

SEVEDS Board Meeting Minutes, August 20, 2015 | 2pm-4pm at Bellows Falls Waypoint Center

In Attendance: Luke Stafford, Ariel Brooks, Candace Pearson, Peter Yost, Martin Langeveld, Dutch Walsh, Adam Grinold, Patrick Moreland, Laura Sibilia, Avery Schwenk (via phone), Jill James, Meg Streeter, Susan McMahon

Regrets: Drew Richards, Bob Stevens, Bill Colvin

Acronym Guide:

ACCD: Agency of Commerce and Community Development (VT)

EDA: Economic Development Administration (Federal)

RCDI: Rural Community Development Initiative

The Usual Business (15 min)

- Welcome and Gathering
- Approve Minutes
 - Jill James motions to vote. Martin Langeveld Seconds. Minutes Approved.
- Review and Approve Financials
 - ACCD-everything has transferred to Bobbi, contract is in the mail.
 - Meg Streeter motions to vote. Peter Yost Seconds. Budget Approved
- Fundraising/Grant/Budget
 - Celebration/Announcement of EDA Grant
 - Press Release with Congressionals is coming
 - Announcements will likely occur early-mid September
 - Potential locations for the Press Event
 - Integrated Solar Warehouse
 - Farnum
 - River Garden
 - Hill Top Montessori
 - Algiers Village
 - RCDI Grant
 - Convening and organizing Regional Economic Development organizations to build capacity and leverage relationships to find efficiencies.
 - Link to the Entire Board
 - Look at variance of evaluation criteria across agencies and geographies

CEDS and FY '16 Board Priority Area Updates

- General CEDS -

- CEDS Objective 1: Act Regionally
 - Continue to pursue new meeting places
 - Report on Selectboard Meetings -Alex and Jan
 - **FOR REVIEW** RCDI Submitted : [Southern Vermont Economy Project](#)
 - CEDS Projects for 2015
 - **VOTE NEEDED** [Timeframe, Announcement, Review Committee Nominees](#)
 - Review Committee Nominees-
 - Must communicate intent and degree of work required by Review Committee members
 - Martin suggests separating proposals by industry/sector (or arbitrarily) to create a more easily facilitated and manageable process
 - Necessary to include proper alignment materials
 - Additional Community Members
 - Sarah Newmark
 - Cindy Hayford
 - Brett Morrison
 - Chris Hackett TD Bank North, Bellows Falls per Jill
 - First Quarter of Press Release **begins in July**
 - Susan McMahon motions to vote. Meg Streeter Seconds. Approved.
- CEDS Objective 2: Create an entrepreneurial environment and culture to enhance existing business and grow new business.
 - **VOTE NEEDED** Board 2016 Priority: Approve [Accelerator Steering Committee Profile and Team Development List](#)
 - Have a certain number of board members to sit on the Committee
 - Better connects leadership with core work
 - Martin
 - Chris and/or Avery
 - Patrick Moreland
 - Copy/Edit
 - Periodic Updates from Steering Committee to Board, perhaps through a defined committee chair
 - Preferred to find a mentor related to accelerator

- Peter Yost motions to vote. Jill James Seconds. Approved as amended through discussion.

[Current list of potential Committee members](#)

- CEDS Objective 3: Improve wage parity with the surrounding laborshed
 - Board 2016 Priority: Green Building, Healthcare, Tech Driven Manufacturing
 - **VOTE NEEDED** Approve [Green Building Cluster Leadership Profile and Team Development :List](#)
 - Leading Realty Firm
 - Jon Singer from Tavernier Chocolates
 - Merchants Bank
 - Windham Regional Commission
 - Yestermorrow Design School-Kate Stevenson
 - Jayson Dunbar-Dunbar Properties
 - Meg Moves. Susan Seconds. Approved.
 - **VOTE NEEDED** Approve [RFQ for Accelerator Feasibility and Green Building Cluster Analysis](#)
 - Include terms/process of negotiated participation.
 - Postpone until the 18th of September
 - Create a scoring sheet
 - Creation of a scoring/selection committee
 - Adam and Susan will collaborate
 - Dutch Walsh
 - Bill Colvin
 - Bob Stevens
 - Martin Langeveld motions to vote. Dutch Walsh Seconds. Peter Yost Abstains. Approved.
 - **FOR REVIEW** Healthcare Cluster [Meeting highlights and next steps](#)
 - Focuses primarily on Workforce Needs and Institutional Health
 - Board 2016 Priority: Workforce Development and Internship Program
- CEDS Objective 4: increase the size and quality of the workforce
 - Board 2016 Priority: Workforce Development and Internship Program

- At Entergy
 - WF Development Speakers/ Themes
 - [Southeastern Vermont Economic Development Leadership Award](#) nominee recommendations (Laura)
 - Job Creators vs. Workforce Development Specialists
 - Provide short synopsis about candidates to better inform voting during September Meeting
- Discussion of Nominees For Consideration
- 501c3 Status Update (Adam/Laura)
 - Continuing to Move Forward
 - First Impressions Program (Ariel) (*any updates?*)

Next Regular Board Meeting will be on Friday, September 18th 4pm-6pm. in Wilmington, in the Municipal Building Conference Room.

Meeting Adjourned.