**DRAFT SEVEDS Board minutes**

**June 20, 2019**

**3PM BDCC**

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In attendance: Josh Druke (phone), Drew Richards, Ashley Havreluk, Meg Streeter, Avery Schwenk, Bob Stevens, Susan Westa, Adam Grinold, Gary Fox, Randy Capitani (phone), Mary Ann Kristiansen, Konstantin VonK

Absent: Bethany LeClair, Paul Carroccio, Luke Stafford, Bill Colvin

SeVEDS Welcome & Gathering – Meg remarked on the tremendous success of the Summit and congratulated Sarah for all the work and programming which went into the day.

Report out of Executive Committee (Meg & Avery):

Business

* Meg made a motion to approve the minutes of April 18th seconded by Avery – Vote Unanimous
* Chris Campany has a standing meeting conflict and has sent a resignation note asking the board to consider appointing sue Westa in his stead. Bob made a motion to accept Chris Campany’s resignation seconded by Avery. Vote Unanimous
* Meg moved to elect Sue Westa to board term ending in 2021 (filling out Susan McMahon’s term) seconded by Avery. Vote unanimous
* Bob moved to re-elect Bill Colvin, Gretchen Havreluk, Josh Druke, Gary Fox, MaryAnn Kristiansen to three years terms ending in 2022, seconded by Meg. Vote: Unanimous
* Bobbi presented a level funded draft budget for 2020. We are seeing 12500 reduced funding from ACCD. Meg moved to approve the 2020 budget.
* Bobbi will bring back a service agreement, an operating reserve policy and y/e financials to the July meeting.
* MaryAnn asked to see the 2018 numbers and projected actuals in the budget docs which Bobby agreed to do for next meeting.

Updates

* **RED Updates –** Bob updated the board on the Putnam Project closure in Bennington. The project will be major input into the downtown. The Putnam Group has already started on Phase II. There are 40 mixed rate housing units in the building and about ¾ are currently rented.
* **YP & Summit Updates –** Sarahtold the board that approximately 275 attendees went to this years Summit including 20 day of sign ups.The eventwas supported by approximately $15,000 in sponsorships and additional $10,000 in kind commitments. The Young Professionals now count 100 official “members”
* **From Board members:**
  + Adam highlighted the 500K EPA award for clean up at the Long Falls site as well as a million-dollar award from NBRC for a co-gen regional facility.The project directly related to Jennifer’s work on the Ecovation Hub which is a project that stemmed from the 2014 CEDS.
  + MaryAnn – Radically Rural conference happening Sept 19/20 – last year 541 attendees from 21 different states.
  + Laura briefed the board on the passage of H.513, a bill to extend rural broadband through the empowerment of local communities with technical, planning and financial assistance.
  + Sue noted that WRC had received a 500K in assessment funds from the EPA to extend their longstanding successful program.
  + Gary noted that the WayPoint Center in Bellows Falls had been awarded funding to install level 2 and level 3 chargers at the WayPoint Center in downtown Bellows Falls.

Discussion of

* **Strategic Priorities –** This is a lot! Laura – this is my understanding from notes and conversation translation consider it a transition document which ties the 2014 and 2019 CEDS together. These are effectively the marching orders for BDCC. Board would like to see version where new CEDS is mapped to existing programs. Bob says don’t want to wait for the next budget, lets see where we are and go seek funds.
* **Board members –** Discussion about new board members generally, missing a ew public sector and Northern County
* **Board Retreat – SeVEDS Next Ten Years –** Board agreed to hold an extended Retreat in late September early October. The atmosphere is different then when SeVEDS initially formed – we know more, we do more. In the beginning there was frustration that we were operating at a high level conceptual place, and perhaps we are now focusing too much on administration and details of programs. There is a need for the board to be thinking ahead about the next ten years and what the region needs to ee happening in order to implement the CEDs and advance the region. Meg, Avery and Kvonk will work as subcommittee with staff. MaryAnn would like the Retreat to include a high level history of SeVEDS

Upcoming Date

* **July 18th**