

Executive Committee

MINUTES: Tuesday, May 16, 2017; Time: 9:00 AM

Location: Hartford Town Office, 1st Floor, Room #2

Executive Committee Members in Attendance: Jerry Fredrickson, Bob Flint, Thomas Kennedy, Bob Haynes, Walter Martone, Kristi Morris

Others in Attendance: Christopher Damiani TRORC, Lorelee Morrow TRORC, Mark Condon, GMEDC

Bob Haynes: **Meeting called to order** at 9:03 A.M.

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** Bob Haynes
2. **Approval of November 14, 2016 Minutes**

MOTION:

- Kristi M. moved to approve the minutes.
- Jerry F. seconded the motion.
- All in favor: motion approved.

3. **FY 17 Grant:**

Lorelee provided a suggestion that we share with the board the progress reports that are sent to EDA. She also mentioned that the website changes are almost complete. It will now be a responsive design (i.e. device-friendly). There was also the addition of a message bar on the top of the page to highlight special topics.

Lorelee brought up that the dashboard data is being expanded. Bob F. mentioned that he has been working on updating some of the info such as Labor Markets, Housing Prices, public assistance, etc.

Lorelee discussed the status of the Creative Network and what its next steps. There will be a big kickoff event at the end of June to both serve as a networking event for creatives as well as provide technical assistance on the Creative Ground database profiles. VT Arts Council funds the administrative person who has been coordinating the local creative network 3CVT. 3CVT is not ready to be a full board but they have developed bylaws.

Bob H. mentioned that he has met with the new director of the Hopkins Center, Mary Lou Aleskie. Opera North has moved their stage making facilities to downtown Windsor and will be moving the performances to a building they are renovating at St. Gaudens.

Bob F. brought up the statistic that 14% of the region is on some form of state public assistance. His office is developing a training program with VTC and funding from DOL as well as looking at wraparound services to tie everything together.

Tom K. said that he has been focusing on providing trainings and working with SWRPC communities on capital budgets to help prioritize on maintenance work and forecast the potential needs of the community. The capital budget also emphasizes on the towns trying to set aside funds as opposed to using bonds to fund town infrastructure projects.

His office is also working on a quick fact sheet for towns focusing on poverty, people and other statistics.

4. **FY 18 Workplan**

Bob F. mentioned that he went to the EDA resilience conference down in Boston last week. One of the speakers Dr. Steven Flynn had a great quote "The importance of harnessing the capabilities of civil society". It helped define how people in this area reacted post Irene. Bob F. added that this next year we should think about resilience in all the work that we do.

5. **Treasurer's Report**

Bob F. distributed the current operating budget. \$52,500 dollars has been spent so far.

MOTION:

- Jerry F. moved to approve the report.
- Walter seconded the motion.
- All in favor: motion approved.

6. **Peer Review**

Loralee stated that peer reviews generally occur once every 3 years. Tom is working with Matthew from EDA on coordinating the peer review in late July. Board members are encouraged to attend the review

7. **Full Board Agenda and Summer Workshop, June 15, 2017 Meeting Discussion**

Bob H. discussed some of the logistics of the meeting. There would be a quick tour of the Northern Stage theatre. Maple Street Caterers will be catering. The panelists will include Andrew Winter (Twin Pines Housing Trust), Josh Hanford (VT Dept of Housing and Community Development), Sarah Carpenter (VHFA), and a representative from Downstreet Housing located in Barre.

8. **Other Business**

None

9. **Adjourn**

MOTION:

- Bob F. moved to adjourn.
- Bob H. seconded the motion.
- All in favor: motion approved.