**SeVEDS Minutes July 24, 2023**

**3:00 - 4:30**

**In person at the BDCC and virtually on** [**ZOOM**](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85044800805?pwd=eEZYMmF0b0VpWDZ4aXg1eU5Gakl4QT09)

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85044800805?pwd=eEZYMmF0b0VpWDZ4aXg1eU5Gakl4QT09>

In attendance: Avery Schwenk, Adam Grinold, Wendy Harrison, Kat McGraw, Peter Carvell, Sue Westa, Gary Fox, Drew Richards, Meg Streeter, MaryAnn Kristiansen, Samba Diallo. Bobbi Kilburn, Laura Sibilia

Missing: Bill Colvin, Keith Marks, Tom Cain

Adam moved to elect a slate of Executive Committee Officers: Wendy Harrison, Chair, Meg Streeter, Vice Chair, Gary Fox Secretary and Bill Colvin Treasurer. Peter Seconded the motion VOTE: unanimous.

Wendy thanked the board for electing her and moved to the remaining business of the meeting.

Kat moved to approve the minutes from 4/23, seconded by MaryAnne VOTE: unanimous.

Bobbi reviewed SeVEDS Unaudited Financial Statements as of 06.30.2023 and the status of the FY’23 Audit - Bobbi

**Adam reviewed the** Regional Economic Activity Report and reported that the BDCC was reviewing and updating their bylaws.

Meg reviewed the Regional Real Estate Report for Windham County. Wendy asked if the next report could also include Bennington County.

Laura review 2024 CEDS development plan and Zone CEDS Committee – SeVEDS Board members plus members from Bennington and others in Windham County are on the Zone CEDS Committee. Application has been submitted to EDA and project is planned to take place in Nov/Dec.

Kat asked us to contemplate “What If?” as part of the CEDS process – a consideration of what might happen and what we might want to anticipate.

The board discussed the upcoming calendar and meetings in August and September. With recent flooding events, the board was interested in learning about some resilience projects that have been undertaken and how they’ve worked. There was also interested in hearing from the Army Corp of Engineers on Dams in the region. Wendy will reach out to her contacts.

The board discussed the 2023 SE Vermont Leadership Award: which will be given out at the October Annual Meeting. Drew asked for a list of previous winners to be circulated.

**SoVermont Leadership Award for Excellence in Economic Development.** This award is presented annually in recognition of sustained and effective efforts to mobilize leadership in the development of programs and projects, planning and designing of new and creative economic development activities and deep commitment as a leader and advocate for economic development in Southern Vermont. Every year SeVEDS looks specifically for an individual or organization who has demonstrated consistent, exemplary performance in the economic development of our region, leading the execution of projects that have significant impact on revitalizing communities, and playing a major role in generating long-term growth and prosperity, improving the regions quality of life and sustaining its quality of place.

FYI:

Annual Meeting - Thursday October 5th, 2023

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm.

Article of Interest:

<https://www.aspeninstitute.org/blog-posts/rural-development-hubs-report/#what>