

Waterbury Long Term Community Recovery
Steering Committee
January 21, 2013
Minutes

Present: S. Lotspeich, B. Shepeluk, D. Winham, B. Farr, M. Luce, R. Ellis, M Callan, N. Howell

The meeting was called to order at 5:36 pm.

1. Business Resource Center

Darren Winham provided suggestions for addressing the LTCR Business Resource Center project. He proposes that the Office of the Waterbury Area Development Corporation would provide the services of the Business Resource Center. The Business Resource Center would not be a physical space, rather, an electronic source guide and contact source for Waterbury business development. The Executive Director of the Local Development Corporation will be responsible for maintaining/updating the Business Resource information and being the personal contact for follow through. The information should be posted on the town website as well as the Revitalizing Waterbury website.

It was further noted that the (3) supporting positions identified in the LTCR Business Resource Center project have been identified and are currently underway:

- Long Term Economic Development Director (D. Winham)
- Business Case Manager (Lucinda Newman/CVCAC)
- Grants writer/administration (Eva Loomis, D. Winham, B. Farr, Megan Rivera)

In response to interest identified while developing the LTCR Business Center, D. Winham is researching a shared co-working office space similar to the Montpelier Local 64 program. D. Winham is speaking with the Local 64 founder of the Lars Hasselblad and considering a future USDA RBEG grant application.

The Steering Committee members collectively shared a list of community members that Darren could consider with regard to potential LDC Board of Director candidates.

2. USDA RBEG Grant.

Three projects were discussed with regard to possible USDA RBEG grant applications:

- Extending the Economic Development Specialist position from 18 months to 24 months
- Shared office co-worker space
- Food System development project.

- B. Farr and Megan Rivera have recommended that the RBEG grant is not a strong match for the Economic Development Specialist.

- D. Winham confirmed that he would look at the viability of the RBEG grant for the shared office co-worker space in the future, but is not considering it for the upcoming deadline.

- Eva Loomis and S. Lotspeich have met with Food Development Systems champion Erica Campbell with regard to a food based business network to support Waterbury, connect with the region, and which may include a low/moderate income outreach component. B. Farr and D. Winham will both follow up with Erica/ Jeanne Kirby on the project and possible viability of an RBEG grant opportunity.

3. Waterbury Website. We will change the LTCR contact listing on the Town Website to reflect B. Farr as first-up contact, with R. Ellis as secondary on that list.

4. Project updates:

Municipal Complex.

B. Farr shared that most of her time is being spent on the Municipal Complex project. She reports that Dave Rapaport, Vermont Irene Recovery Director, working with the State is looking at Ladd Hall as the first State Complex building for divestiture, which will initiate issues regarding site control and subdivision.

Black River Design is fully engaged in their work and has included a meeting with Chris Viens and Kim Brown with their design ideas. B. Farr will work on getting M. Callan and architect Chris Alley to share their ideas regarding Wasson Hall with BRD.

Village Flood (Choke) Study. B. Farr is soon to meet with Milone and MacBroom regarding the status of their engineering studies.

R. Ellis has been speaking with ACCD about the frustration with funding for flood studies, as there are no apparent grant funding sources. There has been some discussion at looking at EDA monies for flood studies specific to business and flood economics but ACCD has not gotten firm line on this.

N. Howell made a motion to approve the minutes from January 14, 2013 with the following change to 4th bullet point to read as amended "\$3,000 has been requested from the Town for a consultant to assist in re-writing the Municipal Plan". The motion with amendment was seconded by M. Callan, and passed unanimously.

The next meeting is an All-Champion meeting, Monday, January 28 at the Fire Station. The meeting will start at 5:00 for social networking (with snacks provided) and the meeting will being 5:30 – 6:30 for Project Champion updates.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:38pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Natalie Howell, LTCR Steering Committee Member

Approved on: 1/28/13

Upcoming meetings:

January 28, 2013 from 5:00- 6:30pm at the Fire Station. All-Champions invited.

February 4, 2013 at 5:30 at the Waterbury Congregational Church.