

**MEETING WARNING**  
**Parks Commission**  
**Tuesday May 21, 2019 / 5:30PM**  
**Meeting Location: Montpelier Police Station Conference Room**

Commissioners: Dan, Carolyn, Shelby, Kassia, Fab  
Staff: Alec, Geoff, Bill Fraser

**Meeting Agenda**

5:35 Call meeting to order

Consent Agenda approved by unanimous consent

- Approve April meeting minutes
- Approve May meeting agenda
- Approve 6/2 Capital Community Church old pavilion reservation

5:35 Comments from the public - none

5:40 City strategic planning update (Kassia, Alec, Geoff)

City Council and staff met in early May to discuss the FY20 strategic plan, selecting a handful of new citywide priorities. The Greenprint was suggested, but not selected as a new priority. New priorities that overlap with Parks' goals are development of Sabin's Field (categorized under Housing) and Vermont River Conservancy's Face the River campaign. Kassia, Geoff, and Alec were in attendance and made a case for parks' goals.

There was discussion about how to intersect with other community boards and staff departments to ensure Parks' goals are interwoven with other city priorities, and advocate for parks not just as large open space, but also as greenways and connectors between neighborhoods. Primary current concern is Sabin's Field. Need to establish ways to encourage setting aside land for parks, as opposed to requiring it.

In follow-up, Kassia, Geoff, Dan, and Carolyn will make plans to meet with city staff with overlapping goals, particularly Kevin (planning), Jack (City Council and housing), and Mike Miller (planning).

5:45 Greenprint Opportunity: VCFA land sale

- Vermont College of Fine Art is selling 18 acres behind the college, and adjacent to Sabin's Field. Currently, the public crosses this property to

access Sabin's Field, making it a lynchpin for access to future parkland if Sabin's becomes a combination of housing and park development.

Kassia will ask city offices for zoning maps showing which areas of the 18-acres for sale are "developable" and which are stream buffers, etc.

Geoff and Kassia will connect with the college to ask about conservation opportunities during the sale.

5:55

#### Staff Updates

- North Branch Phase II trail construction: Alec met with Brooke of Sinuosity. Much of the 2018 flagging was destroyed over the winter, so he'll need to reflag it. He'll let staff know when he's out on the trail, and construction won't begin until August 2019. Priority will be on the lower path (more family friendly), with more challenging trails constructed later.

6:09

Dan moved that we move to executive session to discuss personnel. Fabienne seconded. Executive session began at 6:09 and ended at 8:00.

8:00

#### Adjournment