

enVision Montpelier – Governance Committee Meeting Minutes: Sept. 25, 2007

The meeting was convened at 5:30. Those present included: Marge Power, David Borgendale, Chris Reardon, Anita Ancel, Gwendolyn Hallsmith, and Jackie LeBlanc.

Meeting Agendas

The group discussed possible people and organizations to present to the Governance Committee on the Learning Objective topics.

Self-Determination:

- Deborah Markowitz or Kathy DeWolfe
- Representatives from the Parties: Democratic – Jack McCullough, Republican – Ruth Guile, and Progressive – John Bloch
- League of Women Voters – Katherine Rader
- Burlington Neighborhood Planning Association – Yiota Ahladas
- Chair of Brattleboro Selectboard
- City Councilors
- Schools – Lyman Castle, Student Council Representatives

Equity

- Immigrant Population – Larry Meyers
- Central Vermont Community Action – Hal Cohen

Access

- Vermont Center for Independent Living
- Vermont Protection and Advocacy: Ed Paquin, Peter Youngbear, Wendy Burghart

Conflict Resolution

- Community Justice Center
- Police

Meeting Dates

The following dates were decided upon for future Governance Committee meetings:

- NO MEETING OCTOBER 4
- Oct 23, 5:30pm at City Hall
- Nov 27, 5:30pm at City Hall
- Dec 18, 5:30pm at City Hall
- Jan 22, 5:30pm at City Hall
- Feb 26, 5:30pm at City Hall

Learning Objectives

The question “How can we make decisions in alignment with our long-term objectives?” was added to the Learning Objectives. One idea for how to assure that long-term

objectives are met was to have a city official whose responsibility is to monitor the compliance of new plans with the Master Plan. People who are physically or mentally challenged was added as a group to consider.

Structure of City Government

The structure of city, county, and regional government was discussed. It was noted that there is little regional involvement by the City of Montpelier and the structure of city government is very fragmented. Possible ideas for a less fragmented structure included a charter amendment, or having a Representative Town Meeting.