it's connection to the Lake and the conversation was ended as it was not time for Commissioners items.

Commissioner's Items & Volunteer Hours

Keech asked how the idea of a pool is not connected to the effects of the lake health. Morrigan said that she could not speak to Duke's point of order but it was her understanding that the topic was more about starting a conversation.

Wight said she could invite Lake Health individuals to a future meeting.

Lantieri behind with organizing and planning and putting together spring launch at Champlain Street.

Etter asked if the needle work or report had gone to the City Council already and Morrigan said they have a proposal but going through the City Attorney, working on and can't speak to at this point. Morrigan added that they are proposing a pilot program and could also put before this commission for support, would be an outside program, department would have nothing to do with. Hopes commission with endorse but it is not part of Parks Commission purview.

Morrigan asked to have an agenda item to discuss how syringes are currently being handled within the City when C click fix is utilized.

Morrigan has 6 additional hours for meeting prep and organizational time.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 7:15pm by Johnson, second by Lantieri, motion carried unanimously.



PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
Minutes
January 9, 2024
Parks and Recreation Commission

Commission Present: Bergmann, Duke, Etter, Johnson, Keech, Lantieri and Morrigan

Staff Present: Wight, Adams-Kolitz, Madalinski, and Putzier

The meeting was convened at 5:34 p.m. by Duke

Approval of Agenda

Duke asked for a motion to adopt the agenda, motion made by Morrigan, second by Keech, motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the consent agenda by Lantieri, second by Morrigan, motion carried unanimously.

City Public Pool

Duke wanted to discuss the idea of opening a public pool in Burlington, heard of citizens looking for an option in Burlington and a segment of the community not having access and some of the challenges that beaches are less available due to closures in summer. Stated interested in hearing thoughts from commissioners regarding this idea and if any commissioners interested in working on with her would invite them to help start developing.

Morrigan thanked for bringing forward to discuss felt clear the warm weather is getting warmer which means more beach closures and need to acknowledge the need to regulate body temperature. Would like all Burlingtonians to have access and one solution to explore is having some type of water feature, like a splash pad in each neighborhood. All would need to be able to access by foot or public transportation.

Keech did not support and felt the Lake is the single best City asset and talking about access that goes along the Waterfront and has access, feels a pool would take maintenance and upkeep, cost lots of money, example of waste of money and feels the City not looking at holistically.

Bergmann feels a good idea if researched properly and done correctly would welcome and happy to participate.

Etter asked if any change in how measured for closures and felt a large spike and Wight said she felt they were chemical issues not Lake specific issues, had many bacteria closures but the two spikes were chemical related. Wanted to make sure using good data, felt pools can be big money pits and having many would want to be careful. Sees many backyard pools and rarely used, wants to make sure it will be well used before putting in lots of funds into.

Duke felt good ideas and the start would be to gather information before any plan could be acted on, looking at finances, quality of life and ability to access and the ability to learn to swim. Asked for others to join and come back at a later date.



Etter felt ok to look into but not to escalate before taking too much into consideration.

Duke suggested getting together with Bergmann and come back to commission with something more formal at the next commission meeting.

Public Forum (Time Certain 6:03PM)

Public forum opened at 6:03pm by Duke.

Joanna Albazar, roller-skater, said she was at the meeting to represent the State of Vermont skaters and a growing demand for skating, and explained the problem of not always having the safest spaces at a skatepark, or on the bikepath, have attempted to skate at basketball courts but often occupied. Created a petition and collected over 350 signatures from Vermont and neighboring states and it is very popular, hosted about a year ago and sold out in 7 hours. Hoping to have something that is accessible any time for all. Felt opened the possibility for youth programming and bipoc community use and want for every one of all income levels and very important in Latino communities and will help with many minorities, gives the opportunity for adults to make friends also.

Aleisha Taylor from Joy Riders, partnering with others to grow and nurture the skating community, most have a story of past with roller skating. Has been doing bipoc skating at ONE center and has been very popular. Lots of opportunities to get so many together and looks forward to working with staff to find a space that is accessible for everyone and thanked.

Albazar also stated received some donations of skates and funds and if they can continue to offer their collection to get people on skates they would really appreciate doing, want to pay it forward.

Jason Stuffle- part of the East End Coalition, park is Schmanska and have done several projects, past summer traveling with family and saw multi person swings and swinging bench and also spoke in favor of a roller skating space. Was in support of both projects.

Leanna Parker- asked for ADA approved port-o-lets in all parks and realized it was a challenge to use bathrooms with an infant and also thought of how difficult it must be for others with wheel chairs and other disabilities and what a help having them would be to all.

Public forum closed at 6:18pm

Penny for Parks Community Requests and Recommendations

Madalinski introduced himself and began to run through the requests that did not make it on the final report, Update North Beach Campground bathroom, already on list to do but don't currently have funding and are looking for other funding sources.

Path Improvements at Ethan Allen Park, planning to replace playground in 2026 and will add additional funding at that time to address trails and also DPW is looking into sidewalks.

Repaint the pickle ball lines at Oakledge, already have funding and will do with other monies, since small value working with contractor to do in the spring.

Additional lighting in Ethan Allen Park, made multiple requests for more information and could not reach so could not move forward with request.



\$32,000 available, all but \$2,000 spent and will roll forward for next year, ranked in order of importance. #1 was ADA Accessible Port o Lets in all Parks, can't spend on any operating expenses so unable to use PFP monies for this project, looking for other funding resources and the ability to update and increase the budget to support the units, and did not want to allocate at this time as unable to get accurate number.

#2 allocate up to \$25,000 for roller skate space, Oakledge does not have the best soil and space is slim, Roosevelt could be potentially good space, could not use those two locations but would work with to locate the best site to start and work on moving forward.

#3 replace some belt swings with multi-generational swings, got quotes and very easily installed by grounds crew, along with swinging benches, recommend allocating \$5,000 for swings and benches.

#4 and #5 not allocating funds to, one for additional lighting at Lakeside Park and the other for Pickle ball at Schifilliti Park/Miller Center.

Morrigan said she is very concerned with accessibility issues and very aware of how affects persons and asked for confirmation of that item not being approved and Madalinski stated it had to do with permissions and the legality of spending Penny for Parks funds on this item. Looking at getting an increase in general budget to cover and have in all parks.

Sauve mentioned in previous conversations to vendors that the supply of them might not be immediate as the access to getting them might not be readily available also.

Keech asked if the roller skating was just an outdoor venue and was told the derby still exists but getting discount rate and if someone with better or bigger profile came in they get booted, it is considered a liability etc. and working with bigger group and making a non-profit and coop facility for the derby and to offer Thursday through Sunday for the public to utilize, currently the facilities using are Talent and Integrated School, but limited to spaces.

Etter asked if PFP funds were not used are they rolled over and was told by Madalinski that the funds would get rolled over if not used. Supported ADA bathrooms, not sure that every single one had to be but would like to be balanced out. Wight stated that this is just a portion of PFP funds, have some put aside and this is funds set specifically aside for community requests and always bring the full list for PFP projects about \$580,000 a year to the Commission.

Motion to approve the request for funds from the PFP account up to \$25,000 for roller skating space, add multi-generational swings and or swinging benches at Schmanska Park for \$5,000 by Keech, second by Lantieri, motion carried unanimously.

Parking Fees

Wight said the Waterfront Parking fees are done by Commission and then approved but would be too late for when the season begins.

Changes are; new winter season fee, increased car and trailer day pass, added 24 hour, changed event rate to market rate and added a new pass for second vehicle for boaters.



Etter asked when the last rate increase was and Wight said it was increased last from her records was 2013.

Motion for 2 minute break by Morrigan, second by Keech, motion carried at 6:35pm

Motion to approve fees as recommended by Johnson, second by Lantieri, motion carried unanimously.

Recreation Data Report

Nancy Stetson data and analysis, took opportunity to look at who is participating, looked at 30,000 registrations, saw year by year at least 5000 or more, then it showed number of unique participants and again had surpassed, then looked at how the registrations split among the different types of registrations programs. Next showed the ages of the participant's majority in the 6-12 year range. Summer meals program was not tracked the same as it is a drop in program and show the number of free meals served to children under 18. Numbers that dipped were a direct result of how serving, have to hand to the children as opposed to giving to parents in 2021.

Then looked at where participants were coming from based on the type of programming and then did data on scholarship by program type and which type of programming had the most scholarships as well as scholarships by neighborhood with ONE being the highest. Tried to find if all areas of Burlington were being served equally by population. Rogers said when looking at the Old North End, many of the participants are involved at Roosevelt and Boys and Girls club and King Street have many opportunities for participants.

Introduced Felix who also worked on the data producing pieces.

Morrigan thanked, liked that even if not in BPRW programs was still in other programs.

Standing Items:

Report on PACC Dog Force

Wight said February 12 will give to City Council and likely in the front part of the meeting.

Park Foundation Update

Director's Items

Wight said another meeting encouraged to attend 1/24 PACC BTV waterfront presentation from a variety of projects, Meaghan Tuttle will present from planning perspective, Samantha Dunn on FRAME project, leases the City Holds that require public access, Moreau and Peterson will talk about marinas, Sauve will talk about PP plan and Moore will talk about wastewater plant and potential expansion, feels really informative meeting.

This time of year think about volunteer of the year award, typically internal process, asked commission if you have any interest in the choosing process, could also be unsung hero award. Asked if anyone wanted to comment on now. Will make a formal agenda item at a later date. Letting all know continued discussion on the Ranger Program and making sure stay safe, doing rolling campground reservations, every month a new opening and had no crashes of the system, went well.

Morrigan asked if there was support for staff around the changes with the environment and conditions at work currently and Wight said yes can talk with supervisor and do have AEP for all employees, also after large encampment removal do have some time after to process emotions and feelings and thanked



for asking and working also with HR to put together an encampment removal team and they would get a bump in pay. Morrigan also suggested talking to Chief Lachance to debrief after a challenging move.

Keech began to asked questions about the idea of a pool and it's connection to the Lake and the conversation was ended as it was not time for Commissioners items.

Commissioner's Items & Volunteer Hours

Keech asked how the idea of a pool is not connected to the effects of the lake health. Morrigan said that she could not speak to Duke's point of order but it was her understanding that the topic was more about starting a conversation.

Wight said she could invite Lake Health individuals to a future meeting.

Lantieri behind with organizing and planning and putting together spring launch at Champlain Street.

Etter asked if the needle work or report had gone to the City Council already and Morrigan said they have a proposal but going through the City Attorney, working on and can't speak to at this point. Morrigan added that they are proposing a pilot program and could also put before this commission for support, would be an outside program, department would have nothing to do with. Hopes commission with endorse but it is not part of Parks Commission purview.

Morrigan asked to have an agenda item to discuss how syringes are currently being handled within the City when C click fix is utilized.

Morrigan has 6 additional hours for meeting prep and organizational time.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 7:15pm by Johnson, second by Lantieri, motion carried unanimously.



PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
Minutes
January 9, 2024
Parks and Recreation Commission

Commission Present: Bergmann, Duke, Etter, Johnson, Keech, Lantieri and Morrigan

Staff Present: Wight, Adams-Kolitz, Madalinski, and Putzier

The meeting was convened at 5:34 p.m. by Duke

Approval of Agenda

Duke asked for a motion to adopt the agenda, motion made by Morrigan, second by Keech, motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the consent agenda by Lantieri, second by Morrigan, motion carried unanimously.

City Public Pool

Duke wanted to discuss the idea of opening a public pool in Burlington, heard of citizens looking for an option in Burlington and a segment of the community not having access and some of the challenges that beaches are less available due to closures in summer. Stated interested in hearing thoughts from commissioners regarding this idea and if any commissioners interested in working on with her would invite them to help start developing.

Morrigan thanked for bringing forward to discuss felt clear the warm weather is getting warmer which means more beach closures and need to acknowledge the need to regulate body temperature. Would like all Burlingtonians to have access and one solution to explore is having some type of water feature, like a splash pad in each neighborhood. All would need to be able to access by foot or public transportation.

Keech did not support and felt the Lake is the single best City asset and talking about access that goes along the Waterfront and has access, feels a pool would take maintenance and upkeep, cost lots of money, example of waste of money and feels the City not looking at holistically.

Bergmann feels a good idea if researched properly and done correctly would welcome and happy to participate.

Etter asked if any change in how measured for closures and felt a large spike and Wight said she felt they were chemical issues not Lake specific issues, had many bacteria closures but the two spikes were chemical related. Wanted to make sure using good data, felt pools can be big money pits and having many would want to be careful. Sees many backyard pools and rarely used, wants to make sure it will be well used before putting in lots of funds into.

Duke felt good ideas and the start would be to gather information before any plan could be acted on, looking at finances, quality of life and ability to access and the ability to learn to swim. Asked for others to join and come back at a later date.



Etter felt ok to look into but not to escalate before taking too much into consideration.

Duke suggested getting together with Bergmann and come back to commission with something more formal at the next commission meeting.

Public Forum (Time Certain 6:03PM)

Public forum opened at 6:03pm by Duke.

Joanna Albazar, roller-skater, said she was at the meeting to represent the State of Vermont skaters and a growing demand for skating, and explained the problem of not always having the safest spaces at a skatepark, or on the bikepath, have attempted to skate at basketball courts but often occupied. Created a petition and collected over 350 signatures from Vermont and neighboring states and it is very popular, hosted about a year ago and sold out in 7 hours. Hoping to have something that is accessible any time for all. Felt opened the possibility for youth programming and bipoc community use and want for every one of all income levels and very important in Latino communities and will help with many minorities, gives the opportunity for adults to make friends also.

Aleisha Taylor from Joy Riders, partnering with others to grow and nurture the skating community, most have a story of past with roller skating. Has been doing bipoc skating at ONE center and has been very popular. Lots of opportunities to get so many together and looks forward to working with staff to find a space that is accessible for everyone and thanked.

Albazar also stated received some donations of skates and funds and if they can continue to offer their collection to get people on skates they would really appreciate doing, want to pay it forward.

Jason Stuffle- part of the East End Coalition, park is Schmanska and have done several projects, past summer traveling with family and saw multi person swings and swinging bench and also spoke in favor of a roller skating space. Was in support of both projects.

Leanna Parker- asked for ADA approved port-o-lets in all parks and realized it was a challenge to use bathrooms with an infant and also thought of how difficult it must be for others with wheel chairs and other disabilities and what a help having them would be to all.

Public forum closed at 6:18pm

Penny for Parks Community Requests and Recommendations

Madalinski introduced himself and began to run through the requests that did not make it on the final report, Update North Beach Campground bathroom, already on list to do but don't currently have funding and are looking for other funding sources.

Path Improvements at Ethan Allen Park, planning to replace playground in 2026 and will add additional funding at that time to address trails and also DPW is looking into sidewalks.

Repaint the pickle ball lines at Oakledge, already have funding and will do with other monies, since small value working with contractor to do in the spring.

Additional lighting in Ethan Allen Park, made multiple requests for more information and could not reach so could not move forward with request.



\$32,000 available, all but \$2,000 spent and will roll forward for next year, ranked in order of importance. #1 was ADA Accessible Port o Lets in all Parks, can't spend on any operating expenses so unable to use PFP monies for this project, looking for other funding resources and the ability to update and increase the budget to support the units, and did not want to allocate at this time as unable to get accurate number.

#2 allocate up to \$25,000 for roller skate space, Oakledge does not have the best soil and space is slim, Roosevelt could be potentially good space, could not use those two locations but would work with to locate the best site to start and work on moving forward.

#3 replace some belt swings with multi-generational swings, got quotes and very easily installed by grounds crew, along with swinging benches, recommend allocating \$5,000 for swings and benches.

#4 and #5 not allocating funds to, one for additional lighting at Lakeside Park and the other for Pickle ball at Schifilliti Park/Miller Center.

Morrigan said she is very concerned with accessibility issues and very aware of how affects persons and asked for confirmation of that item not being approved and Madalinski stated it had to do with permissions and the legality of spending Penny for Parks funds on this item. Looking at getting an increase in general budget to cover and have in all parks.

Sauve mentioned in previous conversations to vendors that the supply of them might not be immediate as the access to getting them might not be readily available also.

Keech asked if the roller skating was just an outdoor venue and was told the derby still exists but getting discount rate and if someone with better or bigger profile came in they get booted, it is considered a liability etc. and working with bigger group and making a non-profit and coop facility for the derby and to offer Thursday through Sunday for the public to utilize, currently the facilities using are Talent and Integrated School, but limited to spaces.

Etter asked if PFP funds were not used are they rolled over and was told by Madalinski that the funds would get rolled over if not used. Supported ADA bathrooms, not sure that every single one had to be but would like to be balanced out. Wight stated that this is just a portion of PFP funds, have some put aside and this is funds set specifically aside for community requests and always bring the full list for PFP projects about \$580,000 a year to the Commission.

Motion to approve the request for funds from the PFP account up to \$25,000 for roller skating space, add multi-generational swings and or swinging benches at Schmanska Park for \$5,000 by Keech, second by Lantieri, motion carried unanimously.

Parking Fees

Wight said the Waterfront Parking fees are done by Commission and then approved but would be too late for when the season begins.

Changes are; new winter season fee, increased car and trailer day pass, added 24 hour, changed event rate to market rate and added a new pass for second vehicle for boaters.



Etter asked when the last rate increase was and Wight said it was increased last from her records was 2013.

Motion for 2 minute break by Morrigan, second by Keech, motion carried at 6:35pm

Motion to approve fees as recommended by Johnson, second by Lantieri, motion carried unanimously.

Recreation Data Report

Nancy Stetson data and analysis, took opportunity to look at who is participating, looked at 30,000 registrations, saw year by year at least 5000 or more, then it showed number of unique participants and again had surpassed, then looked at how the registrations split among the different types of registrations programs. Next showed the ages of the participant's majority in the 6-12 year range. Summer meals program was not tracked the same as it is a drop in program and show the number of free meals served to children under 18. Numbers that dipped were a direct result of how serving, have to hand to the children as opposed to giving to parents in 2021.

Then looked at where participants were coming from based on the type of programming and then did data on scholarship by program type and which type of programming had the most scholarships as well as scholarships by neighborhood with ONE being the highest. Tried to find if all areas of Burlington were being served equally by population. Rogers said when looking at the Old North End, many of the participants are involved at Roosevelt and Boys and Girls club and King Street have many opportunities for participants.

Introduced Felix who also worked on the data producing pieces.

Morrigan thanked, liked that even if not in BPRW programs was still in other programs.

Standing Items:

Report on PACC Dog Force

Wight said February 12 will give to City Council and likely in the front part of the meeting.

Park Foundation Update

Director's Items

Wight said another meeting encouraged to attend 1/24 PACC BTV waterfront presentation from a variety of projects, Meaghan Tuttle will present from planning perspective, Samantha Dunn on FRAME project, leases the City Holds that require public access, Moreau and Peterson will talk about marinas, Sauve will talk about PP plan and Moore will talk about wastewater plant and potential expansion, feels really informative meeting.

This time of year think about volunteer of the year award, typically internal process, asked commission if you have any interest in the choosing process, could also be unsung hero award. Asked if anyone wanted to comment on now. Will make a formal agenda item at a later date. Letting all know continued discussion on the Ranger Program and making sure stay safe, doing rolling campground reservations, every month a new opening and had no crashes of the system, went well.

Morrigan asked if there was support for staff around the changes with the environment and conditions at work currently and Wight said yes can talk with supervisor and do have AEP for all employees, also after large encampment removal do have some time after to process emotions and feelings and thanked



for asking and working also with HR to put together an encampment removal team and they would get a bump in pay. Morrigan also suggested talking to Chief Lachance to debrief after a challenging move.

Keech began to asked questions about the idea of a pool and it's connection to the Lake and the conversation was ended as it was not time for Commissioners items.

Commissioner's Items & Volunteer Hours

Keech asked how the idea of a pool is not connected to the effects of the lake health. Morrigan said that she could not speak to Duke's point of order but it was her understanding that the topic was more about starting a conversation.

Wight said she could invite Lake Health individuals to a future meeting.

Lantieri behind with organizing and planning and putting together spring launch at Champlain Street.

Etter asked if the needle work or report had gone to the City Council already and Morrigan said they have a proposal but going through the City Attorney, working on and can't speak to at this point. Morrigan added that they are proposing a pilot program and could also put before this commission for support, would be an outside program, department would have nothing to do with. Hopes commission with endorse but it is not part of Parks Commission purview.

Morrigan asked to have an agenda item to discuss how syringes are currently being handled within the City when C click fix is utilized.

Morrigan has 6 additional hours for meeting prep and organizational time.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 7:15pm by Johnson, second by Lantieri, motion carried unanimously.



MEMO

Date: February 13th, 2024
To: BPRW Commission
From: Meghan O'Daniel, Community Garden & Parks Outreach Coordinator
RE: GBGSL Special Use Permit for June 8th, 2024

Request for a Special Use Permit at Calahan Park for a waiver to allow amplified sound.

Greater Burlington Girls Soccer League (GBGSL) will be holding their annual end-of-season Jamboree at Calahan Park on Saturday, June 8th. GBGSL has been using the Calahan Park soccer fields for their Spring and Summer seasons since 1997. At some point during the Jamboree, all of the players and their coaches plan to get on the field and dance to current pop songs and the Macarena together, usually resulting in a very long conga line.

The amplified sound will take place between 9am and 1pm, and will consist of music from a playlist and announcements. They will be informing the surrounding neighborhood via Front Porch Forum ahead of the event.

Contact for the Jamboree is Kristine Johnson.

It is on a day with no conflicting events.

Staff Recommendations:

Allow for Special Use Permit including a waiver for amplified sound.



MEMO

Date: February 13th, 2024
To: BPRW Commission
From: Meghan O'Daniel, Community Garden & Parks Outreach Coordinator
RE: GBGSL Special Use Permit for June 8th, 2024

Request for a Special Use Permit at Calahan Park for a waiver to allow amplified sound.

Greater Burlington Girls Soccer League (GBGSL) will be holding their annual end-of-season Jamboree at Calahan Park on Saturday, June 8th. GBGSL has been using the Calahan Park soccer fields for their Spring and Summer seasons since 1997. At some point during the Jamboree, all of the players and their coaches plan to get on the field and dance to current pop songs and the Macarena together, usually resulting in a very long conga line.

The amplified sound will take place between 9am and 1pm, and will consist of music from a playlist and announcements. They will be informing the surrounding neighborhood via Front Porch Forum ahead of the event.

Contact for the Jamboree is Kristine Johnson.

It is on a day with no conflicting events.

Staff Recommendations:

Allow for Special Use Permit including a waiver for amplified sound.



MEMO

Date: February 13th, 2024
To: BPRW Commission
From: Meghan O'Daniel, Community Garden & Parks Outreach Coordinator
RE: GBGSL Special Use Permit for June 8th, 2024

Request for a Special Use Permit at Calahan Park for a waiver to allow amplified sound.

Greater Burlington Girls Soccer League (GBGSL) will be holding their annual end-of-season Jamboree at Calahan Park on Saturday, June 8th. GBGSL has been using the Calahan Park soccer fields for their Spring and Summer seasons since 1997. At some point during the Jamboree, all of the players and their coaches plan to get on the field and dance to current pop songs and the Macarena together, usually resulting in a very long conga line.

The amplified sound will take place between 9am and 1pm, and will consist of music from a playlist and announcements. They will be informing the surrounding neighborhood via Front Porch Forum ahead of the event.

Contact for the Jamboree is Kristine Johnson.

It is on a day with no conflicting events.

Staff Recommendations:

Allow for Special Use Permit including a waiver for amplified sound.

BCA

MEMO

Date: January 19, 2024
To: BPRW Commission
From: Abra Clawson, BCA Event Manager
RE: Special Use Permit for February 17, March 16, and April 13, 2024

Request for a Special Use Permit at City Hall Park to hold a clothing giveaway from **11am** to **1:30pm** on **February 17, March 16, and April 13**.

This event is a free item giveaway to benefit the Homeless population and anyone that is in need, presented by the Wildfire Outrage Ignite Church.

This event is expected to have around **50** participants and **5** volunteers/staff. **The** Wildfire Outrage Ignite Church will be working with BCA to ensure they follow the required guidelines and go through the proper process including having a Certificate of Insurance. They will be responsible for site clean-up.

Contact for the event is **Rev Alvin Mitchell**.

These are on days with no conflicting events.

Staff Recommendations:
Allow for Special Use Permit.

BCA

MEMO

Date: January 19, 2024
To: BPRW Commission
From: Abra Clawson, BCA Event Manager
RE: Special Use Permit for February 17, March 16, and April 13, 2024

Request for a Special Use Permit at City Hall Park to hold a clothing giveaway from **11am** to **1:30pm** on **February 17, March 16, and April 13**.

This event is a free item giveaway to benefit the Homeless population and anyone that is in need, presented by the Wildfire Outrage Ignite Church.

This event is expected to have around **50** participants and **5** volunteers/staff. **The** Wildfire Outrage Ignite Church will be working with BCA to ensure they follow the required guidelines and go through the proper process including having a Certificate of Insurance. They will be responsible for site clean-up.

Contact for the event is **Rev Alvin Mitchell**.

These are on days with no conflicting events.

Staff Recommendations:
Allow for Special Use Permit.

BCA

MEMO

Date: January 25, 2024
To: BPRW Commission
From: Abra Clawson, BCA Event Manager
RE: Special Use Permit for February 24, 2024

Request for a Special Use Permit at City Hall Park to hold a community event from **4pm** to **10pm** on **February 24th** and for a waiver to allow amplified sound.

The third edition of the celebration of the centralized representation of the Black lived experience in Vermont. Will include arts, music, community organizing, education, and celebrity headliners highlighting all aspects of the thriving Black Vermont community

The goals of this event are to 1. Celebrate the Black lived experience across VT; 2. Connect the Black community to the rest of the community; 3. Increase awareness and education; 4. Show a more diverse and inclusive VT.

Once the programming at the Flynn is completed at 8pm, we will invite the community out into City Hall Park. We will have food and drink providers in the park available for purchase. We will host musical performers in three inflatable, insulated igloos capable of holding up to 75 people in each.

This event is expected to have around **300** participants and **10** volunteers/staff. Partnering organizations include nuwave Equity Corporation, The Flynn, and the department of REIB. **nuwave** will be working with BCA to ensure all vendors follow the required guidelines and go through the proper process including having a Certificate of Insurance. They and BCA staff will be responsible for site clean-up.

Amplified Sound will take place between **8pm** and **10pm**. It is on a day with no conflicting events.

Contact for the event is **Emiliano Void**.

Staff Recommendations:

Allow for Special Use Permit including a waiver for amplified sound.

BCA

MEMO

Date: January 25, 2024
To: BPRW Commission
From: Abra Clawson, BCA Event Manager
RE: Special Use Permit for February 24, 2024

Request for a Special Use Permit at City Hall Park to hold a community event from **4pm** to **10pm** on **February 24th** and for a waiver to allow amplified sound.

The third edition of the celebration of the centralized representation of the Black lived experience in Vermont. Will include arts, music, community organizing, education, and celebrity headliners highlighting all aspects of the thriving Black Vermont community

The goals of this event are to 1. Celebrate the Black lived experience across VT; 2. Connect the Black community to the rest of the community; 3. Increase awareness and education; 4. Show a more diverse and inclusive VT.

Once the programming at the Flynn is completed at 8pm, we will invite the community out into City Hall Park. We will have food and drink providers in the park available for purchase. We will host musical performers in three inflatable, insulated igloos capable of holding up to 75 people in each.

This event is expected to have around **300** participants and **10** volunteers/staff. Partnering organizations include nuwave Equity Corporation, The Flynn, and the department of REIB. **nuwave** will be working with BCA to ensure all vendors follow the required guidelines and go through the proper process including having a Certificate of Insurance. They and BCA staff will be responsible for site clean-up.

Amplified Sound will take place between **8pm** and **10pm**. It is on a day with no conflicting events.

Contact for the event is **Emiliano Void**.

Staff Recommendations:

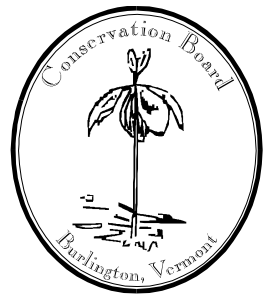
Allow for Special Use Permit including a waiver for amplified sound.

Burlington Conservation Board

645 Pine Street
Burlington, VT 05401
<http://www.burlingtonvt.gov/dpi>
Telephone: (802) 865-7188

*Zoe Richards, Chair
Rebecca Roman
Don Meals
Miles Waite
Ryan Crehan
Hannah Brislin
Caryn Connolly
Kyle Tansley*

Elizabeth Cunningham, Student



TO: Parks Commission
FROM: Scott Gustin, Dan Cahill, & Cindi Wight
DATE: February 13, 2024
RE: Conservation Legacy Fund Grant Applications

Request

Recommend approval for disbursement of Conservation Legacy Fund monies for the award of three grants to Vermont Youth Conservation Corps, Vermont Garden Network, and Burlington Wildways for local implementation of nature-based climate solutions.

Background

In 2022, the City Council unanimously adopted an addendum to the city's Open Space Protection Plan focused on nature based climate solutions. That adopted plan includes a matrix with a number of implementation strategies. In July, 2023, following recommendations by the Parks Commission and the Conservation Board, the City Council approved a reallocation of Conservation Legacy Fund monies to set aside 30% to support local implementation of nature-based climate solutions to be administered by Parks and Permitting & Inspections via a new local grant program. The total grant budget for this year is \$168,300. Recommended grant awards total \$152,060. Left over monies will roll over into next year's grant budget.

A joint committee including Parks Commission and Conservation Board members reviewed all grant applications over the course of two meetings in December, 2023 and recommended awarding grants to Vermont Youth Conservation Corps, Vermont Garden Network, and Burlington Wildways. The full Conservation Board unanimously approved this recommendation at their January 8, 2024 meeting. Approval of the Parks Commission is now sought prior to City Council consideration.

Attachments

- Grant applications recommended for funding approval.

Recommendation

Subject to final approval by the City Council, approve disbursement of \$152,060 in Conservation Legacy Fund monies via grant awards to Vermont Youth Conservation Corps (\$48,500), Vermont Garden Network (\$48,560), and Burlington Wildways (\$55,000).

Applicant Information & Point of Contact

Applicant Name (Individual or Organization)*

Vermont Garden Network

Primary Contact Name*

Carolina Lukac

Primary Contact Email Address*

carolina@vtgardens.org

Primary Contact Phone Number*

860-391-3536

Primary Contact Street Address*

PO Box 713

Primary Contact City, State, ZIP*

Essex Junction, VT, 05453

Application Details

Project Type*

Operational Work for Sustained Implementation

If applicable, project location (must be within Burlington). Some projects, such as planning efforts, may not have a particular location.

This project will take place at various community gardens throughout Burlington. (1) Training and demonstration site: Seedsong Collective Garden at the Tommy Thompson Community Garden. (2) Establishment of a new collective garden #1: Family Room Garden at the Ethan Allen Homestead/WVPD. (3) Establishment of collective garden #2: Rock Point or Starr Farm Garden, Location TBD. (4) Skill share workshop series: 8 out of 14 community gardens throughout Burlington, exact locations TBD.

Please provide or upload a description of the proposed project (2 page limit)*

Our project proposal embodies the themes of community gardens and food security as presented in the Nature-Based Climate Solutions Addendum. We will expand the Vermont Garden Network's (VGN) mission-aligned work to support gardeners and increase access to nourishing food, while simultaneously emphasizing climate resiliency and socio-ecological adaptability.

Our first action will offer educational opportunities for Burlington residents to expand their knowledge and practical skills in small-scale food production by organizing a workshop series on climate resilient gardening. Over the course of the past two growing seasons (2022-2023), VGN co-facilitated the Garden Like a Farmer workshop series in collaboration with the Intervale Center, UVM Institute for Agroecology (iFA) and Burlington Area Community Gardens (BACG). We are eager to expand on the success of those experiences by offering an innovative nature-based solutions curriculum geared toward community and home gardeners.

The series of monthly workshops will be scheduled from March to October, with each workshop taking place at a different community garden in Burlington. Host site confirmations, scheduling, and outreach will be in partnership with BACG. A maximum of 20 participants will be welcome at each workshop, participation will be free for all Burlington residents, and registration will be managed by VGN. Workshop topics include: low and no-till bed preparation, crop variety selection, season extension & protected cultivation, soil health & composting, pest management, water conservation, cover cropping, and native perennial foodscaping. Experienced facilitators will lead each workshop to deepen participants' understanding of the effects of climate change and provide practical strategies to increase resiliency. For example, in response to unpredictable frost dates, intensifying precipitation events, and increases in temperature, growers can adopt strategies such as shifting planting dates, selecting heat tolerant cultivars, and using row cover to protect crops. We see farmers throughout Vermont adopting these strategies, however resources and supplies for small-scale gardeners are not as accessible.

Furthermore, we have also included a tool lending library and bulk supplies in the budget for our climate resilient gardening workshop series. Attendees will understand the importance of reducing carbon emissions and regenerating soil health, and they will get hands-on practice in no-till gardening by using a broadfork to aerate soil and a tiller to prep beds. Tools like these would be a significant investment for a backyard gardener, however, coordinating a tool-lending library is within the scope of VGN's work towards community-based resiliency. A skill-share workshop series like the one we are proposing - accessible, season-long, practical - will be a welcome addition to educational offerings in our city.

Our second action centers around expanding collective gardening to increase access to gardening space and offer a nature-based solution toward social cohesion and well-being. For the past four years, VGN has managed Seedsong Collective Garden (located within the Tommy Thompson Community Garden), where shared access to land and resources, intensive growing techniques, and a mentorship program empower people to grow a lot of food on a small plot of land. In addition to being an exemplary demonstration garden full of best practices for regenerative agriculture (no-till, integrated pest management, native perennials, cover cropping, and much more!), Seedsong has cultivated a skilled team of gardeners who are ready to mentor other gardeners. Through this grant, we will support a garden mentor cohort and oversee the management of two new collective gardens in Burlington.

The team of garden mentors trained at Seedsong are our biggest asset as we envision expanding collective gardening in Burlington. Mentors host weekly work shifts to meet garden members where they are at (less experienced gardeners, individuals with physical limitations, students who are only available during summer - everyone is welcome!). Mentors also host monthly potlucks and workshops, and they moderate text groups and social media posts for the collective. Grant funds will allow us to strengthen

our train-the-trainer model and form a coordinated, skilled, and dedicated garden mentor cohort.

VGN will partner with The Family Room to design and manage a collective garden at the Ethan Allen Homestead, focused on growing culturally meaningful crops for New American and migrant families. This shared garden model offers the Family Room community many opportunities: flexibility to come and go on a loose schedule, support for children and elders to participate in activities, integrating diverse ethnic and social groups, and a space where many hands make light work to produce a harvest. Our strategy for increasing access to fresh local food is two-fold: source culturally meaningful seeds to strengthen food sovereignty and encourage climate resilient gardening practices among underserved communities. VGN's strong partnerships with New Farms for New Americans and the Huertas Project will guide our work with refugee and migrant families, from identifying traditional food crops to hiring interpreters for language accessibility.

Our intention for the second collective garden we are proposing is to closely replicate the Seedsong model that is sustained by garden membership. Initial conversations with BACG encouraged us to consider Rock Point or Starr Farm as potential locations. Access to new agricultural land in Burlington is limited, however, we see a huge potential in socio-ecological systems that allow for groups of people to grow food together and transform otherwise underutilized areas into productive market gardens. The systems we have developed at Seedsong will inform garden planning, weekly work shifts, membership agreements, and other aspects of managing a collective garden. We will build on the social capacity of collective gardens to strengthen a sense of belonging and grow thousands of pounds of nourishing food through climate-resilient agricultural practices. In the words of a Seedsong garden mentor: "Collective gardening seems like the way we were meant to garden. Why do something individually when there's so much to be gained from community knowledge, from the give and take of having many people to rely on, when you can share abundance and advice and inspiration more widely!"

What is the grant amount you are requesting? (\$30,000 minimum / \$80,000 maximum)*

48560

If you are not applying as a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit, you will likely need a fiscal agent. Please specify your fiscal agent for this project. *

Vermont Garden Network is a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit.

Please specify matching funds or in-kind work, if any.*

Matching funds include:

- Membership fees from individuals joining the second collective garden (Rock Point or Starr Farm, host site TBD)
- We anticipate welcoming between 10-20 garden members, 50% of whom will be eligible to receive a full scholarship and 50% of whom will need to

contribute a membership fee. Those fees will match the scholarship amount (\$5,000) we are requesting through this grant. Thus, management fees for this collective garden are not included in the budget. (For context, our budget is based on our experience at Seedsong - for the first 2 years, we received \$10,000 and \$5,000 from Skinny Pancake to sponsor members. In 2023, Seedsong was fully sustained by members who contributed a sliding-scale fee between \$200-600; we will manage a similar funding structure for the next season at Seedsong.)

In-kind work contributions and donations include:

- Partnership with the Family Room Garden - volunteer recruitment, shared use of garden infrastructure (shade structure, tables, tool shed), and serving as the community liaison with New American and migrant families.
- Seeds & plants - We have budgeted ~\$4,000 for these essential materials, however, we anticipate receiving some donations of seeds and plants.
- Garden education and community organizing expertise - VGN brings years of experience to support this project proposal. Seedsong is a thriving collective that will serve as a hub and inspiration for future collective gardens.
- Network - Between VGN's newsletter and social media presence, we have direct contact with over 6,000 gardeners and garden-enthusiasts in Vermont. These are the people who will help us get the word out to join workshops and gardens.

Please provide or upload a budget and budget narrative explaining how funding will be used. (2 page limit) Note that written estimates for proposed work may be required for awarded projects.*

Please see attached spreadsheet "CLG-VGN Budget & Project Schedule", tab #1.

Our budget is broken down into four main categories:

1. Skill share workshops
2. Garden mentor cohort
3. Family Room Collective Garden
4. Collective Garden #2

Each category includes costs associated with project oversight (VGN full-time staff), professional fees (VGN staff & other invited workshop facilitators) and stipends (garden mentors).

Remaining costs are primarily for purchasing materials - some are consumable (seeds, plants, compost), most are supplies that will last many years (tilther, row cover, hoops, baskets).

The budget line for scholarships (\$5,000) will increase accessibility for community members who are curious to join a collective garden and unable to contribute a membership fee.

VGN's admin fee of 25% is included in the final budget.

Please provide or upload a project schedule and, as applicable, specify individual project milestones (phases). Projects should generally be completed within 1 year.*

Please see attached spreadsheet “CLG-VGN Budget & Project Schedule”, tab #2.

Please provide or upload an explanation of how your project's results or effectiveness can be measured.*

We include several feedback loops throughout the growing season to assess our program effectiveness and adjust systems, dynamics and gears as/if needed:

Workshop evaluation surveys: VGN routinely asks participants to fill out an evaluation survey at the end of each workshop we facilitate. We use QR codes to direct participants to an online Google Form survey that they can respond to while still standing in the garden. Evaluation surveys inform future workshop offerings and provide insight on lesson delivery and relevance to participants’ expectations.

Workshop attendance: We track participation numbers to give us a sense of what topics and schedules tend to attract the most participants

Garden mentor assessments: At Seedsong, we have systematized garden mentor assessments and will adopt a similar format for the grant project garden mentor cohort. We check-in with mentors on a monthly basis to share successes and challenges with the community-organizing and production garden aspects of managing a collective garden.

Garden member reflection surveys: We distribute mid (July) and end-of-season (November) reflection surveys to all garden members. The garden leadership team (mentors + manager) read through surveys and share in consensus based conversation.

Cultural representation: At the Family Room Collective Garden, our hope is to have at least 60% of the community’s cultural backgrounds represented in the culturally meaningful crops grown. We will lean on Family Room staff to assess the impact of our programming (versus surveying families, as per institutional policy).

Garden productivity: For both collective gardens, the effectiveness of a shared gardening model is apparent and tangible upon visiting the garden. We weigh and record weekly harvests to track garden productivity. We strive for designing and managing highly productive growing spaces that are well-tended (low weed and pest pressure). It is evident when members aren’t showing up to weekly work shifts.

Membership attrition: As far as member engagement, an attrition rate of 10-20% is not surprising; anything beyond 25% of members leaving the garden before the season is over would be concerning.

Media & tool engagement: We can easily track engagement with our social media campaign and track how often tools are borrowed from our proposed tool lending library.

Is there any other information you would like us to know? (2 page limit)

Thank you for this opportunity!

Skill Share Workshops	hrs / item / quantity	fee / cost	subtotal
Outreach (flyer designs, social media posts, communications)	24	\$30	\$720
Prep & facilitation for 8 workshops (1.5hr-long wkshp)	8	\$250	\$2,000
Workshop facilitator supplies (printing, seeds)	8	\$50	\$400
Low/no-till specialized tools (broadfork, tiller, drill, bed prep rake)	1	\$1,020	\$1,020
Bulk materials for participants (row cover, hoops, tarps, cover crop)	120	\$20	\$2,400
			\$6,540

Garden Mentor Cohort	hrs / item / quantity	fee / cost	subtotal
Recruitment & initial training (prep + two 3hr sessions)	16	\$80	\$1,280
Ongoing monthly support (6hrs/month x 8 months)	48	\$30	\$1,440
Mentor supply kits (personal hand tools, bins, clipboards, id, etc.)	5	\$100	\$500
Social media 10-month long campaign "what's growing in your garden"	10	\$200	\$2,000
			\$5,220

Family Room Collective Garden	hrs / item / quantity	fee / cost	subtotal
Garden management - 8hrs/month, 8 months	64	\$30	\$1,920
Mentor stipend - 2 mentors, 16hrs/month, 8 months	256	\$22	\$5,632
Seeds (culturally meaningful packets)	60	\$4	\$240
Bulk seeds (cover crop, garlic)	1	\$100	\$100
Plants	400	\$4	\$1,600
Compost & fertilizers (ProGro, Tomato Tone, kelp)	1	\$140	\$140
Row cover, exclusion netting & metal hoops	1	\$120	\$120
Trellising (T-posts, stakes, twine, clips, netting)	1	\$150	\$150
Pest management (sprays, traps)	1	\$80	\$80
Mulch (straw bales)	10	\$8	\$80
Weather proof storage bench	1	\$150	\$150
Specialized hand tools (2x hori hori, snips, weeder)	6	\$25	\$150
Scuffle hoes	2	\$65	\$130
Buckets (flexible tubtrugs, harvest)	4	\$25	\$100
Garden signs (weatherproof yard sign, multilingual)	4	\$30	\$120
Plant signs (labels, painted, multilingual)	1	\$200	\$200

Interpretation and translation services	1	\$800	<u>\$800</u>
			\$11,712

Collective Garden #2 (Rock Point or Starr Farm)	hrs / item quantity	fee / cost	subtotal
Mentor stipend - 3 mentors, 12hrs/month, 8 months	288	\$22	\$6,336
Member scholarships - 10 full, \$500/member	10	\$500	\$5,000
Seeds	30	\$4	\$120
Bulk seeds (cover crop, garlic)	1	\$100	\$100
Plants	600	\$4	\$2,400
Compost & fertilizers (ProGro, Tomato Tone, kelp)	1	\$140	\$140
Row cover, exclusion netting & metal hoops	1	\$120	\$120
Trellising (T-posts, stakes, twine, clips, netting)	1	\$150	\$150
Pest management (sprays, traps)	1	\$80	\$80
Mulch (straw bales)	10	\$8	\$80
Weather proof storage bench	1	\$150	\$150
Specialized hand tools (2x hori hori, snips, weeder)	6	\$25	\$150
Scuffle hoes	2	\$65	\$130
Buckets (flexible tubtrugs, harvest)	4	\$25	\$100
Garden signs (weatherproof yard sign)	4	\$30	\$120
Plant signs (labels, painted)	1	\$200	<u>\$200</u>
			\$15,376

Skill Share Workshops	\$6,540
Garden Mentor Cohort	\$5,220
Family Room Collective Garden	\$11,712
Collective Garden #2	\$15,376
Subtotal	\$38,848

Indirect 25% (admin, taxes, company vehicle, IT, office	\$9,712
	\$48,560

Applicant Information & Point of Contact

Applicant Name (Individual or Organization)*

Vermont Youth Conservation Corps

Primary Contact Name*

Kristen Balschunat

Primary Contact Email Address*

kristen.balschunat@vycc.org

Primary Contact Phone Number*

8025604624

Primary Contact Street Address*

1949 E Main St

Primary Contact City, State, ZIP*

Richmond VT 05477

Application Details

Project Type*

Implementation Work

If applicable, project location (must be within Burlington). Some projects, such as planning efforts, may not have a particular location.

Multiple locations including: Salmon Hole & River Walk Trail, Ethan Allen Homestead, Intervale Center Natural Areas, Rock Point Commons, Crescent Woods and Arms Forest

Please provide or upload a description of the proposed project (2 page limit)*

VYCC seeks to use these grant funds to run eight weeks of Youth Crew programming in Burlington in summer 2024. We will collaborate with Burlington Wildways partners to complete high-priority conservation projects around the city and introduce participants to local organizations working on nature based climate solutions.

VYCC is a service corps that enrolls over 200 young adults each year to work on public service projects. Our mission is to take action and build community by working and learning together with the land. Since 1985, over 7,000 Corps Members have completed projects that strengthen Vermont's communities and conserve natural resources. Burlington Wildways is a partnership of organizations that connects and protects the wild places and paths of Burlington. Burlington Wildways mission is to build a strong partnership of many organizations working together to maintain a world-class shared trail network; conserve the rare plants and diverse animals that make their homes in the Queen City; and provide equitable and inviting access to our many natural areas for the benefit of all our city's citizens and visitors. Current partners include the Burlington Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront Department, Intervale Center, Rock Point, and Winooski Valley Park District

We plan to leverage existing systems, tools and personnel at VYCC and Burlington Wildways to run an entire summer season within Burlington city limits. VYCC brings a 35-year history of engaging youth in conservation work which includes systems for recruitment and hiring, comprehensive leader and member training and staff support to assist leaders and members in the field.

Youth Crews offer paid summer service positions for participants between the ages of 15 and 18. Participants work on conservation projects in a crew environment and learn a variety of skills including problem solving, organization and time management as well as technical skills like safe use of tools, strategies for land management and collaborating with community partners. Youth members receive training and guidance from Crew Leaders and receive additional support from Project Managers and Supervisors.

Residents of any town would be welcome to apply for crew member positions but VYCC will incorporate some preference for Burlington residents into the applicant ranking system. We are excited to offer paid service positions to Burlington youth right in their backyard. We believe this experience will help members foster a stronger sense of place by working across a wide variety of natural areas throughout the city and will connect them with conservation professionals so they can learn about potential career paths or gain exposure to seasonal job opportunities for the future. This connects to strategy 6B.3 “Create more opportunities to bring school aged children and university students into the urban wilds to experience and learn about NBCS.”

The main goal of a youth crew is to offer opportunities for participants to learn, grow and establish connection with the land with a secondary focus on efficiency and project completion. As such we have created a “menu” of potential projects for the crew to work on. Many of these projects will likely be completed, but not all. This structure allows VYCC and the Wildways partners some flexibility to make changes throughout the summer based on each crew’s skill level and interest while still dedicating the most crew time to the highest priority projects.

Invasive plant mapping and manual management

High priority

Connects to NBCS Goal 1A.1 “Inventory Non-Native Invasive Plants (NNIPs) community-wide and recommend pragmatic rehabilitation strategies to address the impacts of these species with a focus on maintaining biodiversity”

Species of highest concern: Buckthorn, honeysuckle, Asiatic Bittersweet, multiflora rose, knotweed

Goal: Survey/map and manually treat 20 acres

Locations:

- Ethan Allen Homestead
- Salmon Hole & River Walk Trails
- Intervale Center Natural Areas
- Crescent Woods (focus on jumping worms at this site only)
- Arms Forest

- Rock Point Trails

Trail improvements for better public access to green spaces

High priority

Connects to goal 4B.1 “Increase pocket parks and connected open spaces”

Address damage from 2023 flooding along Burlington walking trails. Tasks may include re-grading, building timber stairs and installing puncheon. At Crescent Woods, the goal is to remove 3 bridges in disrepair, reroute trail slightly and add stepping stones and incorporate erosion control measures along exposed hillside.

Goal: Improve 2,000 feet of walking trail

Locations:

- Salmon Hole & River Walk Trails
- Intervale Center
- Crescent Woods

Tree, Shrub and Perennial Planting

Medium Priority

Connects to goal 4A.2 Increase native plantings

Goal: 200 plants installed

- Rock Point Trails - focus on planting edible varieties in open fields
- Burlington Pocket parks - focus on species with pollinator benefits Potential locations could be the meadow at Arms Forest, McKenzie Property, Urban Reserve

Miscellaneous (if time allows)

Lower Priority

- Install deer exclosures - Connects to strategy 1A.4 “Pursue Adaptive Management to Mitigate Harmful Impacts of Deer Grazing”
- Maintain Existing Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) Exact sites TBD - example projects include rain gardens, bioswales, etc.
- Assist with weeding and transplanting at Intervale Conservation Nursery

Roles: VYCC will provide training to leaders and members, will supply a standard cache of tools, maintain vehicles, offer staff support during project weeks and schedule guest speakers. Wildways Partners will provide materials and design plans, and some in-field technical assistance during the season.

We also plan to invite guest speakers and trainers to talk about relevant topics like plant identification, trail maintenance, climate resilience, conservation job opportunities and water quality in Lake Champlain. Time is already built into the daily Youth Crew schedule to allow for one guest speaker to join for about an hour each week. Potential speakers include:

- Branch Out Burlington
- Grow Wild
- Lake Champlain Basin Program
- Rethink Runoff
- Audubon VT

What is the grant amount you are requesting? (\$30,000 minimum / \$80,000 maximum)*

48500

If you are not applying as a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit, you will likely need a fiscal agent. Please specify your fiscal agent for this project. *

We are a 501(c)3 nonprofit

Please specify matching funds or in-kind work, if any.*

25% match

Please provide or upload a budget and budget narrative explaining how funding will be used. (2 page limit) Note that written estimates for proposed work may be required for awarded projects.*

8 weeks of VYCC youth crew work at \$6,000 per week = \$48,000

Guest speaker/trainer stipend at \$50 per hour for 10 hours (to be used throughout season) = \$500

Total grant request = \$48,500

What does the \$6,000 fee-for-service rate include?

- Stipends for crew leaders and members
- Worker's Comp and Insurance
- Transportation
- Use and maintenance of tools

The actual cost of running a VYCC youth crew is more than \$6,000 per week but VYCC supplies the remaining funds through philanthropy and other grants. We will use these funds to offer \$12,125 of match to the project.

If building materials or other supplies are required the Wildways Partners have committed to cover those expenses from their own budgets.

Please provide or upload a project schedule and, as applicable, specify individual project milestones (phases). Projects should generally be completed within 1 year.*

The 2024 Burlington Youth Crew would take place over two sessions allowing crew members to select a shorter 4-week experience or to participate in both sessions. The Crew Leaders would remain the same over both sessions.

Session 1: June 16 - July 11, 2 leaders, 4-6 youth participants, Monday-Thursday 8-4:30

Session 2: July 15 - August 8, 2 leaders, 4-6 youth participants, Monday-Thursday 8-4:30

Please provide or upload an explanation of how your project's results or effectiveness can be measured.*

People Metrics:

- # of crew leaders (goal: 2)
- # of youth participants who gain hands-on experience completing conservation projects (goal: 8-12 over entire summer)
- # of guest speakers providing additional training and education opportunities to participants (goal: 8)
- We would also be open to creating a before/after survey for participants to assess their learning outcomes. This is not typically part of the VYCC crew model but could be added at the request of the grant committee.

Project Metrics

- Crew Hours (goal: 1,000)
- Acres surveyed and mapped for invasive species (goal: 20 acres)
- Acres treated for invasive species (goal: 20 acres)
- Linear feet of public walking trail improved (goal: 2,000 feet)
- # of trees, shrubs and other perennials planted (goal: 200)
- # of deer exclosures installed (if time allows)
- # of GSI structures installed or maintained (if time allows)

Is there any other information you would like us to know? (2 page limit)

n/a

Applicant Information & Point of Contact

Applicant Name (Individual or Organization)*

Burlington Wildways

Primary Contact Name*

Zoe Richards

Primary Contact Email Address*

zoe@burlingtonwildways.org

Primary Contact Phone Number*

802.310.1980

Primary Contact Street Address*

15 Catherine St

Primary Contact City, State, ZIP*

05401

Application Details

Project Type*

Operational Work for Sustained Implementation

If applicable, project location (must be within Burlington). Some projects, such as planning efforts, may not have a particular location.

Burlington

Please provide or upload a description of the proposed project (2 page limit)*

[WildwaysGrant Narrative.pdf](#)

What is the grant amount you are requesting? (\$30,000 minimum / \$80,000 maximum)*

55000

If you are not applying as a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit, you will likely need a fiscal agent.

Please specify your fiscal agent for this project. *

Our fiscal sponsor is Winoosk Valley Park District. We are organized under them sharing their non-profit status but with separate bank account, staff and programming.

Please specify matching funds or in-kind work, if any.*

Match Provided for Proposed Projects

Grow Wild Project Total Match \$8,708

Volunteer hours 200hr x \$28.14 (vt volunteer rate) =\$5,628

UVM Greenhouse space = \$1000

UVM grant to grow native plants = \$1000

Parks Department Staff Time 30hrs x \$36 =\$1080

School-Based Nursery Project Total Match \$52,460

Basin Program grant to pay educator salary \$50,000

Parks Department overhead to hold educator position, use parks vehicles, insurance and equipment estimated at \$1500

Wildways staffing to supervise educator 30 hr x \$32hr=\$960

Wildways Trail Stewards Expansion Total Match \$1,220

Parks Department GIS support x10hrs x \$36= \$360

Intervale Center Staff Support x15hrs x \$36=\$540

Wildways system support (training videos, signup system, accounting) 10hrs x \$32=\$320

City Nature Celebration Total Match \$4,875

In-kind live stream of talks medial factory \$1500

Donated venue space Main St Landing 2 x \$500 per day = \$1000

Donated venue space Flynn Center black box \$500

In-kind food donation City Market for Spectacular Nature Day \$450

Volunteer event management spectacular nature day 50hrs X \$28.14 = \$1,407

Please provide or upload a budget and budget narrative explaining how funding will be used. (2 page limit) Note that written estimates for proposed work may be required for awarded projects.*

[Burlington Wildways NBCS Budget and Budget Justification.pdf](#)

Please provide or upload a project schedule and, as applicable, specify individual project milestones (phases). Projects should generally be completed within 1 year.*

[Project Schedule.pdf](#)

Please provide or upload an explanation of how your project's results or effectiveness can be measured.*

Measurable Project Impact and Outcomes

Grow Wild Measurable Outcomes

Native plants grown and given away

Website visits

Education materials distributed

Attendance at events

Acres and gardens converted to native habitat

School-based Nursery Project Outcomes

Children participating in the program

Acres of school ground converted to native habitat

Numbers of trees grown and used in restoration projects
New schools entering the program

Wildways Trail Stewards Expansion Outcomes

New trained stewards
Number of times an area is stewarded
Acres of treatment of invasive species
Trail issues reported to land managers

City Nature Celebration Outcomes

Attendance at speaker series
Attendance at spectacular nature day
Attendance at Rock Point nature day
Trees planted
Invasives removed (and eaten!)
Ferns planted

Strategic Planning and Summit Outcomes

Summit attendance
Action items created at the summit

Wildways Trail Brochure Use Outcomes

Number of trail users
Brochures taken
Number of translated languages brochure is translated into (and viewed then viewed!)

Is there any other information you would like us to know? (2 page limit)

[Wildways Funding and NBCS Implementation.pdf](#)

[Burlington Wildways](#) is a partnership between four of Burlington’s public-facing landowners: Winooski Valley Park District; Intervale Center; Burlington Parks, Recreation, and Waterfront; and Rock Point Commons. Burlington Wildways seeks funding from the new Conservation Legacy Grant program for six core areas where our partnership works directly on nature-based climate solutions.

The natural world is not defined by political boundaries—and our partnership has allowed us to see, and work at, the scale of the larger landscape within Burlington. We are able to effectively use the resources of each institution, with a shared purpose, to benefit the whole city. Burlington Wildways partners have launched and maintained many successful conservation initiatives over the last five years.

Funding from the Conservation Legacy Grant program will allow us to expand our reach through increased staff capacity, outreach materials, and program development. This funding would allow more of our city’s residents and institutions to participate in, and benefit from, the urgent work of building climate resilience. The work of the Wildways partnership includes: creating tree nurseries at elementary schools; city-wide tree plantings in natural areas; propagating native plants in neighborhoods and parks; floodplain and wetlands restoration—and other nature-based approaches to cooling our rapidly heating planet and city. And, equally important, our programs build an informed and caring citizenry who will take on and advocate for this work.

To advance this work, we have six requests for funding:

1. Expand our [Grow Wild](#) program. This program encourages propagating and planting native species in yards and other open spaces like cemeteries and schoolyards. Many green and even lovely places are—from the point of view of insects and pollinators—ecological deserts. We have created a website with a “how to” guide based on conditions in Burlington and tools to do a site assessment, so that residents and institutions can have effective native plantings that create habitat for these insects and pollinators. In coordination with UVM Plant and Soil Science Professor Laura Hill, who has been cultivating native plants with UVM students at an on-campus greenhouse, Grow Wild provides inspirational plant starter packs in the spring. With funding, we plan to expand these efforts in 2024. With staffing, Grow Wild will increase our reach and create outreach programs and attend events such as; City Nature Celebration Events, SummerVale, ONE Farmers Market, Fair Share CSA pick-ups, and more. Funding will also cover costs associated with website updates, producing newsletters, educational opportunities and materials. The Grow Wild program has also been instrumental in getting starter demonstration gardens going in public spaces like Lake View Cemetery, Tommy Thompson community garden and other areas. Members of Grow Wild are volunteer plant experts and staff from Burlington Parks and Intervale Center, with staffing and funding provided by Burlington Wildways.
2. Expand the school-based tree nursery project at Champlain Elementary School to other Burlington schools. Using all grade levels, native seeds and woody stems cuttings are collected and grown at Champlain Elementary and once grown are used in habitat restoration projects around the city. A Lake Champlain Basin program grant will partially fund an educator to continue this work in 2024, but Wildways staffing is needed to support the educator, do hands-on programming, and meet with school district staff to expand the program to other schools. With

guidance from the school district, CP Smith, Hunt Middle School, and Sustainability Academy are our next expansion areas. School grounds are an amazing space to increase habitat, grow much needed tree stock for the city, and allow for real world learning and agency. All children regardless of racial identity or income have access to nature through this program and become connected with local ecosystems. The pilot program has been very successful and was [highlighted by USClimate4Nature](#), and our collaborator at Champlain won [teacher of the year](#) for this work. Hundreds of trees have been planted, grown and harvested and used in stream restoration projects at Champlain Elementary.

3. Grow the [Wildways Trail Stewards](#) program. Citizens volunteer to pick up trash, report problems to land managers, and do trail work around Burlington (stewards helped reopen the trail infrastructure in the Intervale after this year's historic floods). The Intervale Center has helped to develop the technical aspects of our trail stewards program that runs across different land ownerships. Stewards will soon be able to help with invasive and opportunistic species control. Wildways administers the program, managing online sign ups, newsletters and trainings. We recruit new participants and funding will allow us to start to work with Burlington High School Students and more inclusively encourage members of the community to become stewards.
4. Grow and enrich [City Nature Celebration](#). Programmatic support will allow us to grow this event which brings in speakers on local natural history and climate topics, creates opportunities for residents to do hands-on restoration work in the city, provides opportunities to reimagine how we think about NNIS (non-native invasive species) including opportunities to learn to harvest and cook invasives. Additionally we organize and run the international City Nature Challenge Bioblitz in Burlington. Last year we had over 800 people participate in the bioblitz with close to 1,000 species identified.
5. Organize and host a regional nature-based climate action summit. With help from Trust for Public Lands, Wildways is planning to hold a regional summit meeting in Burlington on Nature-based Climate action in late 2024 and funding from the legacy fund will help to realize this goal. Funding will cover strategic planning needed to host and facilitate the event as well as costs associated with hosting the event.
6. Design and create a brochure for the 10 mile Burlington Wildway Trail and translate the brochure into languages commonly spoken by Burlington residents. This will help make our natural spaces easy to navigate and knowable to a broader section of Burlington residents.

Please note that the specific themes, strategies and actions, outlined in the Nature-based Climate Solutions Implementation Plan, that each funding requests address, are included in an appendix.

Appendix 1. Implementation Themes and Strategies that Wildways Requested Funding Supports

Grow Wild Expansion implements Theme 4, in almost all aspects by creating a path to create habitat where there was none. Grow Wild funding implements Theme 2 specifically 2A.2 and 2A.3, which address regenerating other spaces in community gardens, through native and edible plantings. Also Theme 06 will be implemented, particularly 6B.2 and 6B.3 and 6C.1 and 6C.2 which encourage inclusive climate action and education about the value of NBCS.

Expand School-based Tree Nursery implements Theme 1, specifically all actions around tree planting 1B.1, 1B.2, 1B.3, 1B.4, which strive to expand the canopy and diversity of the canopy and educate about nature based climate solutions. The tree nursery also implements Theme 3: 3B.1, 3B.2, by growing tree and shrub stock from local genetics that can be used in stream restoration. Additionally the nursery project implements Theme 4: 4A.1, 4A.2, 4A.3, 4B.1, by converting small open spaces and lawn to habitat. In particular the school based project implements Theme 6 all strategies by including all children during the school day (Burlington School District is 39% BIPOC as is Champlain Elementary). This project also implements Theme 7 by collecting data around trees planted and particularly 7A.4 silo busting through partnership with the school district to provide mutually beneficial services and break down barriers between institutions.

Grow Wildways Trail Stewards implements Theme 1, in particular strategy 1B.2 through tree planting and invasive species control and through reporting and closing social trails in areas where they should not be. Trail Stewards implements Theme 3, through restoration projects in the floodplain. The expansion will implement Theme 6, by recruiting folks from historically disenfranchised communities to become stewards.

Grow City Nature Celebration implements Theme 1 specifically all aspects of strategy 1B expanding the canopy through volunteer planting days and education about the benefits of nature-based climate solutions and Theme 3 particularly strategy 3B where opportunities to remove invasives and do riparian restorations. Also City Nature Celebration implements many aspects of Theme 4 through Grow Wild native plant giveaways and lecture series and Theme 7, strategy 7A.2 through education.

Wildways Strategic Planning and Regional Summit implements Theme 6C by creating an opportunity to communicate the value of nature-based climate solutions and Theme 7, Strategy 7A.4 silo busting working with other professionals in the state to figure out best practices and next steps with nature-based climate action.

Wildways Trail Brochure Creation and Translation implements Theme 6, encouraging more residents to experience and feel comfortable in our natural areas.

Burlington Wildways NBCS Funding Request		
January-December 2024 Project Period		
Funding Request		
1. Grow Wild		
Educational Material		\$5,000
Capacity Funds		\$8,000
Professional Services		\$1,500
Website & communications		\$3,000
Honorarium for Education Opportunities		\$2,500
Total Grow Wild Request		\$20,000
2. School-Based Tree Nurseries Project		
Capacity Funds		\$10,000
Total Nursery Request		\$10,000
3. Wildways Trail Stewardship Expansion		
Capacity Funds		\$5,000
Total Trail Request		\$5,000
4. City Nature Celebration		
Honorarium		\$2,000
Space Rental & Materials		\$1,000
Website		\$2,000
Total City Nature Celebration Request		\$5,000
5. Wildways Strategic Planning		
Regional NBCS Regional Summit		\$7,000
Strategic Planning for Partners		\$3,000
Total Strategic Planning Request		\$10,000
6. Wildways Trail		
Brochure Creation		\$2,000
Translation		\$3,000
Total Wildways Trail Request		\$5,000
Total Wildways Funding Request		\$55,000

Budget Justification

Item 1. Grow Wild

Educational Materials \$5,000 (branded tent for spring, summer and fall events; \$750, weatherproof sign; \$350, strategic communications materials about native plantings, urban habitat creation and behavioral change via explanatory drawings and video creation; \$3,000, printed materials such as site specific plant lists for plant giveaways and events \$900).

Capacity Funds \$8,000 part-time staffing for Grow Wild Initiative (35% of 2 VHCB AmeriCorps Members or part time hourly position at 320 hrs x \$25 hrs).

Professional Services \$1500 Estimated costs associated with educational conference and webinar fees for mostly volunteer steering committee members.

Website & Communications \$3,000 (website and domain hosting \$500, Web design and graphic design services Tamarack Media 20hrs x 100, Mailchimp newsletter services \$500).

Item 2 School-based Tree Nursery Project

Capacity Funds \$10,000 part-time hourly (45% of VHCB AmeriCorps Member or 400 hours x 25 hrs)

Item 3 Wildways Trail Stewardship Expansion

Capacity Funds \$5,000 (20% of 2 VHCB AmeriCorps Members or 200hrs x \$25)

Item 4 City Nature Celebration

Honorarium \$2,000 (pay local speakers and guided walks/tours 3 x \$500speaker, Caterpillar lab/VINS \$500)

Space Rental & Materials \$1,000 (cover costs associated with renting space for speaker series and promotional materials). Some but not all the spaces we use donate free usage.

Website \$2000 cost of website and planned improvement of website so updates to better display City Nature Challenge data (\$500 website hosting, 15r x 100hr Tamarack Media)

Item 5 Wildways Strategic Planning

Nature-based Climate Solutions Regional Summit \$7,000 (Facilitation \$3,000, Venue \$1500, \$2,500 staffing to organize summit)

Strategic Planning for Wildways Partnership \$3000 (facilitation and strategic planning retreat for partnership)

Item 6 Wildways Trail

Brochure Creation \$2,000 (Trail Brochure design and printing)

Translation Services \$3,000 (cost is an estimate for translation. Translation will be in pdf form)

Burlington Wildways NBCS Funding Request		
January-December 2024 Project Period		
Funding Request	Timeline	Project Milestones
1. Grow Wild		
Educational Material	Created in Spring 2024	Completed materials
Capacity Funds	All 2024	Part-time or AmeriCorp member hired
Professional Services	Spring 2024	Completed redesign
Website & communications	All 2024	Increased social media presence and web traffic
Honorarium for Education Opportunities	All 2024	Completed lecture & field experiences
2. School -Based Tree Nurseries Project		
Capacity Funds	Spring & Fall 2024	Expansion to new Burlington schools
3. Wildways Trail Stewardship Expansion		
Capacity Funds	Early Winter, Spring 2024	More stewards including youth, connection with BHS, King Street Youth Center, Boys & Girls Club
4. City Nature Celebration		
Honorarium	April/May 2024	Completed speaker series
Space Rental & Materials	April/May 2024	Events completed and attended
Website	April/May 2024	Redesign and renewal of web services

5. Wildways Strategic Planning		
Regional NBCS Regional Summit	November 2024	
Strategic Planning for Partners	August/Septmeber 2024	Completed regional summit meeting
6. Wildways Trail		
Brochure Creation	Late Winter 2024	Design work completed byTamarack Media
Translation	Ongoing 2024	Completed brochures and translations



MEMO

Date: January 31, 2024

To: Burlington Conservation Board & Burlington Parks Commission

From: Cindi Wight and Dan Cahill

RE: Conservation Legacy Fund Discussion - Arms Forest Connection to Greenway

PURPOSE

Initial discussions on a request for Conservation Legacy Funds to support the recent acquisition of the Elks parcel.

BACKGROUND

In the fall of 2022, the Burlington City Council authorized the acceptance of 11.16 acres of zoned Recreation, Conservation and Open Space forested and meadow land from the Elks to add to Arms Park. For many years, this parcel has been a high-priority, highly desired conservation property for the City. Not only does this land have significant forest and meadow communities, but it also provides access from the Burlington Greenway to Arms Park. The acquisition was made possible by a generous donation by Irene and Rosaire Longe.

Arms Park is one of three parcels that comprise the area known as Arms Forest, which is managed under one management plan. The property owners include the Episcopal Diocese, Burlington Public Schools (BHS) and the City of Burlington (Arms Park). From 2017 through 2019, the Conservation Legacy Fund supported acquiring two conservation easements on Episcopal Diocese property, ensuring public access to the parcels, and providing the funds to bring the properties up to a standard for public use. One of the project's goals during that time was the acquisition of the Elks' parcel. Due to the generosity of Irene and Rosaire Longe, the Elks agreed to the donation in 2022.

Now that the land has been accepted, the work begins to bring the property up to a standard for safe and inclusive site access. BPRW is seeking the support of the Conservation Board and the Parks Commission for using the Conservation Legacy Fund for a variety of baseline site improvements at Arms Park.

- ***Connect the Greenway to Arms Park at Accessible Trail Standards*** - For years, there has been informal access from the Greenway to Arms Forest through the Elks parcel. This access has been at a steep grade, with uneven tread. The site improvement would



support Arms Forest in becoming a natural area in Burlington built to accessible standards and support the long-term trail stability and viability at this well-used portion of the Burlington Greenway.

- ***Provide Trailhead Amenities to the Most used Entrance to Arms Forest*** - A portion of the legacy fund request will support the installation of a trailhead information kiosk, a signage program for the kiosk, as well as a bike rack pad.

In January 2023, we received a quote from Timber and Stone for improving portions of Arms Park (see the attached description and quote). We are prioritizing what they list as Phase III of improvements and have added a 15% contingency as the quote is over a year old. The project would be bid out per the City's purchasing policy. The North Avenue connections will be a future project as we work through the best long-term solution for a North Avenue entrance.

Funding Request Balance Sheet

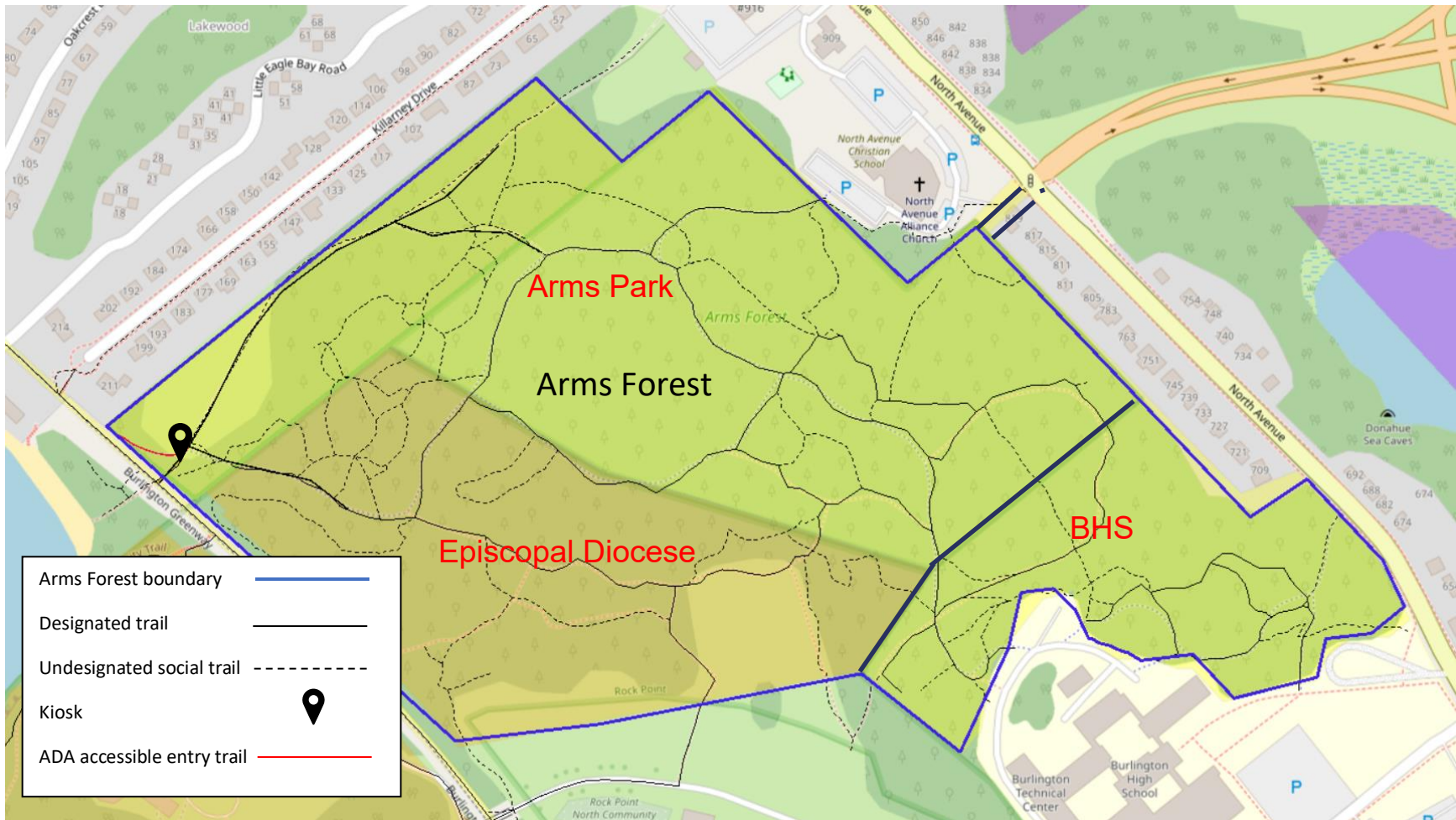
Expenses		
EXPENSE DETAIL	AMOUNT	NOTES
In-kind donation of property	\$150,000.00	
Trail/Forest Connection with Burlington Greenway	\$71,000.00	
Improvements/ Construction (Kiosk,Signage, Bike Pad)	\$25,000.00	
Feasibility and Design Work	\$1,500.00	
Project Contingency (15%)	\$14,4750.00	
Total	\$261,975.00	
Revenue		
SOURCE	AMOUNT	NOTES
Private Funding	\$150,000.00	
Bike Path and Trails Improvement Fund	\$10,000.00	
Conservation Legacy Fund	\$101,975	39% of total project costs
Total	\$261,975.00	

Legacy Fund Request Amount: \$101,975



Impact to Conservation Legacy Fund

- The balance of the Conservation Legacy Fund at the start of the fiscal year was \$981,446, with two outstanding commitments making available \$899,784. The account will increase by \$188,480 with FY24 funds. This request of \$101,975 makes up 11% of the fund's available balance on 7/1/2023 and 9% when adding the FY24 funds.



MEMO

Date: January 31, 2024

To: Burlington Conservation Board & Burlington Parks Commission

From: Cindi Wight and Dan Cahill

RE: Conservation Legacy Fund Discussion - Arms Forest Connection to Greenway

PURPOSE

Initial discussions on a request for Conservation Legacy Funds to support the recent acquisition of the Elks parcel.

BACKGROUND

In the fall of 2022, the Burlington City Council authorized the acceptance of 11.16 acres of zoned Recreation, Conservation and Open Space forested and meadow land from the Elks to add to Arms Park. For many years, this parcel has been a high-priority, highly desired conservation property for the City. Not only does this land have significant forest and meadow communities, but it also provides access from the Burlington Greenway to Arms Park. The acquisition was made possible by a generous donation by Irene and Rosaire Longe.

Arms Park is one of three parcels that comprise the area known as Arms Forest, which is managed under one management plan. The property owners include the Episcopal Diocese, Burlington Public Schools (BHS) and the City of Burlington (Arms Park). From 2017 through 2019, the Conservation Legacy Fund supported acquiring two conservation easements on Episcopal Diocese property, ensuring public access to the parcels, and providing the funds to bring the properties up to a standard for public use. One of the project's goals during that time was the acquisition of the Elks' parcel. Due to the generosity of Irene and Rosaire Longe, the Elks agreed to the donation in 2022.

Now that the land has been accepted, the work begins to bring the property up to a standard for safe and inclusive site access. BPRW is seeking the support of the Conservation Board and the Parks Commission for using the Conservation Legacy Fund for a variety of baseline site improvements at Arms Park.

- ***Connect the Greenway to Arms Park at Accessible Trail Standards*** - For years, there has been informal access from the Greenway to Arms Forest through the Elks parcel. This access has been at a steep grade, with uneven tread. The site improvement would



support Arms Forest in becoming a natural area in Burlington built to accessible standards and support the long-term trail stability and viability at this well-used portion of the Burlington Greenway.

- ***Provide Trailhead Amenities to the Most used Entrance to Arms Forest*** - A portion of the legacy fund request will support the installation of a trailhead information kiosk, a signage program for the kiosk, as well as a bike rack pad.

In January 2023, we received a quote from Timber and Stone for improving portions of Arms Park (see the attached description and quote). We are prioritizing what they list as Phase III of improvements and have added a 15% contingency as the quote is over a year old. The project would be bid out per the City's purchasing policy. The North Avenue connections will be a future project as we work through the best long-term solution for a North Avenue entrance.

Funding Request Balance Sheet

Expenses		
EXPENSE DETAIL	AMOUNT	NOTES
In-kind donation of property	\$150,000.00	
Trail/Forest Connection with Burlington Greenway	\$71,000.00	
Improvements/ Construction (Kiosk,Signage, Bike Pad)	\$25,000.00	
Feasibility and Design Work	\$1,500.00	
Project Contingency (15%)	\$14,4750.00	
Total	\$261,975.00	
Revenue		
SOURCE	AMOUNT	NOTES
Private Funding	\$150,000.00	
Bike Path and Trails Improvement Fund	\$10,000.00	
Conservation Legacy Fund	\$101,975	39% of total project costs
Total	\$261,975.00	

Legacy Fund Request Amount: \$101,975



Impact to Conservation Legacy Fund

- The balance of the Conservation Legacy Fund at the start of the fiscal year was \$981,446, with two outstanding commitments making available \$899,784. The account will increase by \$188,480 with FY24 funds. This request of \$101,975 makes up 11% of the fund's available balance on 7/1/2023 and 9% when adding the FY24 funds.

SUMMARY OF OPPORTUNITIES

Monthly Parks Commission update – February, 2024

Department accomplishments and notable staffing developments since the last report

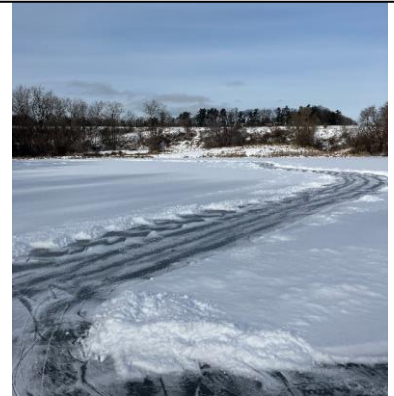
- February work anniversaries – Meghan O’Daniel (6), Tom Wells (4), VJ Comai (6), Alec Kaeding (9)
- Susan Carter and Gary Rogers presented at the VRPA Director’s Webinar Series on hiring & managing seasonal staff
- Scott Hannigan awarded Bellcate School’s Community Spirit Award for 2023. Congratulations Scott!

Arthur Park skating area (Sea Caves)

Our staff took notice of your hard work and the fact that you go above and beyond to support the school, the staff, and most of all, our students. Because of your relationship with Bellcate, our students are better equipped to meet their academic, therapeutic, and transition goals.

Major upcoming events: <http://enjoyburlington.com/events/>

- Eclipse – April 8th - [ObscuraBTV](https://www.obscurabtv.com/)

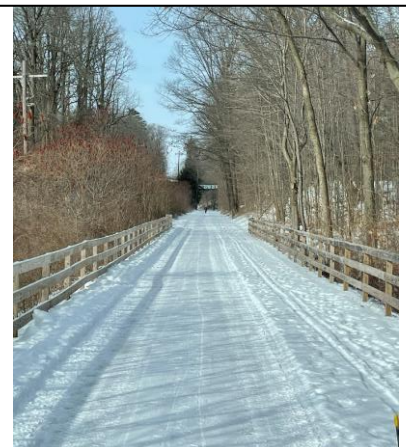


Park Division Update

Conservation Program

- **Community Gardens**
 - 2024 New Gardener Registration Ongoing
 - Community Partners (NFNA, Intervale, BPRW, WVPD, Vermont Garden Network) initiated a process for writing a garden focused element to the Burlington Intervale Flood Response Plan.
- **Trails Greenways and Natural Areas**
 - Sea caves have been groomed for skating and walking and have received a large number of visitors. When possible the greenway is plowed to the east for cross country skiing and other path-based activities. Draft Lease is being prepared for McKenzie Park
- **City-Wide Conservation Work**
 - MOU is circulating for Nature Based Climate Solutions. Sam Troast was selected for the temporary position of Nature Based Solution Field Coordinator. Sam worked for us this past summer!

“Ski to the East” grooming of the Greenway



- The tool trailer has been built out with shelving and organizers for storing up to 14 trail tools that will be available to the community for organizations engaged in trail work.

Central Facilities Program

- Custodial team assisted with testing and repair of City ballot boxes.
- Custodial team assisting BCA with set up for Highlight New Year's Eve events in downtown buildings.
- Project Coordinator completed CJIS recertification.
- Kickoff meeting for exterior restoration work at Fletcher Free Library.
- Replaced heat exchanger for emergency HVAC repair at Police Department.
- Completed building inspection of HVAC system at Police Department.
- Upgraded WiFi in Equipment Maintenance at 645 Pine Street.
- Worked with IT team to get information for BTVStat presentations on City building energy use.
- Contract being signed for dormitory renovation at Fire Station 2.
- Final review meeting for BPF front entry renovation.
- Updated cameras being installed at City ballot boxes.
- Continued work in Library community room.
- Continual HVAC troubleshooting and repair.
- Continual graffiti, trash and needle clean-up.

Trees and Greenways Program

- Responded to resident requests as needed.
- Completed scheduled street tree pruning
- Ongoing updates to tree inventory.
- Continued utility line clearance work for BED contract. \$71,500 of \$105,000 contract completed.
- Regular maintenance of all equipment.
- Submitted annual application for Tree City USA to National Arbor Day Foundation
- Ongoing updates to spring tree planting plan

Several members of the Central Facilities team enjoyed a skate at Leddy, sponsored by the City Wellness program



Trees crew installing a brace rod and cable in a large linden tree at the corner of Hungerford Terrace and Buell St.



Park Facilities Program

- The event crew assisted with Burlington's Highlight celebration by manning the bonfires for the evening and after doing a park cleanup.
- Parks facilities participated in the annual Christmas tree pick-up throughout the city.
- We are fitting up the Stone cottage with all needed cleaning supplies vacuum cleaner, trash receptacles and storage cabinets.
- Schmanska Barn ceiling has been painted.
- We helped BCA relocate the wooden sculptures in City Hall Park.
- Ian our electrician helped install temporary electric heaters at BPD as a couple of their roof top units failed.
- 200 Church street lighting has been replaced with all LED fixtures we are now back at FFL working in the main reading room.
- We are replacing all the light fixtures under the gas canopy at 645 Pine ST. (Picture to follow)
- Perkins Pier Bathroom remodel has started new lighting , wainscoting and painting.

Overseeing the bonfire at Highlight



Replacing lights at 645 Pine gas canopy



Cemetery Program

- In the month of January Cemetery staff did not sell any new lots for burial at Lakeview Cemetery
- In the month of January Cemetery staff performed 2 cremation burials and 2 full burials
- Continued burial card entry in Pontem includes research into actual lot ownership, correct names of the deceased, and updating maps and logging information in Pontem. We have completed entry through "WRIGHT."
- Researched multiple lots for inquiring families and grave researchers
- Performed equipment maintenance
- Performed grounds maintenance at Lakeview, Elmwood and Greenmount Cemeteries
- Staff removed remaining encampment items from Elmwood Avenue Cemetery with the assistance of Grounds Staff and Urban Park Rangers
- Continued policy review of monument regulations.
- Created cemeteries@burlingtonvt.gov email address to streamline communications with Funeral homes, monument dealers, and general public.
- Updated all forms and handouts to include new cemeteries email address

Wildlife at Lakeview Cemetery



- Worked on GIS mapping of Section 5
- Exterior repair work on office building began.



Exploring stormwater lines at Lakeview Cemetery (pictures above)

Grounds Maintenance Program

- Performed daily trash/cleaning of all parks
- Performed playground inspections
- Performed playground maintenance
- Performed equipment maintenance
- Supported Park Rangers
- Grounds crew teamed with DPW to clean up Battery Park extension
- Responded to VUEWORKS as needed
- Continued clearing fence lines of brush and tree overgrowth.
- Plowed and salted all city parks as needed.
- Repaired standard equipment
- Flooded Starr Farm Park rink and Roosevelt Park rink



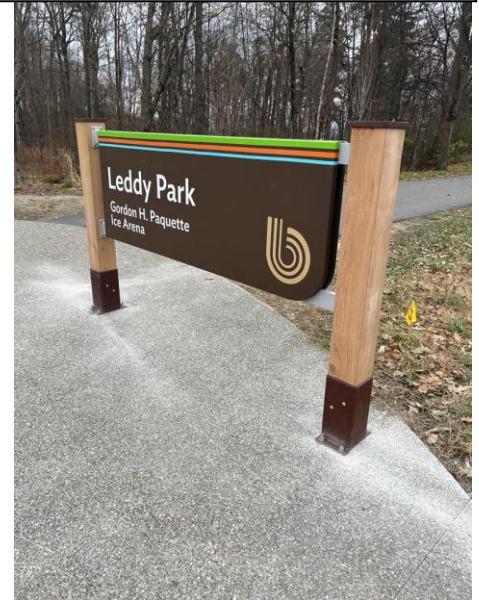
Starr Farm skating rink

Planning Division Update

- Projects Progressing:
 - **Accessibility to Parks:** Project funded and led by CCRPC to examine access to Burlington parks. Funded by transportation dollars.

- **Calahan Park Sidepath:** Under Contract. Project kicking off very soon!
- **Champlain Street Park Renovations:** BPRW staff working with contractors on finalizing details of the playground to be more inclusive. Construction anticipated to start in early Spring 2024.
- **Dewey Park Refresh:** BPRW are supporting final steps towards the installation of the Embrace & Belonging Monument coming summer 2024 to Dewey Park.
- **Leddy Park Comprehensive Plan:** BPRW Staff working with consultants to wrap up final report of the plan. The final plan will be presented at the February Parks Commission Meeting.
Leddy Park North Gully Stormwater Study: Consultants have completed data collection and site analysis of the larger neighborhood watershed that ends at the North Gully to identify ways to slow the flow and reduce sediment ending in the lake. Discussions with DPW Stormwater about potential green infrastructure sites throughout the subwatershed.
- **Oakledge for All Universal Access:** BPRW and designers Groundview have proposed solutions to the slide entry to Oakledge for All and the Burlington Accessibility Advisory Committee (BACA) and will move towards procurement soon.
- **Roosevelt Park Comprehensive Plan:** BPRW staff continue to work on increasing diversity of the CAC and attendance at the public meetings to be representative of the neighborhood. (Ongoing)
- **Schifilliti Path:** Construction Summer 2024.
- **Voices of St. Joseph Orphanage Memorial:** On track for installation in 2025; working on permitting and coordinating with the Greenway connection from Kieslich with Cambrian Rise.

New sign at Leddy Arena



Draft Tactile Map for the Waterfront (Penny for Parks Community Request)

Projects Starting Soon:

- **127 Path Feasibility Study:** Project funded and to be led by CCRPC to review access and state of the path. Scope of work being drafted.

Projects supporting other divisions/ departments: (abbreviated)

- Barge Canal Reuse Planning
- Battery Street Corridor Study Dredging of the Marinas
- Boathouse Feasibility Study
- Frame Phase 2
- Great Streets/Main Streets Playground Equipment and Compliance
- South End Planning

Waterfront Division Update

- **Park Ranger Program**
 - Working with all parties, HR and City Colleagues to navigate how to best support this program. Attention is on safety, training, goals, City role within Safety & Services. The Program requires a deeper support system and funding to remain successful, with dedicated Management.
 - Rangers continue to patrol the Parks, assist in encampment item removal and storage and cataloging current conditions in each park.
- **Campground & Beaches**
 - Campground Reservations for the 2024 season are opening up based on a rolling schedule, starting January 3rd reservations for July will begin.
 - We are shifting to off season projects:
 - Address the failing concrete floor of the wood room with PFP funds
 - Upgrade the conditions of the main Campground bathroom, as it is currently below our standards.
 - Install gutters on the Office building, this is scheduled for April.
 - If available funds, install a shed to store our golf carts and landscaping equipment to reduce theft and wear and tear.
 - Our firewood supplier of over 10 years has announced he will be retiring after this season so we have begun looking for a new supplier.
- **Marina**
 - Seasonal boater contracts went out through Dockwa in January. Dockwa allows for contracts to be signed, paid for and allows boaters to upload the required insurance and registration documentation all in one place.
 - Significant time was spent drafting the new Spirit of Ethan Allen contract which was sent to Spirit of Ethan Allen owner, Mike Shea, in early January.
 - The January Waterfront Action Group meeting was held in the Wakefield Room at the Boathouse. Discussion focused on the Battery Park Extension encampment and Malik Mines, Ward 3 City Council Candidate was there for a meet and greet and to answer questions from WAG members.
- **Parking**
 - A new sign design project is underway to promote better awareness of parking methods, including Park Mobile and Kiosk options at Perkins Pier, North Beach, Oakledge and the Coast Guard Lot. New signage is being designed and will be put in place this spring to increase revenue collection.
- **Events**
 - All 2023 Events have concluded!
 - Our proposed 5% rate increase for renting Waterfront Park for all events passed through the Commission and will go in effect for this next season.

Adult cooking class with Mulu!



Recreation Division Update

Recreation Programs & Camps

- Staff are busy preparing for Winter Break Camps and programs. We are offering a licensed childcare camp at the

Miller Center, a full day skating camp at Leddy and a full day of Wunderle Circus Camp at CP Smith. All of these camps are at or near capacity.

- BPRW Summer Camps registration went LIVE on February 1st for Burlington residents only. In the first 48 hours we filled over a dozen camps and programs and took in \$252,761 in registration fees!!!
- BPRW staff implemented a new dance program for AALV youth participants held by a new instructor, and longtime AALV staff and participant, Arbai Muhina, of 'Afro Bai'. The classes are running ten weeks through mid-February.
- Bolton Ski and Ride Program is off to a great start. Session 1 is ending in early February and session 2 is filled with 80 participants!!
- New classes at the Miller Center and the ONE Center include: Fly tying basics, Restorative/Gentle Yoga and afterschool pickleball for kids
- Ongoing classes at Miller and the ONE Center include: Line Dancing, Tai Chi, Balance & Mobility with the YMCA, ASL, North End Yoga and Miller Center Playgroup

CORE Adult Center

- The CORE Adult Center offered a variety of programs in January, these included: Chair Yoga, painting, sewing and a drama class through Very Merry Theatre that culminated in a wonderful performance.
- CORE Adult Center January field trips included visits to area restaurants and shopping trips to Walmart, Big Lots and area grocery stores.
- Upcoming adult and senior adult programs: AARP Smart Driving, Ethiopian and Eritrean Cooking Classes, Fly Tying Classes, ASL Sign Language Courses and Wilderness First Aid.



Recreation Events

- BPRW partnered with the Old East End Coalition to offer a Winterlude Winter event on Saturday, February 3rd. The lack of snow prevented folks from X-C skiing snowshoeing and sledding but there was great live music from Sambatucada, Brass Balagan, and Music by Lola. The community came together to offer great food and warm cider, a firepit to keep folks warm and assorted games and activities for families and community members.
- Our department events team is working closely with Burlington City Arts and the Church Street Marketplace in preparation for the BTV Total Eclipse Event taking place on April 8th. Burlington is in the "Path of Totality" for this rare astronomical event, and we are expecting tens of thousands of visitors. We are planning entertainment and food trucks at Battery Park, Waterfront Park, City Hall Park and Roosevelt Park. Many of our other parks are designated viewing sites. The BTV Total Eclipse Event team is working with BPD, BFD, BPW, UVM and local transportation companies to create safety, traffic and parking plans for the day.

Athletics

- The Melanie Davidian womxn's basketball league playoffs begin, with the quarterfinals on February 11, semifinals on February 18, and finals on March 3.

- Womxn's indoor soccer (session 2) is taking place on Sunday evenings at the Miller Center. Session 2 began on January 28 and will go until mid-March. We are full with 20 participants and have a waitlist!
- Adult pickleball clinics are being offered on Tuesday evenings and Saturday afternoons throughout the winter. Pickleball ambassador Chris Tudor is instructing all clinics (beginner, low intermediate, high intermediate.)
- The Youth Basketball League regular season will end on February 10. The basketball season will end on February 17 with jamborees and tournaments. BPRW will be hosting the annual CVRA grade 5-6 tournament at Hunt, Miller, and CORE gyms with a record 24 teams participating! The tournament will take place on February 16-17.

Leddy Arena Programs

- Skating lessons and open skating continue to be popular activities at Leddy Arena. Most of our beginner and intermediate skating lessons are full or nearly full.
- Staff are busy preparing for the Leddy Arena Winter Vacation Camp that takes place next month.

Recreation Facilities Division Update

Leddy Arena

- Scott Hannigan, Leddy Arena's Customer Service Associate, will be awarded Bellcate School's Community Spirit Award for his work supporting their students in their skating program at the rink. According to their award notification Scott has developed a great working relationship "going above and beyond to support the school, the staff, and most of all, our students. Because of your relationship with Bellcate, our students are better equipped to meet their academic, therapeutic, and transition goals." He will be recognized at their awards ceremony on February 22. Great work and congratulations, Scott!
- Leddy staff met to review recommendations made in our consultant's Mechanical Integrity Inspection and Hazard Process Analysis. The next step will be to follow up with the consultants to confirm our understanding of their recommendations and priorities and then to start the planning process for implementing the numerous improvements in their reports. While some of the recommendations are inexpensive or minor (improved signage, e.g.), others will require a significant capital investment (e.g., upgrading the ventilation system in the mechanical room). We will continue to update the Commission as these tasks are undertaken.
- January is exceedingly busy at the rink - our longest scheduled day this month is 5:30am-12:30am (19 hours) while the shortest is 7:30am-10:30pm (15 hours). Our schedule includes 11 high school games, 9 junior hockey games, as well as numerous youth hockey, figure skating and private group rentals and a City of Burlington employee skate, sponsored by the Wellness Committee.

Miller Center

- January Miller Center building projects included installation of a new office safe, replacement of a hot water heater in the Kids Room, repairs to a heater serving the locker rooms, wiring the building for security cameras, cleaning out and organizing the supply closet and repairs to our portable sound system.
- If necessary, the Miller Center will once again be an emergency overnight warming shelter this winter. Staff have met with CVOEO who will be managing the shelter, as well as meetings with other partners on planning and implementation, including Red Cross, CEDO, various State departments, Burlington Fire and Police Departments and more. Opening a 100 person shelter on a day or so notice is an enormous lift, we are proud to be part of the effort.

- January 25 shelter reservations open up, which will be coordinated by Candice Holbrook starting this year. On February 1 camp registrations open for Burlington residents. Even though it's still winter out, the summer storm hits Miller in the coming weeks!

CORE

- Special events at the ONE Center in January include roller skating nights, BHS Talent Show, Winooski Parks & Rec basketball, a food promotion & release event, a coalition meeting on Palestine, as well as the monthly NPA community dinner and meeting.
- Our Site Coordinator, Migmar Tsering, will be out on leave for a month beginning January 25. Thank you to Jon Sumner, Gary Rogers, Mulu Tewelde and Gwyneth Merriman for helping to cover tasks at the ONE Center in Migmar's absence.
- January projects included meeting with CAPRA teams, VRPA budget review and development of fy 25 budget, CivicRec training, and NRPA Scholarships & Awards committee work.

Admin Division Update

Marketing & Communications

- Worked with Rec team to develop a suite of print and digital products to promote summer camps for 2024, including: updated website: www.summerbtvparks.com, North Ave News insert, digital programs grid sorted by date and age, social media campaign, ads, school flyers, and posters.
- Working on creating new signage for cemetery, parking, beaches, wayfinding, native plantings, and more.
- With great help from Meghan O'Daniel, we moved the banner program applications into Civic Rec.
- Rob Peterson and the Waterfront division have made a significant progress on updating the swim water public reporting system and tying us into the State of Vermont's reporting system. The new system allows staff to report a beach closing on the spot using a mobile device, creating a live report that can be viewed online, and streamlines the public communication process greatly. Thank you Rob and Waterfront team for this amazing work!
- Jules is working on eclipse public comms as part of the Obscura eclipse comms team led by BCA.

Director January Highlights

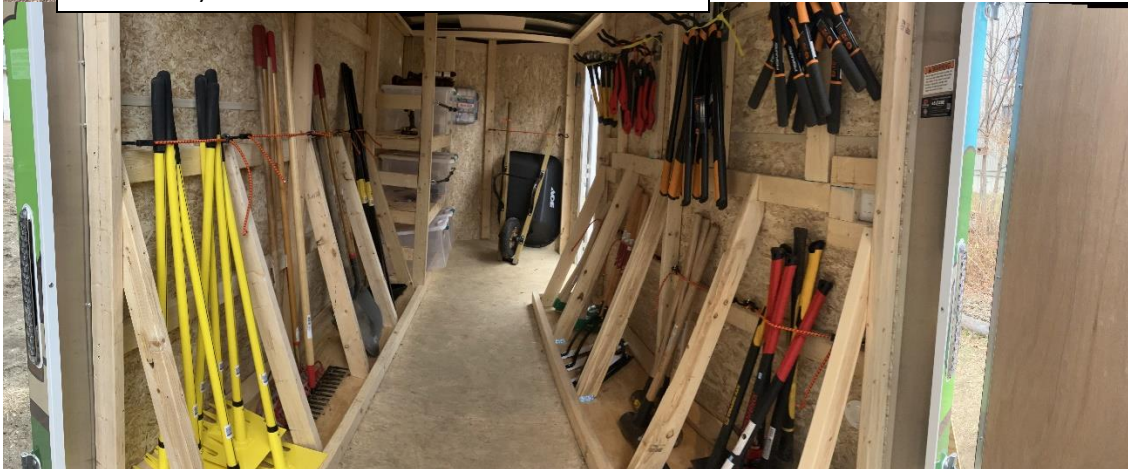
- Working on the next phase of the Park Ranger program
- Uploaded FY25 budget worksheet and scheduled budget sessions with division leads
- Supported efforts with the Battery Park clean-up
- Participated in a department head Mayor transition retreat
- Working on policies and exploring principles and practices as suggested by a new staff member
- Untangling (tangling?) credit card expenses for our department and ensuring they get charged to the correct areas (significant costs)

Commission notes

- No additional notes



Conservation team with a contractor rebuilt the path from Battery Park extension, picture below is their new tool trailer and they maintain the very popular skating trails at Arthur Park (sign off of North Ave)





Picture above are many city staff from many departments who enjoyed a skate at Leddy Arena, sponsored by the City Wellness program.



CORE Adult Center Thespians practicing



The work space at the Red Stone Cottage is coming together!

2024 Grade 5-6 Basketball Tournament

February 16-17 at Hunt Middle School & Miller Center

Tournament Director: Jen Cotton, 617.448.3666

<u>TEAM</u>	<u>COACH</u>	<u>TEAM</u>	<u>COACH</u>
Burlington Thunder	J. Lucey/A. Hawkins-Hilke	Colchester Hurricanes	A. Rea/M. Ellingson
Burlington Warriors	Tyran Spauve	Colchester Bruins	J. Burroughs/B. Phelps
Burlington Kings	Cormac Walsh	Colchester Wolverines	J. Hayes/C. Helfrich
Burlington Celtics	Darcy McDonough	Colchester Bears	B. Gruda/J. Kelliher
Burlington 76ers	J. King/E. Kranichfeld	S. Burlington #1	D. Dailey
Shelburne #1	J. Latka/A. Cook	S. Burlington #2	I. Sutherland
Shelburne #2	A. Vanslette/J. Canu	S. Burlington #3	TJ Donovan
Shelburne #3	J. Beaudry/K. Carnevale	Essex #1	J. Haven/M. Fuller
Winooski	P. Lindholm	Essex #2	P. Morgan/I. Maddix
Hinesburg	J. Lucier/B. Mott	Williston #1	B. Gilbert
Charlotte #1	C. Kanner	Williston #2	T. Sheehan
Charlotte #2	L. Trono	Mount Mansfield	C. Knudsen

MILLER CENTER

Friday Games – February 16th

- Game 1**
5:00 Colchester Bears vs South Burlington #2
Game 3
7:00 Williston #2 vs Shelburne #2

Hunt Middle School, 1364 North Ave:
 (Turn off North Ave onto Gosse Court on left)

MILLER CENTER

Friday Games – February 16th

- Game 2**
6:00 Winooski vs Charlotte #2
Game 4
8:00 Mount Mansfield vs Hinesburg

Miller Center, 130 Gosse Court:
 (Turn off North Ave onto Gosse Court to end)

HUNT SCHOOL BRACKET

Saturday Games – February 17th

- Game 5**
8:00 Colchester Bruins vs. Burlington Kings
Game 7
9:00 Essex #2 vs Shelburne #1
Game 9
10:00 Winner Game 5 vs South Burlington #3
Game 11
11:00 Winner Game 3 vs Burlington Warriors
Game 13
12:00 Winner Game 7 vs Burlington Celtics
Game 15
1:00 Winner Game 1 vs Charlotte #1
Quarterfinal Game 1
2:00 Winner Game 11 vs Winner Game 9
Quarterfinal Game 3
3:00 Winner Game 15 vs Winner Game 13
Semifinal Game 1
4:00 Winner Q-final Game 3 vs Winner Q-final Game 1

MILLER CENTER BRACKET

Saturday Games – February 17th

- Game 6**
8:00 Essex #1 vs Burlington 76ers
Game 8
9:00 Colchester Wolverines vs Shelburne #3
Game 10
10:00 Winner Game 6 vs Colchester Hurricanes
Game 12
11:00 Winner Game 2 vs Williston #1
Game 14
12:00 Winner Game 8 vs South Burlington #1
Game 16
1:00 Winner Game 4 vs Burlington Thunder
Quarterfinal Game 2
2:00 Winner Game 12 vs Winner Game 10
Quarterfinal Game 4
3:00 Winner Game 16 vs Winner Game 14
Semifinal Game 2
4:00 Winner Q-final Game 4 vs Winner Q-final Game 2
Finals Game 1
5:00 Winner Semifinal Game 1 vs Winner Semifinal Game 2 @ Miller Center

Tournament is a single elimination format. Games will be 5 minute stop-time quarters. We will be keeping team & individual fouls and shoot bonus free throws. Player-to-player defense only. Teams are allowed to press in the final two minutes of the 4th quarter, until leading by 10 points or more. No trapping defenses or double teaming allowed, however, help defense is allowed (referees discretion.) TWO timeouts per half. All coaches need to abide by CVRA equal playing time guidelines. Referees and tournament officials will monitor playing time.

CVRA Code of Conduct for Spectators, Coaches, Players & Staff

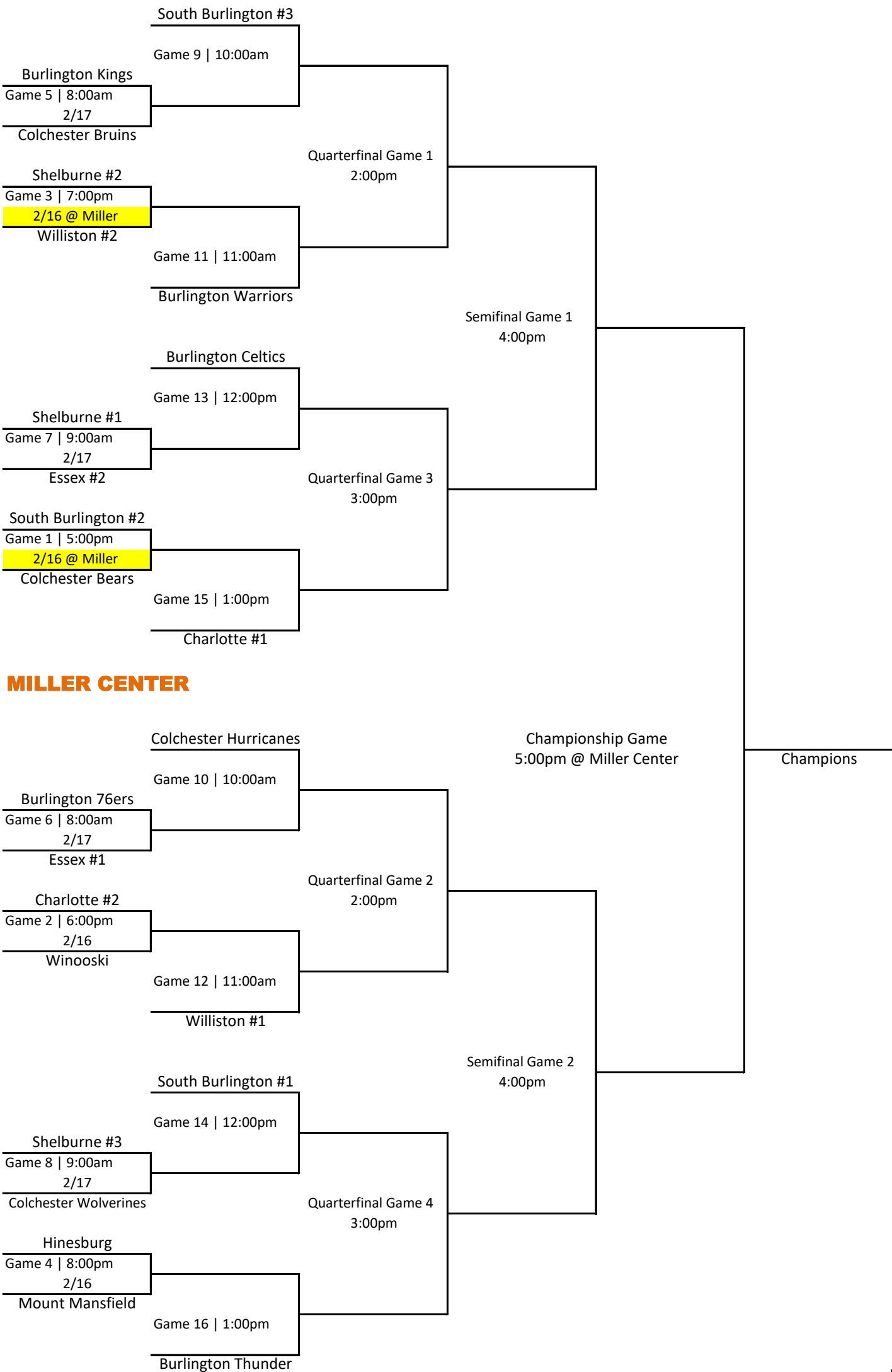
- All officials and referees decisions are FINAL. Spectators are not allowed to speak to officials. Coaches may talk to officials to get clarification of a call, but are prohibited from arguing calls.
- All cheering and instruction from the sideline must be positive.
- Coaches must adhere to all BPRW rules and regulations regarding playing time for participants. Coaches must make effort to ensure all kids get equal playing time.
- Under NO circumstances are coaches allowed on the court unless called onto the court by official (i.e. injured player). NO SPECTATORS OR PARENTS ON COURT.
- Decisions made by BPRW Site Directors and Athletics Coordinator are final. All concerns and complaints should be brought to directors and/or coordinator in a non-confrontational manner.
- All adults involved in the program need to model good behavior.
- BPRW staff will ask spectators or coaches to leave the court if they are not abiding by this code of conduct.



2024 GRADE 5-6 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

HUNT MIDDLE SCHOOL

(highlighted games are being held @ Miller Center)





SUMMARY OF OPPORTUNITIES

Monthly Parks Commission update – February, 2024

Department accomplishments and notable staffing developments since the last report

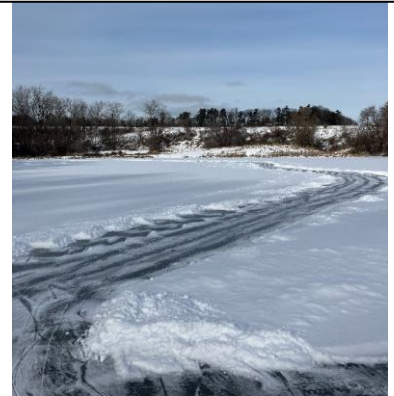
- February work anniversaries – Meghan O’Daniel (6), Tom Wells (4), VJ Comai (6), Alec Kaeding (9)
- Susan Carter and Gary Rogers presented at the VRPA Director’s Webinar Series on hiring & managing seasonal staff
- Scott Hannigan awarded Bellcate School’s Community Spirit Award for 2023. Congratulations Scott!

Arthur Park skating area (Sea Caves)

Our staff took notice of your hard work and the fact that you go above and beyond to support the school, the staff, and most of all, our students. Because of your relationship with Bellcate, our students are better equipped to meet their academic, therapeutic, and transition goals.

Major upcoming events: <http://enjoyburlington.com/events/>

- Eclipse – April 8th - [ObscuraBTV](https://www.obscurabtv.com/)

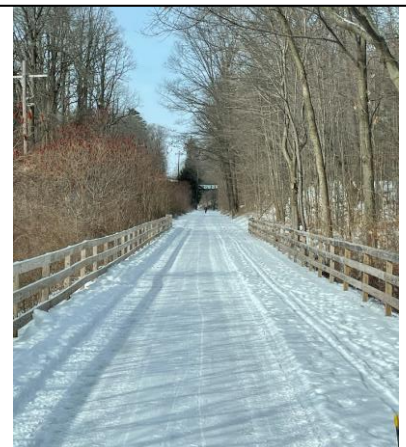


Park Division Update

Conservation Program

- **Community Gardens**
 - 2024 New Gardener Registration Ongoing
 - Community Partners (NFNA, Intervale, BPRW, WVPD, Vermont Garden Network) initiated a process for writing a garden focused element to the Burlington Intervale Flood Response Plan.
- **Trails Greenways and Natural Areas**
 - Sea caves have been groomed for skating and walking and have received a large number of visitors. When possible the greenway is plowed to the east for cross country skiing and other path-based activities. Draft Lease is being prepared for McKenzie Park
- **City-Wide Conservation Work**
 - MOU is circulating for Nature Based Climate Solutions. Sam Troast was selected for the temporary position of Nature Based Solution Field Coordinator. Sam worked for us this past summer!

“Ski to the East” grooming of the Greenway



- The tool trailer has been built out with shelving and organizers for storing up to 14 trail tools that will be available to the community for organizations engaged in trail work.

Central Facilities Program

- Custodial team assisted with testing and repair of City ballot boxes.
- Custodial team assisting BCA with set up for Highlight New Year's Eve events in downtown buildings.
- Project Coordinator completed CJIS recertification.
- Kickoff meeting for exterior restoration work at Fletcher Free Library.
- Replaced heat exchanger for emergency HVAC repair at Police Department.
- Completed building inspection of HVAC system at Police Department.
- Upgraded WiFi in Equipment Maintenance at 645 Pine Street.
- Worked with IT team to get information for BTVStat presentations on City building energy use.
- Contract being signed for dormitory renovation at Fire Station 2.
- Final review meeting for BPF front entry renovation.
- Updated cameras being installed at City ballot boxes.
- Continued work in Library community room.
- Continual HVAC troubleshooting and repair.
- Continual graffiti, trash and needle clean-up.

Several members of the Central Facilities team enjoyed a skate at Leddy, sponsored by the City Wellness program



Trees crew installing a brace rod and cable in a large linden tree at the corner of Hungerford Terrace and Buell St.



Trees and Greenways Program

- Responded to resident requests as needed.
- Completed scheduled street tree pruning
- Ongoing updates to tree inventory.
- Continued utility line clearance work for BED contract. \$71,500 of \$105,000 contract completed.
- Regular maintenance of all equipment.
- Submitted annual application for Tree City USA to National Arbor Day Foundation
- Ongoing updates to spring tree planting plan



Park Facilities Program

- The event crew assisted with Burlington's Highlight celebration by manning the bonfires for the evening and after doing a park cleanup.
- Parks facilities participated in the annual Christmas tree pick-up throughout the city.
- We are fitting up the Stone cottage with all needed cleaning supplies vacuum cleaner, trash receptacles and storage cabinets.
- Schmanska Barn ceiling has been painted.
- We helped BCA relocate the wooden sculptures in City Hall Park.
- Ian our electrician helped install temporary electric heaters at BPD as a couple of their roof top units failed.
- 200 Church street lighting has been replaced with all LED fixtures we are now back at FFL working in the main reading room.
- We are replacing all the light fixtures under the gas canopy at 645 Pine ST. (Picture to follow)
- Perkins Pier Bathroom remodel has started new lighting , wainscoting and painting.

Overseeing the bonfire at Highlight



Replacing lights at 645 Pine gas canopy



Cemetery Program

- In the month of January Cemetery staff did not sell any new lots for burial at Lakeview Cemetery
- In the month of January Cemetery staff performed 2 cremation burials and 2 full burials
- Continued burial card entry in Pontem includes research into actual lot ownership, correct names of the deceased, and updating maps and logging information in Pontem. We have completed entry through "WRIGHT."
- Researched multiple lots for inquiring families and grave researchers
- Performed equipment maintenance
- Performed grounds maintenance at Lakeview, Elmwood and Greenmount Cemeteries
- Staff removed remaining encampment items from Elmwood Avenue Cemetery with the assistance of Grounds Staff and Urban Park Rangers
- Continued policy review of monument regulations.
- Created cemeteries@burlingtonvt.gov email address to streamline communications with Funeral homes, monument dealers, and general public.
- Updated all forms and handouts to include new cemeteries email address

Wildlife at Lakeview Cemetery



- Worked on GIS mapping of Section 5
- Exterior repair work on office building began.



Exploring stormwater lines at Lakeview Cemetery (pictures above)

Grounds Maintenance Program

- Performed daily trash/cleaning of all parks
- Performed playground inspections
- Performed playground maintenance
- Performed equipment maintenance
- Supported Park Rangers
- Grounds crew teamed with DPW to clean up Battery Park extension
- Responded to VUEWORKS as needed
- Continued clearing fence lines of brush and tree overgrowth.
- Plowed and salted all city parks as needed.
- Repaired standard equipment
- Flooded Starr Farm Park rink and Roosevelt Park rink



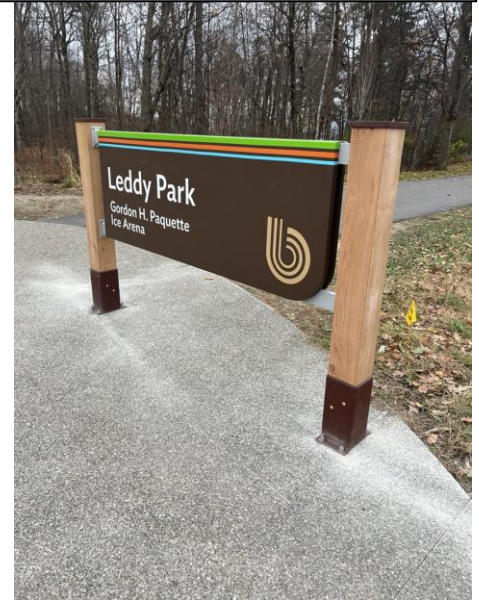
Starr Farm skating rink

Planning Division Update

- Projects Progressing:
 - **Accessibility to Parks:** Project funded and led by CCRPC to examine access to Burlington parks. Funded by transportation dollars.

- **Calahan Park Sidepath:** Under Contract. Project kicking off very soon!
- **Champlain Street Park Renovations:** BPRW staff working with contractors on finalizing details of the playground to be more inclusive. Construction anticipated to start in early Spring 2024.
- **Dewey Park Refresh:** BPRW are supporting final steps towards the installation of the Embrace & Belonging Monument coming summer 2024 to Dewey Park.
- **Leddy Park Comprehensive Plan:** BPRW Staff working with consultants to wrap up final report of the plan. The final plan will be presented at the February Parks Commission Meeting.
Leddy Park North Gully Stormwater Study: Consultants have completed data collection and site analysis of the larger neighborhood watershed that ends at the North Gully to identify ways to slow the flow and reduce sediment ending in the lake. Discussions with DPW Stormwater about potential green infrastructure sites throughout the subwatershed.
- **Oakledge for All Universal Access:** BPRW and designers Groundview have proposed solutions to the slide entry to Oakledge for All and the Burlington Accessibility Advisory Committee (BACA) and will move towards procurement soon.
- **Roosevelt Park Comprehensive Plan:** BPRW staff continue to work on increasing diversity of the CAC and attendance at the public meetings to be representative of the neighborhood. (Ongoing)
- **Schifilliti Path:** Construction Summer 2024.
- **Voices of St. Joseph Orphanage Memorial:** On track for installation in 2025; working on permitting and coordinating with the Greenway connection from Kieslich with Cambrian Rise.

New sign at Leddy Arena



Draft Tactile Map for the Waterfront (Penny for Parks Community Request)

Projects Starting Soon:

- **127 Path Feasibility Study:** Project funded and to be led by CCRPC to review access and state of the path. Scope of work being drafted.

Projects supporting other divisions/ departments: (abbreviated)

- Barge Canal Reuse Planning
- Battery Street Corridor Study Dredging of the Marinas
- Boathouse Feasibility Study
- Frame Phase 2
- Great Streets/Main Streets Playground Equipment and Compliance
- South End Planning

Waterfront Division Update

- **Park Ranger Program**
 - Working with all parties, HR and City Colleagues to navigate how to best support this program. Attention is on safety, training, goals, City role within Safety & Services. The Program requires a deeper support system and funding to remain successful, with dedicated Management.
 - Rangers continue to patrol the Parks, assist in encampment item removal and storage and cataloging current conditions in each park.
- **Campground & Beaches**
 - Campground Reservations for the 2024 season are opening up based on a rolling schedule, starting January 3rd reservations for July will begin.
 - We are shifting to off season projects:
 - Address the failing concrete floor of the wood room with PFP funds
 - Upgrade the conditions of the main Campground bathroom, as it is currently below our standards.
 - Install gutters on the Office building, this is scheduled for April.
 - If available funds, install a shed to store our golf carts and landscaping equipment to reduce theft and wear and tear.
 - Our firewood supplier of over 10 years has announced he will be retiring after this season so we have begun looking for a new supplier.
- **Marina**
 - Seasonal boater contracts went out through Dockwa in January. Dockwa allows for contracts to be signed, paid for and allows boaters to upload the required insurance and registration documentation all in one place.
 - Significant time was spent drafting the new Spirit of Ethan Allen contract which was sent to Spirit of Ethan Allen owner, Mike Shea, in early January.
 - The January Waterfront Action Group meeting was held in the Wakefield Room at the Boathouse. Discussion focused on the Battery Park Extension encampment and Malik Mines, Ward 3 City Council Candidate was there for a meet and greet and to answer questions from WAG members.
- **Parking**
 - A new sign design project is underway to promote better awareness of parking methods, including Park Mobile and Kiosk options at Perkins Pier, North Beach, Oakledge and the Coast Guard Lot. New signage is being designed and will be put in place this spring to increase revenue collection.
- **Events**
 - All 2023 Events have concluded!
 - Our proposed 5% rate increase for renting Waterfront Park for all events passed through the Commission and will go in effect for this next season.

Adult cooking class with Mulu!



Recreation Division Update

Recreation Programs & Camps

- Staff are busy preparing for Winter Break Camps and programs. We are offering a licensed childcare camp at the

Miller Center, a full day skating camp at Leddy and a full day of Wunderle Circus Camp at CP Smith. All of these camps are at or near capacity.

- BPRW Summer Camps registration went LIVE on February 1st for Burlington residents only. In the first 48 hours we filled over a dozen camps and programs and took in \$252,761 in registration fees!!!
- BPRW staff implemented a new dance program for AALV youth participants held by a new instructor, and longtime AALV staff and participant, Arbai Muhina, of 'Afro Bai'. The classes are running ten weeks through mid-February.
- Bolton Ski and Ride Program is off to a great start. Session 1 is ending in early February and session 2 is filled with 80 participants!!
- New classes at the Miller Center and the ONE Center include: Fly tying basics, Restorative/Gentle Yoga and afterschool pickleball for kids
- Ongoing classes at Miller and the ONE Center include: Line Dancing, Tai Chi, Balance & Mobility with the YMCA, ASL, North End Yoga and Miller Center Playgroup

CORE Adult Center

- The CORE Adult Center offered a variety of programs in January, these included: Chair Yoga, painting, sewing and a drama class through Very Merry Theatre that culminated in a wonderful performance.
- CORE Adult Center January field trips included visits to area restaurants and shopping trips to Walmart, Big Lots and area grocery stores.
- Upcoming adult and senior adult programs: AARP Smart Driving, Ethiopian and Eritrean Cooking Classes, Fly Tying Classes, ASL Sign Language Courses and Wilderness First Aid.



Recreation Events

- BPRW partnered with the Old East End Coalition to offer a Winterlude Winter event on Saturday, February 3rd. The lack of snow prevented folks from X-C skiing snowshoeing and sledding but there was great live music from Sambatucada, Brass Balagan, and Music by Lola. The community came together to offer great food and warm cider, a firepit to keep folks warm and assorted games and activities for families and community members.
- Our department events team is working closely with Burlington City Arts and the Church Street Marketplace in preparation for the BTV Total Eclipse Event taking place on April 8th. Burlington is in the "Path of Totality" for this rare astronomical event, and we are expecting tens of thousands of visitors. We are planning entertainment and food trucks at Battery Park, Waterfront Park, City Hall Park and Roosevelt Park. Many of our other parks are designated viewing sites. The BTV Total Eclipse Event team is working with BPD, BFD, BPW, UVM and local transportation companies to create safety, traffic and parking plans for the day.

Athletics

- The Melanie Davidian womxn's basketball league playoffs begin, with the quarterfinals on February 11, semifinals on February 18, and finals on March 3.

- Womxn's indoor soccer (session 2) is taking place on Sunday evenings at the Miller Center. Session 2 began on January 28 and will go until mid-March. We are full with 20 participants and have a waitlist!
- Adult pickleball clinics are being offered on Tuesday evenings and Saturday afternoons throughout the winter. Pickleball ambassador Chris Tudor is instructing all clinics (beginner, low intermediate, high intermediate.)
- The Youth Basketball League regular season will end on February 10. The basketball season will end on February 17 with jamborees and tournaments. BPRW will be hosting the annual CVRA grade 5-6 tournament at Hunt, Miller, and CORE gyms with a record 24 teams participating! The tournament will take place on February 16-17.

Leddy Arena Programs

- Skating lessons and open skating continue to be popular activities at Leddy Arena. Most of our beginner and intermediate skating lessons are full or nearly full.
- Staff are busy preparing for the Leddy Arena Winter Vacation Camp that takes place next month.

Recreation Facilities Division Update

Leddy Arena

- Scott Hannigan, Leddy Arena's Customer Service Associate, will be awarded Bellcate School's Community Spirit Award for his work supporting their students in their skating program at the rink. According to their award notification Scott has developed a great working relationship "going above and beyond to support the school, the staff, and most of all, our students. Because of your relationship with Bellcate, our students are better equipped to meet their academic, therapeutic, and transition goals." He will be recognized at their awards ceremony on February 22. Great work and congratulations, Scott!
- Leddy staff met to review recommendations made in our consultant's Mechanical Integrity Inspection and Hazard Process Analysis. The next step will be to follow up with the consultants to confirm our understanding of their recommendations and priorities and then to start the planning process for implementing the numerous improvements in their reports. While some of the recommendations are inexpensive or minor (improved signage, e.g.), others will require a significant capital investment (e.g., upgrading the ventilation system in the mechanical room). We will continue to update the Commission as these tasks are undertaken.
- January is exceedingly busy at the rink - our longest scheduled day this month is 5:30am-12:30am (19 hours) while the shortest is 7:30am-10:30pm (15 hours). Our schedule includes 11 high school games, 9 junior hockey games, as well as numerous youth hockey, figure skating and private group rentals and a City of Burlington employee skate, sponsored by the Wellness Committee.

Miller Center

- January Miller Center building projects included installation of a new office safe, replacement of a hot water heater in the Kids Room, repairs to a heater serving the locker rooms, wiring the building for security cameras, cleaning out and organizing the supply closet and repairs to our portable sound system.
- If necessary, the Miller Center will once again be an emergency overnight warming shelter this winter. Staff have met with CVOEO who will be managing the shelter, as well as meetings with other partners on planning and implementation, including Red Cross, CEDO, various State departments, Burlington Fire and Police Departments and more. Opening a 100 person shelter on a day or so notice is an enormous lift, we are proud to be part of the effort.

- January 25 shelter reservations open up, which will be coordinated by Candice Holbrook starting this year. On February 1 camp registrations open for Burlington residents. Even though it's still winter out, the summer storm hits Miller in the coming weeks!

CORE

- Special events at the ONE Center in January include roller skating nights, BHS Talent Show, Winooski Parks & Rec basketball, a food promotion & release event, a coalition meeting on Palestine, as well as the monthly NPA community dinner and meeting.
- Our Site Coordinator, Migmar Tsering, will be out on leave for a month beginning January 25. Thank you to Jon Sumner, Gary Rogers, Mulu Tewelde and Gwyneth Merriman for helping to cover tasks at the ONE Center in Migmar's absence.
- January projects included meeting with CAPRA teams, VRPA budget review and development of fy 25 budget, CivicRec training, and NRPA Scholarships & Awards committee work.

Admin Division Update

Marketing & Communications

- Worked with Rec team to develop a suite of print and digital products to promote summer camps for 2024, including: updated website: www.summerbtvparks.com, North Ave News insert, digital programs grid sorted by date and age, social media campaign, ads, school flyers, and posters.
- Working on creating new signage for cemetery, parking, beaches, wayfinding, native plantings, and more.
- With great help from Meghan O'Daniel, we moved the banner program applications into Civic Rec.
- Rob Peterson and the Waterfront division have made a significant progress on updating the swim water public reporting system and tying us into the State of Vermont's reporting system. The new system allows staff to report a beach closing on the spot using a mobile device, creating a live report that can be viewed online, and streamlines the public communication process greatly. Thank you Rob and Waterfront team for this amazing work!
- Jules is working on eclipse public comms as part of the Obscura eclipse comms team led by BCA.

Director January Highlights

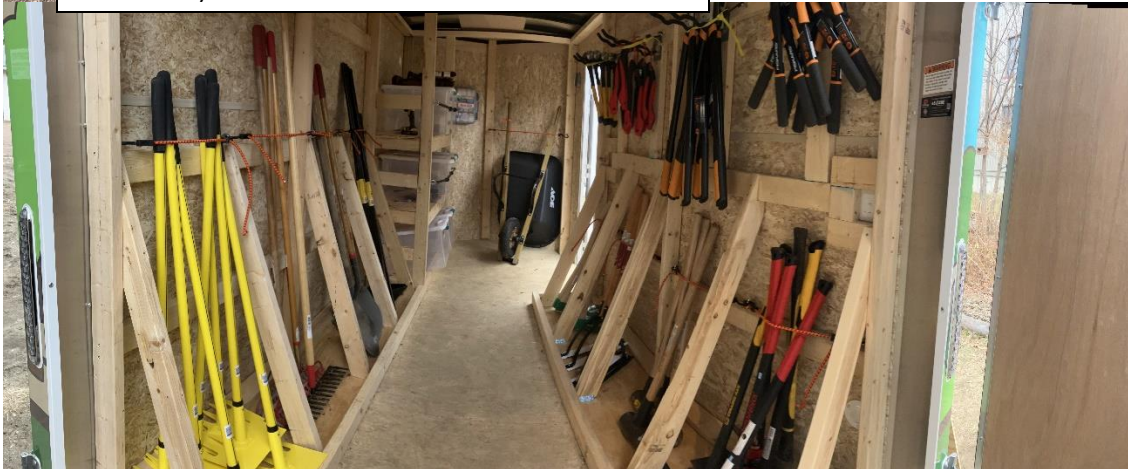
- Working on the next phase of the Park Ranger program
- Uploaded FY25 budget worksheet and scheduled budget sessions with division leads
- Supported efforts with the Battery Park clean-up
- Participated in a department head Mayor transition retreat
- Working on policies and exploring principles and practices as suggested by a new staff member
- Untangling (tangling?) credit card expenses for our department and ensuring they get charged to the correct areas (significant costs)

Commission notes

- No additional notes



Conservation team with a contractor rebuilt the path from Battery Park extension, picture below is their new tool trailer and they maintain the very popular skating trails at Arthur Park (sign off of North Ave)





Picture above are many city staff from many departments who enjoyed a skate at Leddy Arena, sponsored by the City Wellness program.



CORE Adult Center Thespians practicing



The work space at the Red Stone Cottage is coming together!

2024 Grade 5-6 Basketball Tournament

February 16-17 at Hunt Middle School & Miller Center

Tournament Director: Jen Cotton, 617.448.3666

TEAM	COACH	TEAM	COACH
Burlington Thunder	J. Lucey/A. Hawkins-Hilke	Colchester Hurricanes	A. Rea/M. Ellingson
Burlington Warriors	Tyran Spauve	Colchester Bruins	J. Burroughs/B. Phelps
Burlington Kings	Cormac Walsh	Colchester Wolverines	J. Hayes/C. Helfrich
Burlington Celtics	Darcy McDonough	Colchester Bears	B. Gruda/J. Kelliher
Burlington 76ers	J. King/E. Kranichfeld	S. Burlington #1	D. Dailey
Shelburne #1	J. Latka/A. Cook	S. Burlington #2	I. Sutherland
Shelburne #2	A. Vanslette/J. Canu	S. Burlington #3	TJ Donovan
Shelburne #3	J. Beaudry/K. Carnevale	Essex #1	J. Haven/M. Fuller
Winooski	P. Lindholm	Essex #2	P. Morgan/I. Maddix
Hinesburg	J. Lucier/B. Mott	Williston #1	B. Gilbert
Charlotte #1	C. Kanner	Williston #2	T. Sheehan
Charlotte #2	L. Trono	Mount Mansfield	C. Knudsen

MILLER CENTER

Friday Games – February 16th

- Game 1**
5:00 Colchester Bears vs South Burlington #2
Game 3
7:00 Williston #2 vs Shelburne #2

Hunt Middle School, 1364 North Ave:
 (Turn off North Ave onto Gosse Court on left)

MILLER CENTER

Friday Games – February 16th

- Game 2**
6:00 Winooski vs Charlotte #2
Game 4
8:00 Mount Mansfield vs Hinesburg

Miller Center, 130 Gosse Court:
 (Turn off North Ave onto Gosse Court to end)

HUNT SCHOOL BRACKET

Saturday Games – February 17th

- Game 5**
8:00 Colchester Bruins vs. Burlington Kings
Game 7
9:00 Essex #2 vs Shelburne #1
Game 9
10:00 Winner Game 5 vs South Burlington #3
Game 11
11:00 Winner Game 3 vs Burlington Warriors
Game 13
12:00 Winner Game 7 vs Burlington Celtics
Game 15
1:00 Winner Game 1 vs Charlotte #1
Quarterfinal Game 1
2:00 Winner Game 11 vs Winner Game 9
Quarterfinal Game 3
3:00 Winner Game 15 vs Winner Game 13
Semifinal Game 1
4:00 Winner Q-final Game 3 vs Winner Q-final Game 1

MILLER CENTER BRACKET

Saturday Games – February 17th

- Game 6**
8:00 Essex #1 vs Burlington 76ers
Game 8
9:00 Colchester Wolverines vs Shelburne #3
Game 10
10:00 Winner Game 6 vs Colchester Hurricanes
Game 12
11:00 Winner Game 2 vs Williston #1
Game 14
12:00 Winner Game 8 vs South Burlington #1
Game 16
1:00 Winner Game 4 vs Burlington Thunder
Quarterfinal Game 2
2:00 Winner Game 12 vs Winner Game 10
Quarterfinal Game 4
3:00 Winner Game 16 vs Winner Game 14
Semifinal Game 2
4:00 Winner Q-final Game 4 vs Winner Q-final Game 2
Finals Game 1
5:00 Winner Semifinal Game 1 vs Winner Semifinal Game 2 @ Miller Center

Tournament is a single elimination format. Games will be 5 minute stop-time quarters. We will be keeping team & individual fouls and shoot bonus free throws. Player-to-player defense only. Teams are allowed to press in the final two minutes of the 4th quarter, until leading by 10 points or more. No trapping defenses or double teaming allowed, however, help defense is allowed (referees discretion.) TWO timeouts per half. All coaches need to abide by CVRA equal playing time guidelines. Referees and tournament officials will monitor playing time.

CVRA Code of Conduct for Spectators, Coaches, Players & Staff

- All officials and referees decisions are FINAL. Spectators are not allowed to speak to officials. Coaches may talk to officials to get clarification of a call, but are prohibited from arguing calls.
- All cheering and instruction from the sideline must be positive.
- Coaches must adhere to all BPRW rules and regulations regarding playing time for participants. Coaches must make effort to ensure all kids get equal playing time.
- Under NO circumstances are coaches allowed on the court unless called onto the court by official (i.e. injured player). NO SPECTATORS OR PARENTS ON COURT.
- Decisions made by BPRW Site Directors and Athletics Coordinator are final. All concerns and complaints should be brought to directors and/or coordinator in a non-confrontational manner.
- All adults involved in the program need to model good behavior.
- BPRW staff will ask spectators or coaches to leave the court if they are not abiding by this code of conduct.



2024 GRADE 5-6 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

HUNT MIDDLE SCHOOL

(highlighted games are being held @ Miller Center)

