

Waterbury Long Term Community Recovery
February 4, 2013
Minutes

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

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

S. Lotspeich gave an update on the 1/31/13 ACCD Board review meeting. Central Vermont Community Land Trust's affordable housing project received a positive recommendation on their request for \$950,000 of CDBG-DR implementation funds. Please visit http://www.vpr.net/news_detail/97361/waterbury-recovery-efforts-get-1-million-boost/ for more information. A press conference will be held at 2pm on Friday February 15 to celebrate (location TBA). The Federal Emergency Management Agency will respond to State regarding how much money they are giving the State to rebuild the State Office Complex.

An Environmental Protection Agency grant opportunity seems unlikely to be an appropriate fit for Waterbury. Communities present EPA with challenges in the community and they provide assistance. However, Waterbury seems too far along in this process to apply. Mad River Planning was awarded this grant recently and we should find out from them what their experience has been like so far and to see if any results can be applied in Waterbury.

Regarding 51 S. Main St, Thad Leugemors, a consultant for the State with Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC), says it might be worthwhile if there was a completed Project Worksheet filed for the property. FEMA would have to accept the PW at this late date. Initially, a PW was completed to the extent that FEMA suggested. Thad will speak with FEMA folks and if they can be convinced, the PW will be submitted. If approved, FEMA funds might be transferrable to another building or site.

Julie Campoli is gathering Loeb Fellows from around the world to meet in Vermont. She is hosting an evening symposium April 8 and a design workshop on April 9 in Burlington. Julie wants to know what Waterbury would be interested in focusing on in the workshop and what topics we want to put to the participants. How can we expand our growth center long-term even though a large portion of it is in the floodplain? Julie's group will be looking at these challenges from a design perspective. Presentations of models from other places would be interesting to look at. We're also wondering what other countries, like Europe, have done in similar cases. We won't put too much time into this unless Julie asks us to.

It was mentioned that Paul Costello announced that \$1.8 million is available through EDA on 1/11/13. Perhaps Waterbury could apply to fund more WiFi hotspots around town/village? This would be extremely helpful if a disaster struck.

Some of Waterbury's commercial and residential properties may be in need of additional unmet flood recovery funds. Darren Winham (and possibly Lucinda Newman) will be attending Sam Andersen's 5:30 CDBG-DR workshop tomorrow.

A discussion of in-kind donation to Across Roads Center for the Arts was discussed. It was approved that 20 hours of Barb Farr's (Long-Term Community Recovery Director) time, split up into 10 two-hour appointments, and Eva Loomis, AmeriCorps VISTA, will contribute 40 hours to ARCA to help with writing and reporting. Barb would train ARCA folks so they can take on the management part of the work. On Friday Barb met with ACCD folks about the LIDAR application that was recently put on hold. They were wondering how many more projects were coming in from Waterbury. They were concerned that ARCA doesn't have a fully developed board. Monica Callan ensures that expertise in the board is getting developed and plans to submit her CDBG-DR application by March 1, 2013.

At 6:25pm, B. Washburn made a motion to approve the minutes from 1/28/13. This motion was seconded by N. Howell and passed unanimously.

A discussion of the public hearing process at Town Meeting Day was discussed. On Town Meeting Day, 9-10am will be reserved for an informational discussion. A secondary time slot on a separate date for questions and more discussion is being scheduled. TMD morning will be used to discuss the 8-Step flood review process and Black River Design's work. Barb is looking into a combined public hearing with ACCD and Beth Held of HUD.

LTCR Steering Committee meetings will now be held on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month at 5:30pm. The Project Champions will join on the 3rd Monday.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Eva Loomis, VISTA

Approved on: Monday, February 25, 2013

Upcoming meetings:

- Tuesday, February 19 at 5:30pm. Police Department.
- Black River Design will be reporting their findings at the Trustees meeting Wednesday, February 13 at 7:00pm at the Fire Station.
- Milone & MacBroom will be reporting their findings on Tuesday, February 19 (time & location TBA)