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TOWN OF BURLINGTON  
Transportation Study Committee (TSC) Minutes

March 3, 2021

**Call the Meeting to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm via Webex

**Voting Members Present:** Millie Nash (MN), Jen Gelinas (JG), David VanCamp (DVC), Patricia O'Brien (POB), Eileen Sickler (ES), Myrna Saltman (MS)

**Non-Voting Members Present:** John Strauss (JS),

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**1. Minutes**

Motion: MN made a motion to accept the amended minutes from February 17 as well as accepting the minutes as written for February 24, 2021

Approved: The motion was unanimously approved

**2. Guest Comments/Observations**

- CH said there are approximately 1300 veterans in town with 70% over 60 years old.
- CH wish list is to have Vets wait in the COA building and use it as a central pick up and drop off location. He believes having this availability (post-COVID) would be useful as Vets could more likely get a ride there and use the resources at COA while waiting for transportation.
- CH doesn't know what the ride system is anymore and while he knows COA has a van, he doesn't know how it operates.
- DVC asked about ADA compliance related to transportation. CH will look into the town's compliance and update our committee
- Transportation budget for Veterans Department is \$0
- MM said there are mobility challenges with the Disability Access community for transportation. She suggested a screen reader would be helpful.
- MM's wish list was being able to have door to door service at a reasonable cost.
- Budget for Disability Access is \$400 – the group goes to BOS and asks for the money from parking tickets issued for handicap parking violation.
- SM said there is \$250,000 set aside every two years for new sidewalk construction which is funded from Chapter 90 monies but could be in jeopardy due to effects from pandemic.
- ES asked about Safe Routes to School Program, a state program for which the town has not joined. The School Committee determined it was the Town's responsibility.
- SM mentioned pavements on Cambridge St and while it is a state road, he wasn't sure if or when the town pursued better sidewalks with the State.
- SM, also former Chair of the Sidewalk Committee, believes pavements are an extension of recreation as they are needed to get to parks safely.
- BE responded that sidewalks were the most important request from citizens
- BE wish list is for a wheelchair accessible van. ES asked if he was aware that the COA has such a van. He was and said he would speak with COA Director
- PO asked if there was collaboration between the Rec Dept and the Schools and while there hasn't been, he would be open to it.
- DVC asked about bicycle lanes and signs. While the streets fall under the purview of DPW, he said signs indicating bike activity would be helpful
- BE mentioned Overlook where the Rec Departments currently has our maintenance shed. There is over 20 acres in the area that he would like to see as open space programming



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- BE said the Burlington Players are a good tenant and would like to keep them after their lease expires June 2021. Some of our committee members were not aware of the Players which suggested the town could do more to promote local theatre.

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### **3. General Discussion**

- The committee discussed the BAR (Burlington Against Racism) survey and suggested a few changes.
- The committee has received about 230 responses from the questionnaire. Jen will speak with Amy Warfield, Town Clerk, to confirm the questionnaire was sent to all Town Meeting Members.
- Committee discussed the draft May TM report prepared by DVC which we believe should be part of the Town Meeting backup materials

### **4. Assignment**

- The committee should review the draft May TM report and be ready to comment and offer suggestions at the next meeting

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### **5. Adjournment and Next Meeting Date/Time**

- The meeting adjourned at 8:56 with all in favor
- Next meeting date is Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at 7 pm via Webex

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Eileen Sickler, Recording Secretary*

**Approved:** Unanimously, March 10, 2021