

From: Jeffrey Severson
Sent: Tuesday, October 10, 2017 9:16 PM
To: Matthew Moore
Subject: Open meeting law compliance

Good evening Matt,

I recently became aware of a violation of Vermont's open meeting law, which occurred at the January 9, 2017 meeting of the Burlington Conservation Board (BCB). I am writing to inform you, as Chair of the BCB, of the open meeting law violation, and to request a specific cure for the open meeting law violation.

Specifically, the January 9, 2017 meeting of the BCB violated the Vermont's open meeting law requirement that public body meetings be open to members of the public at all times of the meeting, apart from during an executive session. The open meeting law requires that the doors to the building where a public meeting (e.g. BCB meeting) is held, and the doors to the meeting room, must remain open at all times, excluding legally-held executive sessions. A public body can take no action unless it is taken at a meeting that is open to the public at all times. The January 9, 2017 meeting of the BCB was held in the Burlington Public Library, where the doors to the building were locked at 6 PM, thereby preventing the public from entering the building to attend the BCB meeting after that time.

To cure the open meeting law violation, I request the following:

- For any BCB project review and related actions taken at the January 9, 2017 meeting (e.g. Burlington Town Center Project), conduct a review of the most current version of the project at a meeting held in compliance with Vermont's open meeting law.
- Ratify other non-project related BCB actions taken at the January 9, 2017 meeting, at a meeting held in compliance with Vermont's open meeting law.
- Remove from the public record any subsequent communications made in regard to the January 9, 2017 meeting of the BCB (e.g. letter from Brian Dunkiel dated January 30, 2017 on behalf of Burlington Town Center, in regard to the minutes of the January 9, 2017 BCB meeting).

I appreciate your attention to this matter.

Best regards,

Jeff Severson

Please note that this communication and any response to it will be maintained as a public record and may be subject to disclosure under the Vermont Public Records Act.